

Program Area: 8. Transportation

Goal:

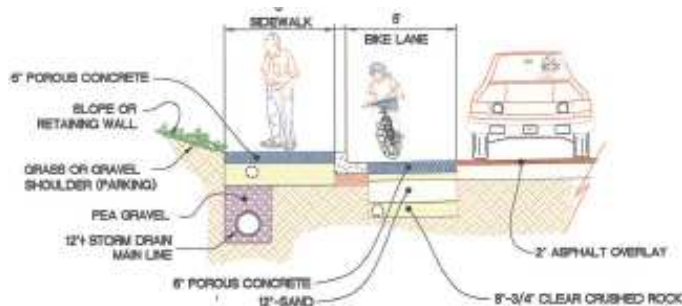
Design and develop transportation systems that include alternatives to automobiles, locate “through” routes away from the lakeshore, ensure treatment of runoff before entering the lake and otherwise protects water quality.

Motorized vehicles are a source of a variety of pollutants found in stormwater runoff. Pollutants such as oil, antifreeze, rubber, heavy metals, transmission and brake fluid can be deposited and accumulate on roadway surfaces through normal vehicle use. These pollutants can be carried during rain events to storm drains and ditches and eventually end up in our streams and lakes. The Transportation Program Area aims to limit transportation-related impacts to water quality by encouraging watershed residents to use alternative transport and to limit the number of vehicle mile trips being made in the watershed.

Notable Accomplishments:

In September of 2008, the City completed the Northshore Drive Roadway and Drainage Improvement Project. The project included installing new stormwater-main piping, porous concrete sidewalks, street lighting, and porous concrete bike lanes, in conjunction with rehabilitating and resurfacing the existing roadway. The design retrofitted the entire street to meet requirements for both enhanced phosphorus treatment of stormwater runoff, as well as completing the gap in the sidewalk between Dakin Street and the Silver Beach Store making it easier and safer for watershed residents to commute by bike.

The City of Bellingham Public Works Department received Project of the Year from the Washington State Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) for the Northshore Drive Roadway and Drainage Improvement Project.



Reference Documents:

City of Bellingham Comprehensive Plan Ch. 3 Transportation Element
TG 38 and TG 39

Whatcom County Comprehensive Plan Ch. 6 Transportation Element

Smart Trips – Whatcom County
<http://www.whatcomsmarttrips.org/>

Program Area: 8. Transportation
Task: 8.1 Improve transportation planning

Period	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Status	P Reduction
2010-2012	City/County	\$2,000	Active	None

Task Objective: Protect water quality from transportation-related activities by improving transportation planning coordination in a manner consistent with water quality protection goals

Actions:

- Evaluate cost and method for road design standards impacts to water quality including road dimensions, road surface and shoulder, and ditch design
- Determine implementation schedule for Transportation Comp Plan’s traffic routing objectives
- Amend 2011 Transportation Comp Plans to minimize water quality impacts in the watershed (as needed)

Intended Lake Benefits: Phosphorus Reduction Fecal Coliform Reduction Sediment Reduction Other

If other, please describe: Potential reduction in transportation-related lake water quality impacts

Performance Measures: 1) Report on results of road design standards evaluation
2) Report on results of traffic flow routing evaluation
3) Amend road design standards as needed to respond to evaluation
4) Amendments to Comp Plans to include any revisions to goals and policies pertaining to water quality impacts associated with transportation

Cost Estimates:

Year	Party	FTEs (\$)	Capital Costs	Other	Total
2010	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	District/Other				
Total		0.02 (\$2,000)			\$2,000

Program Area: 8. Transportation
Task: 8.2 Reduce vehicle mile trips (VMT) in watershed

Period	Responsible Party	Cost Estimate	Status	P Reduction
2010 - 2014	City/County	\$5,000	Active	None

Task Objective: Protect water quality from transportation-related activities by reducing vehicle mile trips (VMT) in the watershed

Actions:

- Coordinate with WTA to identify and implement strategies to increase transit ridership in watershed (e.g. Explore options for installing high-visibility bus shelters at all WTA bus stops in Sudden Valley and Geneva)
- Coordinate with neighborhood groups, associations and schools to promote commute trip reduction
- Plan and design bike/pedestrian facilities along major transportation routes (e.g. Expand Euclid Park Trail connection to Old Lakeway to increase ridership in Geneva, improve bike/bus access to North Shore Park Trail.)
- Coordinate with Education Team to create public outreach materials and encourage watershed residents to reduce vehicle mile trips in the watershed
- Implement plan to reduce “through traffic” use of streets near the lake as shortcuts to destinations outside of watershed.

Intended Lake Benefits: Phosphorus Reduction Fecal Coliform Reduction Sediment Reduction Other

If other, please describe: Potential reduction in transportation-related lake water quality impacts

Performance Measures: 1) Use WTA tracking system to monitor increase in transit ridership in watershed
 2) Annual report of increase in non-vehicular transportation opportunities in watershed to include linear feet of new trails, new trail connections, new bus stops, new park and ride spaces, etc.

Cost Estimates:

Year	Party	FTEs (\$)	Capital Costs	Other	Total
2010	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County				
	District/Other				
2011	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County				
	District/Other				
2012	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County				
	District/Other				
2013	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County				
	District/Other				
2014	City	0.01 (\$1,000)			\$1,000
	County				
	District/Other				
Total		0.05 (\$5,000)			\$5,000