

THE BELLINGHAM PLAN



TRANSPORTATION

Multimodal Transportation
Chapter Update Summary | November 2024





What the Community Said

These descriptions summarize the most common opinions we heard relevant to this chapter.

Transit is not a convenient option for me. It makes more sense to drive instead of waiting for the bus. Please increase the frequency of transit!

I would love a dedicated parking spot on my property, but I still support initiatives to reduce parking requirements.

We want to see more trails near where we live so we can get to work and school safely and comfortably by bike!

We need safe pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure!

Please keep seniors in mind when planning for transit and parking. Accessibility is important!

Future high-speed rail is exciting! I would love to be able to take a train to Portland, but we need to make sure we proactively plan for the changes.

Our arterials get really busy during rush hour. How can we fix it?





Summary of Updates

We are proposing a variety of updates to our 2016 Comprehensive Plan. While the plan is divided into distinct chapters, there are updates that touch multiple chapters.

Here are the most significant updates related to multimodal transportation. These themes span multiple chapters beyond this one.

- >> Housing along transit corridors
- >> Network of urban nodes connected by transit corridors
- >> A future community process for planning transit corridors
- >> More transportation connections to provide choices and limit congestion
- >> Adjusting what areas the city could grow into and planning long-term infrastructure needs.

Get a quick overview of the most significant updates we're proposing.

If you haven't yet, take a look at the [Summary of Proposed Updates](#). It describes the most significant updates we are proposing. We recommend viewing that the summary first, and then diving in here for more details on transportation.



Transportation Chapter Draft Goals

Each blue box represents a topic that will later become a goal in the Transportation Chapter. These will be the overarching goals for the City, with more specific policies to support them.

Multimodal Network to Promote Mode Shift

Provide a multi-modal transportation network that promotes a community-wide mode-shift.

Connectivity

A network that connects people to opportunity, social networks, and services.

Safety, Comfort, and Reliability

A transportation system that prioritizes safety, comfort, and reliability for all users.

Transit

Build and strengthen collaboration and information sharing with transit agencies.

Equitable Facilities and Infrastructure

Needs of diverse and vulnerable populations are addressed in transportation projects and facilities are accessible for all users.



Walking through the Topics

Now, we'll walk through an overview of the proposed updates for each goal. Each bubble represents a concept within that goal. Each concept may become a single policy or several in the final document.

Existing Concept

This concept exists in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan already.

Some Updates

Either this concept will be emphasized more than in the current plan, or something minor is being changed about it.

**New Concept/
Major Updates**

This concept does not exist in the 2016 plan at all or will include significant changes.



This icon indicates this concept is related to state requirements or legislation.



Community Feedback

**As you learn about the concepts proposed in this chapter,
think about...**

**Is anything big
missing?**

**Are you excited or
concerned about any
of the ideas proposed
here?**



Multimodal Network to Promote Mode Shift

Connectivity

Safety, Comfort, and Reliability

Transit

Equitable Facilities and Infrastructure



Incorporate Bike & Ped Plans

Transportation Demand Management & Transportation System Management

Track patterns

Commute Trip Reduction & Smart Trips

UV Transportation Impact Fee Reduction Program

Micromobility

Policy for potential bike or scooter share in the future

Existing

Update

New



Multimodal Network to Promote Mode Shift

Connectivity

Safety, Comfort, and Reliability

Transit

Equitable Facilities and Infrastructure



Connect and construct missing transportation links

Network connection, efficiency, interconnected system

Complete Streets on State Routes

Choices and opportunities

Enhancing transitional zones between streets and trails

Trails as transportation

Existing

Update

New



Multimodal
Network to
Promote Mode
Shift

Connectivity

Safety, Comfort,
& Reliability

Transit

Equitable
Facilities and
Infrastructure



Reduce collisions, incidents, fatalities, and
serious injuries

*Policies related to the Vision
Zero Concept*

Safe Systems Approach

Reduced and enforced vehicle speeds
through traffic calming measures

Especially in School Zones

Proactive preservation and maintenance of
infrastructure

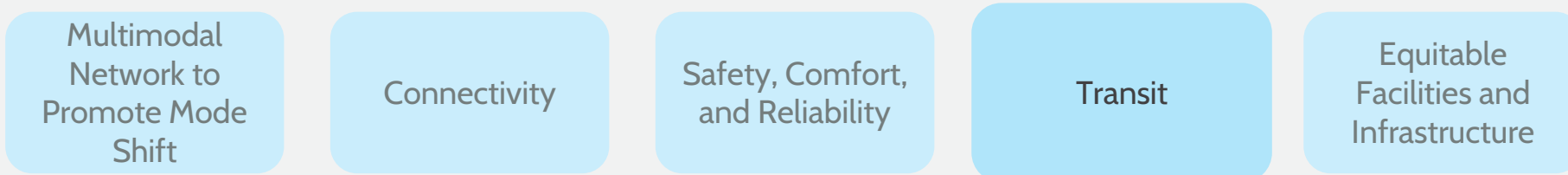
Wayfinding, route finding, and branding

Low stress bike & ped facilities

Existing

Update

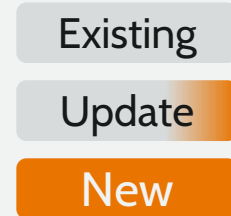
New



Making these two policies a primary component of the Bellingham Plan (see Land Use Chapter)

