



# ANNUAL REPORT 2025

## Skagit Council of Governments

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[www.scog.net](http://www.scog.net)



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# ABOUT SKAGIT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) was created by County Commission on March 14, 1967, and operates under the laws of the state of Washington applicable to a voluntary governmental agency. In the founding governance document, the members stated their desire to create the Council “to cooperate and collaborate with each other as local governmental units, municipalities and organizations for mutual advantage” to benefit all communities covered by the agreement.

The governance agreement lists the following functions that SCOG may provide:

- Duties and responsibilities of a state and federally designated transportation planning organization
- Further the purposes of economic development
- Establish and maintain a regional database
- General transportation or economic development planning assistance
- Act as a research and fact-finding agency of the members
- Provides a forum for its members to cooperate and collaborate with each other

## Transportation Planning

Work program items are primarily related to SCOG’s role as the federally enabled metropolitan planning organization (MPO) and state enabled regional transportation planning organization (RTPO) in Skagit County. Work activities comply with regional policies, goals and objectives. Adoption of these regional plans allows the Board to oversee a process that awards federal and state transportation funding to Skagit County governments.

## Growth Management Act

The Growth Management Act Steering Committee (GMASC) is the governing body composed of mayors of the cities and towns of Skagit County and the Skagit County commissioners. An agreement, executed in 2002, established by the Growth Management Act Committee and its steering and advisory committees. The GMASC develops recommendations on countywide planning policies, urban growth areas, and employment and population allocations to the Board of Skagit County Commissioners. A technical advisory committee provides advice to the GMASC and is composed of planning staff from member jurisdictions.

The Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) provide administrative and staff support, technical studies and other work as set forth in the annual work program through an interlocal agreement between SCOG and member jurisdictions of the Growth Management Act Committee.

## Economic Development

Since its formation in 1967, SCOG has contributed to regional economic development through the coordinated creation of numerous economic development plans.

In 2024, SCOG led the latest update to the Skagit County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), with support and collaboration across many partners and stakeholders, including the U.S. Economic Development Administration and civic leaders across Skagit County.

The Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC) serves as the regional coordinator of the CEDS implementation work, and the SCOG Executive Director serves on the CEDS Steering Committee, and advisory committee to the SCOG Board of Directors.

## **Discussion Forum**

In the founding governance document, the members stated their desire to create SCOG as a way “to cooperate and collaborate with each other as local governmental units, municipalities and organizations for mutual advantage” to benefit all communities covered by the agreement.

SCOG’s monthly meetings provide a place for ‘open topic discussion’ amongst the members resulting in collaboration around state legislative priorities, pursuit of research, and support in times of emergency.

## **Research, Planning, Technical Assistance**

From time to time, the SCOG Board may pursue research and planning that mutually benefits all members. Examples of past research include the Cook Road Corridor Study, Skagit Rail Crossing Study, Skagit County Housing Action Plan, and currently the 2025-2026 Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan funded by federal grant dollars. When requested, SCOG may provide technical assistance to local, state, and federal governments through regional data collection and forecasting services consistent with the purpose, functions, and budget of the Council.

## **Looking Ahead**

Transportation is an essential part of our lives whether it be by car, train, ferry, bicycle, bus, or walking. Our job as governments is to work together with our eye on the future.



Jill Boudreau  
Executive Director  
May 2026

# MEMBER AGENCIES



## Governance

The Skagit Council of Governments is governed by an Intergovernmental Agreement and Bylaws, ratified by all the member agencies. The Bylaws outline a Board of Directors consisting of representatives of the voting members and a Transportation Policy Board. A separate Intergovernmental agreement created the Growth Management Act Steering Committee in 2002.

**The SCOG Board of Directors** is composed of the duly elected chief executive or by an elected official designated by the governing body of the member.

Regular Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of February, May, August, and October

**The Transportation Policy Board (TPB)** is composed of duly elected chief executive or by an official designated by the governing body of the member. The representative of major employer will be recommended by the governing board of the Economic Development Association of Skagit County (EDASC), and the Washington State Department of Transportation designates a high-level staff person to serve on the TPB.

