

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Background

In 2005, the City of Battle Ground adopted the *Battle Ground Comprehensive Land Use and Transportation System Plan* (Plan). This Plan establishes a flexible policy framework for making land use and transportation system decisions consistent with the City's overall vision for its future, and describes a strategy for accomplishing the vision over a 20-year period. The *Transportation System Plan* (TSP) is intended to ensure that the transportation system is safe, efficient, balanced, environmentally sustainable, and improves livability. The Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires that the TSP be consistent with county-wide policies, be based on the land use plan, include an estimate of traffic impacts on state-owned facilities, provide an inventory of existing transportation services and provide a financing plan for new improvements, among other requirements.

The 2005 *Battle Ground Transportation System Plan* (TSP) established the city's goals, policies and action strategies for developing the transportation system within the Battle Ground Urban Growth Area (UGA). As a result of continued rapid growth and development, this TSP was updated in 2009 to acknowledge recommended transportation projects that had been completed, changes in development patterns during the intervening years, and substantially increased infrastructure costs. The 2015 TSP Update is intended to address similar changes, bringing the City's TSP into alignment with current conditions. More specifically, this TSP Update is intended to accomplish the following:

- Update the street functional classification system in the city to bring the adopted classification of SW 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue into consistency with the current or anticipated patterns of use.
- Incorporate findings and recommendations of studies or other analysis completed since the last TSP Update including:
  - A complete streets inventory of walking and bicycling facilities along the City's arterials,
  - An evaluation of the extension of NW 5<sup>th</sup> Way from east of NW 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue to SR 503 and removal of the SR 502/12<sup>th</sup> Avenue signal, and
  - A proposed truck routing plan.
- Reevaluate the need for and impacts related prior TSP recommendations including:
  - The extension of NW 5<sup>th</sup> Street between SR 503 and N Parkway Avenue, and/or NW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue between NW 9<sup>th</sup> and W Main Streets, and
  - The extension of NE 179<sup>th</sup> and 189<sup>th</sup> Streets as east/west through streets connecting to SR 503.
- Update the list of recommended projects in the TSP to drop those that have been built since 2009, modify others to reflect interim or partial improvements made since initial plan adoption, and add new projects as identified through special studies or the on-going transportation system development process.
- Update cost estimates for the all improvement projects to reflect changes in the cost of certain factors such as oil, paving materials, and/or other project elements.

It should be noted that this TSP Update does not include a major evaluation of the impacts of land development or Comprehensive Land Use Plan changes made since 2005, nor does it address modifications to the improvement recommendations beyond reflecting the factors described above. It is

anticipated that the City will engage in a more comprehensive update of the TSP at some point in the future.

## **1.2 Report Content and Organization**

This report is organized into three chapters, the first of which is this Introduction. Chapter 2 presents revisions to the functional classification plan map, summarizes the results of recent multimodal planning studies conducted in the city, and documents results of focused analysis on selected street improvement projects completed as a part of this TSP Update.

Chapter 3 identifies changes to the TSP's short-, medium-, and long-term lists of recommended improvement projects planned for the Battle Ground UGB (including both city and WSDOT projects), and includes updated cost estimates for all projects on these lists.