

## 2018 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY LIST OF PROJECTS

The Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and Regional Transportation Planning Organization in Skagit County. SCOG works cooperatively with local governments, WSDOT, Skagit Transit and other stakeholders to plan for all modes of transportation within the county. SCOG has identified a number of high priority transportation projects that further the region's plans. The projects are organized below into either countywide projects or projects that occur in a particular legislative district. Project order does not necessarily indicate the level of priority.

### COUNTYWIDE PROJECTS

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#### 1. INCREASE FUNDING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Maintaining the transportation system in Skagit County has become more and more difficult as funds are drying up and resources are being spread thin. Funding to local jurisdictions should be increased through direct allocations of new revenues and increasing funding levels for Washington state's Transportation Improvement Board and County Road Administration Board.

#### 2. SKAGIT TRANSIT 90X - EVERETT EXPRESS

The Everett Express regional connector service continues to relieve congestion and improve mobility by providing commuter-based transit service. This effort will meet increasing demand for public transportation options between Island, Skagit, and Snohomish counties.

Project sponsor: Skagit Transit

**Operating funds requested: \$900,000**

#### 3. TRI-COUNTY CONNECTOR TRANSIT SERVICE

Tri-county regional connector services continue to relieve congestion and improve mobility by providing commuter-based transit service. This effort will meet increasing demand for public transportation options between Island, Skagit, and Whatcom counties.

Project sponsor: Skagit Transit

**Operating funds requested: \$2,300,000**

## LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 39 PROJECTS

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### 4. FRANCIS ROAD RECONSTRUCTION (SECTIONS 1, 3 & 4)

Francis Road Reconstruction began in 2012 with the reconstruction of section 2 to current standards (12 ft lanes, 8 ft shoulders). Section 1 is scheduled for construction in 2018 and will begin where section 2 ended near De'bay-Isle Road, and will tie into the State Route 9 Roundabout project being constructed in 2018. The remaining sections 3 & 4 will continue the realignment to decrease the radii of the curves and widen to current standards. In addition, sections 3 & 4 have two bridges that will need to be addressed by replacement, widening, or removal, once the alignment is determined.

Francis Road is a logical extension of the Anderson LaVenture Road Extension in Mount Vernon. When constructed, it will provide a safe and efficient alternative route from I-5 to State Route 9, linking Mount Vernon to Sedro-Woolley and the surrounding Clear Lake area.

Project sponsor: Skagit County

**Project cost: \$10,713,000**

**Existing funding: \$1,723,375**

**Funding needed: \$8,989,625**

### 5. JONES/JOHN LINER /TRAIL ROAD CORRIDOR PROJECTS

The City of Sedro-Woolley is proposing to construct a system of roadway and rail transportation improvements to stimulate economic development around the State Route 20 corridor and continue the transition from Sedro-Woolley's timber-based past to a more modern industrial and commercial future. This particular project includes eight distinct project elements, which collectively represent the key transportation infrastructure improvements necessary to establish a safe and efficient transportation network connection.

The project is in the preliminary engineering stage. Funding will be required for final design engineering, right of way acquisition and construction.

Project sponsor: City of Sedro-Woolley

**Project cost: \$21,450,000**

**Existing funding: \$0**

**Funding needed: \$21,450,000**

## LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 40 PROJECTS

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### 6. I-5/COOK ROAD INTERCHANGE VICINITY IMPROVEMENTS

This practical solution will lengthen the northbound off-ramp, signalize both the southbound and northbound ramp intersections and integrate these new signals with the existing Cook Road/Old Hwy 99 signal. The project will also add an additional eastbound lane on Cook Road beginning at the Interstate 5 northbound ramp intersection and extending to Green Road (if determined necessary).

These short term, forward compatible, interchange improvements are needed to reduce long delays and queues during peak commute times. The result will be better flow of people and goods on and off of Cook Road and a reduction in backups onto Interstate 5.

This project enhances livability by improving safety and traffic flow while reducing travel times for commuter transit service on Interstate 5; trucks headed to local businesses and Sedro-Woolley industrial areas; and travelers proceeding to Interstate 5, which directly serves the Puget Sound region and western United States from Mexico to Canada.

When completed, the interchange will operate more efficiently and it will facilitate safer access to jobs, services and centers of trade in the Puget Sound region.

Project sponsor: WSDOT

**Project cost: \$5,000,000 - \$8,000,000**

**Existing funding: \$0**

**Funding needed: \$5,000,000 - \$8,000,000**

### 7. GUEMES ISLAND FERRY REPLACEMENT

The Guemes Island Ferry owned by Skagit County travels a short 5/8 of a mile to serve the Guemes Island community. The current vessel is 39 years old and burns 65,000 gallons of diesel fuel every year.

All electric technology is moving at a rapid pace with ferry vessels going into service in Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Skagit County has hired Glostien of Seattle to take this project to 30 percent conceptual design. This design will help the County move forward in seeking funding through the County Road Administration Board and other State and Federal funding entities.

Skagit County's all-electric vehicle ferry in Puget Sound, could lead the way for the State of Washington. Washington State Ferries burn 18 million gallons of diesel every year. This is not sustainable into the future. The time for change is now. Ferries, water taxis, freighters, buses and automobiles are converting to all-electric every day. Momentum and opportunity continue to grow. Skagit County is committed and ready to launch Puget Sound's first all-electric ferry by 2020.

Project sponsor: Skagit County

**Project cost: \$27,400,000**

**Existing funding: \$780,000**

**Funding needed: \$26,620,000**