



SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL

FEDERAL PLANNING REQUIREMENTS

Mission Statement – To encourage and promote the development of a balanced, safe, efficient, and affordable regional transportation system to meet the mobility and accessibility needs of people and goods, within and through this region, and minimize transportation related air pollution.

Role - RTC serves as the Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization for Clark County and conducts the federally required transportation planning process that is a condition for the receipt of federal transportation funds. RTC also serves as the Clark, Skamania, and Klickitat County Regional Transportation Planning Organization as required by the State Growth Management Act.

Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) – The Metropolitan Transportation Plan for Clark County is the region’s principal long-range transportation planning document. The MTP is the result of a comprehensive planning process among jurisdictions and establishes regional transportation policy, while recommending a balanced program of modal investments to meet future transportation system needs. The federally required plan must look 20 years to the future and be updated every 4 years.

Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program (MTIP) – The Metropolitan Transportation Improvement Program is a four-year project list of all federally funded and regionally significant state and local transportation projects within Clark County. The MTIP prioritizes and programs funding for the set of projects to be implemented in each of the next four years. Projects in the MTIP must be identified in the MTP or be consistent with the MTP project categories of preservation, maintenance, safety, freight, bike/pedestrian, and transportation system management strategies. All federally funded and WSDOT transportation projects must be programmed in the MTIP in order to be eligible for the receipt of funds.

Congestion Management Process (CMP) - The Congestion Management Process, as defined in federal regulation, is intended to serve as a systematic process that provides for safe and effective integrated management and operation of the multimodal transportation system. RTC’s CMP is collaboratively developed and implemented as an integral part of the metropolitan planning process. The CMP provides a wide range of transportation system data to help guide the investment of transportation funds toward improving congestion.

Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) – The Unified Planning Work Program identifies the transportation planning activities in response to the region’s policies and issues, and in compliance with federal and state transportation planning requirements. The annual work program is developed in cooperation with local agencies, WSDOT, and C-TRAN. The UPWP is required in order for the region to be eligible to receive federal and state transportation planning funds.