Ensuring City and transit agency policies support the same goals and objectives

Exploring options to support transit





Multimodal
Network to
Promote Mode
Shift

Connectivity

Safety, Comfort,
and Reliability

Transit

Equitable
Facilities and
Infrastructure



Ensuring equitable investment in transportation projects across the city

Policy for when and where sidewalks/improvements are required

Balanced investment

Sidewalks and street frontage

Equity in public engagement, service,
delivery and capital investment

Multiple languages (signage & notices)

Human needs in street standards

Measure, forecast, and mitigate impacts
on peds, bikes, and transit

Transportation Modal Hierarchy

Safe Routes to School and access
management

Existing

Update

New



Structural Changes

Are you familiar with the 2016 Comprehensive Plan and looking for a topic that was in that Multimodal Transportation Chapter?

It may be located in another part of the plan. The next few slides will show how the proposed updates relate to the 2016 Multimodal Transportation Chapter.





2016 Multimodal Transportation Chapter Topics

The 2016 Comprehensive Plan Multimodal Transportation Chapter is organized around these six topics. Each is written as a goal in the plan.

Note: The current topics have been rearranged here to better align with the proposed 2025 Plan topic order.

Infrastructure for
Bikes, Peds, and
Non-SOVs

Safe, Connected,
and Sustainable
Options

Limiting Urban
Sprawl

Reduce
Dependence on
SOVs

Maintain and
Improve
Infrastructure

Social Equity
Needs

SOVs = Single occupancy vehicles



Shifts out of Transportation Chapter

Some concepts have been moved to other chapters in the proposed updates.

Infrastructure for
Bikes, Peds, and
Non-SOVs

Safe, Connected,
and Sustainable
Options

Limiting Urban
Sprawl

Reduce
Dependence on
SOVs

Maintain and
Improve
Infrastructure

Social Equity
Needs

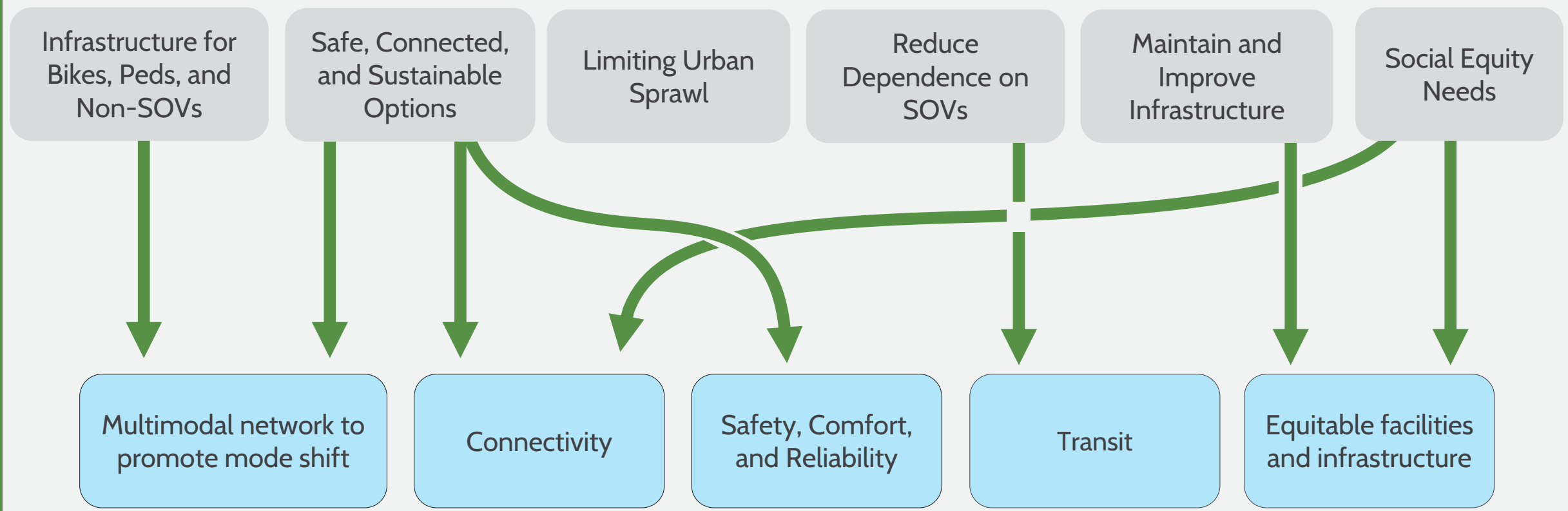
Land Use



Shifts within Transportation Chapter

Other concepts have been shifted or split between each of the proposed topics.

2016 Plan Topics



Proposed Topics