

# **INTRODUCTION**

## **MTP Update**

This Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) is a comprehensive, multimodal “blueprint” for the future of transportation and mobility needs of Spokane County through the year 2035. The MTP provides detail to evaluate the effectiveness of proposed transportation activities; assess the interactive nature of the improvements; the potential social, economic, and environmental benefits and consequences; and demonstrate its financial reasonability until 2035. The Plan ultimately identifies a list of projects and programs expected to be implemented between today and the year 2035. This MTP also includes an illustrative list of unfunded transportation needs that are important to the region should additional funding become available.

This 2011-2035 MTP is scheduled for SRTC Board approval in January, 2012. Assumptions in modeling, planning and financial analysis are representative of the MTP planning horizon period from 2011 through 2035.

## **Regional Vision for 2035**

In order to achieve the objectives of the MTP, it is necessary to have a regional vision of Spokane and its future. The Transportation Vision Project, conducted over a year’s time in 2010 and 2011, provides that. The Vision Project was a study to determine the long term transportation vision and goals for the area for the next 30 to 50 years.

The Spokane Regional Transportation Vision reflects the needs and desires of the region. Future transportation investments will help the Spokane Region maintain its appeal as a livable community with a thriving business and cultural atmosphere nestled within the beautiful scenery of eastern Washington. A well-maintained regional transportation system will provide a high level of service across both urban and rural areas with a variety of sustainable transportation choices and connectivity that advance accessibility and reliability for all users.

The region’s prosperity will also be the result of direct and indirect investments in our transportation systems to move freight and facilitate commerce that will ensure retention and attraction of new employers and family wage jobs, as well as increase our ability to attract quality employees. Implementing sustainable, efficient, effective and reliable solutions to existing and future transportation challenges in the Spokane Region will be key to making the Inland Northwest a fantastic place to visit, live, work, play, and raise a family.

## **Public Involvement in the MTP Update Process**

Throughout development of this plan and its sub-components, SRTC has used a variety of techniques to involve the public, in compliance with SRTC’s Public Involvement, Title VI and Environmental Justice policies.

Those techniques have included:

- Meeting with area jurisdictions involved in the MTP update process
- Holding a public comment period of 30 days
- Advertising the public comment period through public access channels, paid advertising, press releases, and on the SRTC website.
- Hosting a public meeting to collect public comment on the MTP during the public comment period.

SRTC's Public Involvement Policy can be found on the SRTC website at [www.srtc.org/other\\_documents.html](http://www.srtc.org/other_documents.html) under the Policies heading.

It is the policy of SRTC to assure full compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice, and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. Title VI requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which SRTC receives federal financial assistance. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint with SRTC. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with SRTC's Title VI Coordinator within one hundred eighty (180) days following the date of the alleged discriminatory occurrence.

For more information on Title VI, or on Environmental Justice, see the SRTC website at [www.srtc.org](http://www.srtc.org).