

Final 2026 Growth Management Act (GMA) Support Work Program and Budget

Adopted September 17, 2025, by the Growth Management Act Steering Committee

As per the GMA support agreement, Skagit Council of Governments (SCOG) will continue to provide administrative support and coordinate Growth Management Act Steering Committee (GMASC) activities and work program. Staff have estimated the work to include administrative and technical support. Annually the GMASC will establish a work program and budget. The total proposed 2026 work program is \$85,000.

GMA Task 1 - Administrative Support:

Provide administrative support and coordinate efforts of the Growth Management Act Steering Committee and the Growth Management Act Technical Advisory Committee (GMATAC). Anticipated activities include preparing agendas, minutes of the GMASC, resolutions and maintaining related supporting materials.

Estimated cost \$15,000

GMA Task 2 - Technical Support:

Task 2.1 - Growth Monitoring

Prepare a new baseline report and methodology for the annual Growth Monitoring Report. The new methodology will address tracking housing unit creation by income categories consistent with HB 1220 and Commerce guidance based on the methodology developed and tested in 2025. Coordinate with jurisdictions on collection and reporting of data.

Estimated cost \$55,000

Task 2.2 – Monitoring of Climate Data

Recent changes in Washington state law (HB1181) requires jurisdictions to develop a climate element, which includes mitigation sub-element for the cities and county. The purpose of this task is to continue the discussion from 2025, develop possible regional indicators, data, and methodologies to be used in a potential monitoring program. Establishment of which climate related data should be tracked over time to assist in coordination across jurisdictions and support future planning efforts.

Estimated cost \$10,000

Task 2.4 – Multimodal Level of Service Coordination

Recent changes in Washington state law (HB1181) requires jurisdictions to establish multimodal level of service requirements for all locally owned arterials, locally and regionally operated transit

routes that serve urban areas and active transportation facilities. WSDOT is responsible for setting level of service standards (LOS) for highways of statewide significance in coordination with RTPOs. SCOG is responsible for other state highways and coordinate LOS standards on regionally significant facilities owned by local jurisdictions. SCOG will assist in coordinating the new multimodal LOS standards among the local jurisdictions for the upcoming 2025 GMA comprehensive plan with WSDOT and Skagit Transit. SCOG will conduct limited research on possible LOS from other GMA jurisdictions, stay abreast of guidance from Department of Commerce and facilitate coordination among agencies in Skagit County. This work will be coordinated with the multimodal LOS work that will be done as part of the Regional Transportation Plan development. This task is continued from 2025.

Estimated cost \$5,000

Cost Allocation: As per the interlocal agreement regarding staffing service for GMA support, costs are to be shared among the 2002 Framework Agreement participants based on their respective share of population annual reported by the Office of Financial Management (OFM), see table.

Allocation based on April 2025 population estimates from OFM.

2026 Draft GMA Work Program Budget						
Total Budget	\$85,000					
	OFM Population			2026	2025	Change from
	2025	%	Cost Allocation	Cost Allocation	Cost Allocation	2025 to 2026
Skagit County	53,380	39.66%	\$33,710	\$33,710	\$47,901	-\$14,191
Anacortes	18,350	13.63%	\$11,588	\$11,588	\$16,447	-\$4,859
Burlington	10,910	8.11%	\$6,890	\$6,890	\$9,371	-\$2,481
Concrete	815	0.61%	\$515	\$515	\$729	-\$214
Hamilton	295	0.22%	\$186	\$186	\$266	-\$80
La Conner	1,000	0.74%	\$632	\$632	\$896	-\$264
Lyman	440	0.33%	\$278	\$278	\$387	-\$109
Mount Vernon	36,050	26.78%	\$22,766	\$22,766	\$32,228	-\$9,462
Sedro-Woolley	13,360	9.93%	\$8,437	\$8,437	\$11,775	-\$3,338
Total	134,600	100%	\$85,000	\$85,000.00	\$120,000.00	-\$35,000.00