

Whatcom Council of Governments
 Title VI Annual Report and Update
 Period: August 1, 2016 – July 31, 2017
 Report Due: August 31, 2017

I. Title VI Plan

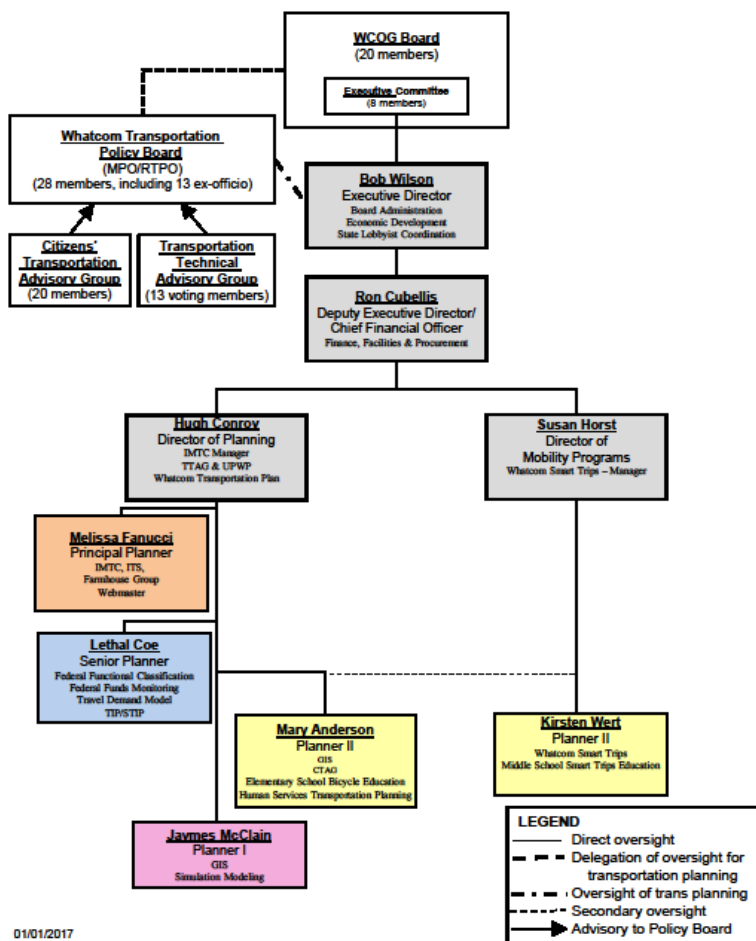
The Title VI Plan was not amended during this time period.

2. Organization, Staffing, Structure

Leslye O'Shaughnessy was laid off on December 31, 2016. WCOG did not replace her.

Organization Structure Flow Chart

**Whatcom Council of Governments
 2017 Organizational Structure**



01/01/2017

3. Complaints

No complaints received.

4. Planning: Accomplishment Report and Update

A. Monitoring and Review Process:

- *Describe the planning activities that are performed by the Regional Council.*

WCOG has three committees that are involved in the transportation planning process. These are the Transportation Technical Advisory Group (TTAG), the Citizen's Transportation Advisory Group (CTAG), and the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board (WTPB).

The TTAG is comprised of technically qualified representatives from Whatcom County, municipalities, tribes, Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Port of Bellingham and the Whatcom Transportation Authority. TTAG meets monthly to discuss regional transportation planning and project funding issues, and make recommendations to the Whatcom Transportation Policy Board (WTPB).

CTAG It is a citizen-based committee that meets quarterly and advises the WTPB on the community's concerns to help reach a collaborative vision for Whatcom County's transportation system.

The Whatcom Transportation Policy Board (WTPB) is comprised of elected representatives from local governments and other taxing authorities (Whatcom Transportation Authority, Port of Bellingham), Tribal Council Members and the Washington State Department of Transportation. The WTPB consolidated the functions and duties of the previously separate Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) Policy Boards. Its primary purpose is to achieve intergovernmental coordination in developing policies and programs of mutual benefit to its member jurisdictions concerning transportation and to identify project funding priorities. It is responsible for developing policy guidance for the region through the Whatcom Transportation Plan.