Regular Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month

**The Growth Management Act Steering Committee** is composed of the Mayors of each City, or a City Councilmember designated by the Mayor, and the three Skagit County Commissioners.

Regular Meetings: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of March, June, September, and December

# TRANSPORTATION WORKPLAN 2025

A metropolitan planning organization is a product of federal regulations and allows SCOG to receive federal transportation funding from the US Department of Transportation. One of the tasks in the Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) unified planning work program for state fiscal year 2024-2025 was to conduct a regional selection of projects to receive federal funds from the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), Transportation Alternatives (TA) set-aside and Carbon Reduction Program (CR).

In 2025, SCOG conducted a call for projects in accordance with regulations and awarded and the Transportation Policy Board awarded \$4,086,807 to member projects.

## APPROVED REGIONAL PROJECT SELECTION – JUNE 18, 2025

Surface Transportation Block Grant Program, Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside and Carbon Reduction Program

Applicant	Project	Phase <sup>1</sup>	Funding Type <sup>2</sup>	Selection Amount
Sedro-Woolley	John Liner Road Arterial Improvements	PE	STBG	\$173,598
Sedro-Woolley	John Liner Road Arterial Improvements	CN	STBG	\$1,036,047
Skagit County	Josh Wilson Road Phase 2	PE	STBG	\$478,398
Skagit County	Josh Wilson Road Phase 2	RW	STBG	\$129,750
Mount Vernon	Kulshan Trail Safety Lighting - 2	PE	TA	\$131,687
Mount Vernon	Kulshan Trail Safety Lighting - 2	CN	TA	\$400,000
Skagit Transit	Skagit Station Fire Alarm System Replacement	PL/Other	CR	\$33,211
Skagit Transit	Skagit Station Parking Lot Asphalt Maintenance	CN	CR	\$50,268
Mount Vernon	Kulshan Trail Safety Lighting - 4	PE	CR	\$120,800
Mount Vernon	Kulshan Trail Safety Lighting - 4	CN	CR	\$770,000
Burlington	SR20 Intersection Control Evaluation - Planning Study	PL/Other	STBG	\$259,500
Sedro-Woolley	SR20-Cascade Trail West Extension Phase 2B Hospital Drive to Holtcamp Road	CN	STBG	\$280,692
Skagit Transit	Sedro-Woolley Park & Ride Operator Breakroom & Rider Shelter Design	PE	STBG	\$91,169
Anacortes	32nd Street at Storvik Park Pedestrian Crossing	CN	CR	\$131,687

STBG Subtotal	\$2,449,154
TA Subtotal	\$531,687
CR Subtotal	\$1,105,966
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$4,086,807</b>

# TRANSPORTATION WORKPLAN - PLANNING 2025



Skagit Council of Governments contracted with WSP, one of the world's leading professional services firms, uniting our engineering, advisory and science-based expertise, to assist in this comprehensive planning effort. This work will continue into early 2026 with final adoption of the regional plans.

- **Skagit 2050 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP):** The RTP focuses on policies, projects and programs for roads and highways, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit, freight and more, creating a strategy for an integrated transportation system that supports safe and efficient movement of people and goods in the region. The RTP provides a framework for transportation projects and programs to become eligible for implementation over the next 20+ years and allows regional entities to be eligible for state and federal funding.
- **Skagit Safety Action Plan (SS4A):** Transportation safety action plans address sensitive topics related to serious injuries and deaths resulting from crashes within the transportation system. The Safe System Approach (SSA) is promoted by the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) as a framework for understanding and prioritizing reductions to serious injuries and deaths.
- **Transportation Resilience Infrastructure Plan (TRIP):** This plan studies and analyzes the transportation system assets in Skagit County and provides a prioritized list of transportation projects that will make the transportation system in Skagit County more resilient to natural hazards, including climate change, sea level rise, flooding, extreme weather events, and other natural disasters through formula and competitive discretionary grants.