- *Describe the actions taken to promote Title VI compliance regarding planning activities, including monitoring and review processes, and their outcomes or status.*

The Whatcom Council of Governments website: www.wcog.org has a translator tool. Four brochures are available in Spanish and two in Ukrainian, the brochure titles are:

- Whatcom Smart Trips Program Brochure (Spanish and Ukrainian)
- 7th Grade Bus Pass Trip Planner (Spanish and Ukrainian)
- Confident City Cycling (Spanish)
- Travel Training (Spanish)

Two of the brochures may be found on our websites here:

<https://www.whatcomsmarttrips.org/how-to>, and here:

https://www.whatcomsmarttrips.org/employers/employer_services.

WCOG partnered with our local transit agency, Whatcom Transportation Authority (WTA) to produce six short videos on how to ride the bus. Each video has English, Spanish and Ukrainian

subtitles.

B. Studies

- *Were any studies conducted during the reporting period that provided data relative to minority persons, neighborhoods, income levels, physical environments, and/or travel habits?*
- *If so, what type of assistance was provided to ensure that Title VI considerations were included in planning the studies?*

As part of the 7th Grade Bus Pass Program students filled out an assessment that asked them how often they currently ride the bus. The assessments were translated into Spanish for students who are not fluent in English.

C. Draft TIPs

A draft Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) was released for public comment during the reporting period. Notification of the draft document was posted on the WCOG website and in the local newspaper of record. One public hearing was held in October to adopt the 2017 TIP.

No Title VI related concerns or issues were raised at the public hearing.

D. Other Public Hearings

Seven (7) other public hearing were held throughout the reporting period. Notices of the public hearings were posted in the local newspaper of record.

No Title VI related concerns or issues were raised at the public hearings.

E. Upcoming Year

WCOG will again administer the 7th Grade Bus Pass program in March 2018, we will once again offer the assessment in Spanish and English.

5. Environmental Affairs: Accomplishment Report and Update

A. Monitoring and Review Process

WCOG is not involved in Environmental Affairs.

B. Staff Responsible for Environmental Affairs

None

C. Environmental Impact Statements (EIS)

There were no EISs conducted during the reporting period.

D. Upcoming Year

Nothing planned at this time.

6. Consultant Contracts: Accomplishment Report and Update

A. Monitoring and Review Process

- Briefly describe the process for issuing RFPs and soliciting consultants.

WCOG uses the process described in the Washington State Department of Transportation Local Agency Guidelines Chapter 31 (Using Consultants) when issuing RFP and soliciting consultants. Refer to this link for further details: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/publications/manuals/fulltext/M36-63/Lag31.pdf>

- Describe the actions taken to promote consultants' compliance with Title VI, including monitoring and review processes, and their outcomes or status. (I.e. are Title VI requirements included in all contracts and consultant agreements; were contractors and consultants annually reviewed to ensure compliance; are Title VI issues explained to contractors and consultants?)

Consultants are required to comply with Title VI laws.

B. Consultant Contracts

Three (3) consultant contracts were in effect during the reporting period. The dollar values of these contracts were \$25,920; \$41,916 and \$74,690.

C. Upcoming Year

D

The \$25,920 and \$41,916 contracts will continue into the upcoming year. Another contract for approximately \$180,000 may be awarded within the next two reporting years.

7. Education & Training: Accomplishment Report and Update

A. Monitoring and Review Process

Education and trainings are equally available to all employees. A log of employee education and trainings is kept and reviewed annually.

B. Staff Responsible for Coordinating Training

- Identify staff by job title, ethnicity, and sex responsible for selecting which employees receive training.

Title	Ethnicity	Gender
Executive Director	White	Male

C. Complaints

No complaints received.

D. NHI Training

Principal Planner, Melissa Fauncci, participated in the NHI web-based class on ITS Procurement (FHWA-NHI-137049)

E. Title VI Training

Ron Cubellis and Mary Anderson met with Jodi Peterson of FHWA and Oscar Cerda of WSDOT in August of 2016 to review our Title VI Plan.

F. Upcoming Year:

Ron Cubellis and Mary Anderson attended a Title VI training in August 2017 at PSRC, facilitated by Jodi Peterson of FHWA.