**Regional Transportation Plan**



**Regional Safety Action Plan**



**Transportation Resilience Improvement Plan**

Other planning work included:

- Travel Demand Model
- Ad-Hoc Mobility Committee meetings
- 2026 Skagit Regional Transportation Priorities report
- Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element certification
- Skagit County Countywide Planning Policies certification for consistency with the Regional Transportation Plan
- 2025 Annual Listing of Obligations report

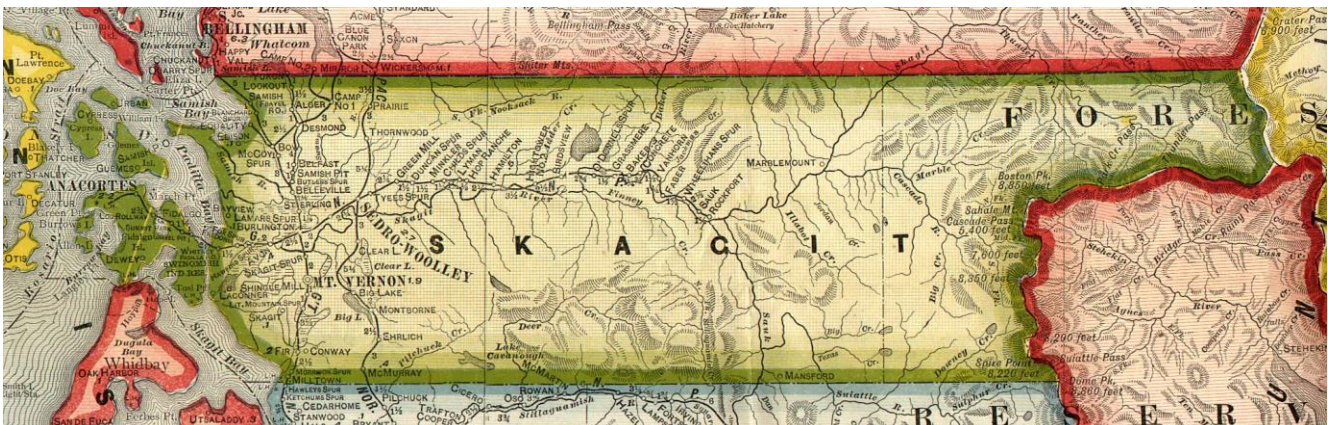
# GROWTH MANAGEMENT WORKPLAN 2025

Skagit County and its cities and towns must plan for anticipated population growth under the Washington state Growth Management Act (GMA).

Skagit County government and the cities and towns entered into the 2002 Framework Agreement which addresses the collaborative requirement for planning at the regional level through GMA and establishes the Growth Management Act Steering Committee (GMASC) as the regional planning organization for this purpose. The Steering Committee develops recommendations for Countywide Planning Policies, urban growth areas, and allocations of population and employment for use in local comprehensive planning.

During 2025, Skagit Council of Governments continued to provide administrative support to the Growth Management Act Steering Committee (GMASC) and its Technical Advisory Committee (GMATAC.)

1. **Administrative Support:** Provided administrative support and coordinate efforts for three Growth Management Act Steering Committee meetings and monthly Growth Management Act Technical Advisory Committee (GMATAC) meetings including preparing agendas, minutes of the GMASC, resolutions and maintaining related supporting materials.
2. **Technical Support:**
  - *Growth Monitoring:* SCOG staff prepared a new baseline report and methodology for the annual Growth Monitoring Report.
  - *Monitoring of Climate Data:* SCOG staff facilitated discussions of which climate related data should be tracked over time to assist in coordination across jurisdictions and support future planning efforts. This work continues in 2026.
  - *Multimodal Level of Service Coordination*
3. **Policy Support: *Countywide Planning Policy update:*** staff provided technical support to Skagit County by facilitating discussions of the GMATAC around Tribal Cultural Resources policies and Climate and Resiliency countywide planning policy language.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKPLAN 2025

During 2024, Skagit Council of Governments continued to support economic development throughout the region by facilitating the adoption of the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) Steering Committee and their bylaws.

The Steering Committee identified implementation of near term-actions as being critical to achieving the vision and goals articulated in the 2024 CEDs.

Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC) was chosen to serve as the regional coordinator to track and lead engagement on stewarding the CEDs. EDASC was tasked with designating a dedicated staff member for this purpose who will also serve as the primary point of contact for the plan.

The Steering Committee adopted a work plan for 2025:

## Administrative Support:

- EDASC will provide administrative support and coordinate efforts for the Steering Committee and annual event.
- Promote, educate, and inform stakeholders and others as needed on the CEDs.
- Prepare presentation materials on the action plan and present to organizations as needed, such as port commissions, chambers of commerce, and city councils.
- Develop a sustainable funding plan to implement the action plan and monitor the CEDs.
- Assist the Steering Committee in development of the 2026 work program and budget.

## Tracking and Implementation:

- Assist the Steering Committee in development of a near-term action plan.
- Create a tracking system to monitor implementation of strategies and actions for both the CEDs and the action plan.

## Stewardship. Lead – EDASC

- Steward community "buy-in" of the CEDs plan via near-term action selection, communication, and visibility.
- Maintain awareness of partner organizations implementation of strategies, actions, priorities, and capacities.

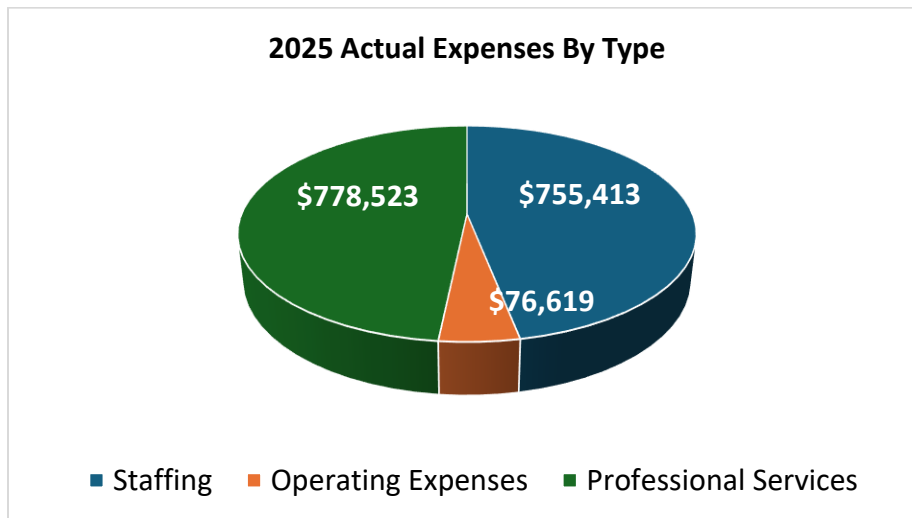


# YEAR END FINANCIAL POSITION 2025

## Operating Budget:

2025 Revenue Summary: By Type	Forecast	Actual
Federal Grants	\$ 1,223,126	\$ 1,069,291
State Grants	\$ 71,643	\$ 96,892
Local Revenues: Dues, Investment Interest, Misc.	\$ 291,136	\$ 270,031
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,585,905</b>	<b>\$ 1,436,214</b>

2025 Expenses: By Type	Budgeted	Actual
Staffing	\$ 748,663	\$ 755,413
Operating Expenses	\$ 98,090	\$ 76,619
Professional Services	\$ 785,824	\$ 778,523
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,632,577</b>	<b>\$ 1,610,555</b>



## Balance Sheet:

	December 31, 2024	December 31, 2025	Difference
General Fund Balance	\$455,792	\$281,450	
Account Receivable	\$175,492	\$308,132	
Accounts Payable	(\$24,554)	(\$112,093)	
<b>Net Working Capital</b>	<b>\$606,730</b>	<b>\$477,789</b>	<b>21%</b>

# LOOKING AHEAD

We bid a fond farewell to retiring Executive Director Kevin Murphy, and welcome new Executive Director Jill Boudreau as of December 16, 2025.

SCOG staff provide professional and valuable work to our member organizations. We are looking forward to a productive year.

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with thanks to Grant Johnson, Associate Planner



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