Legislative Agenda 2025

Helping all Washingtonians safely and reliably get where they need to go

Our Top Priorities for 2025

Transportation **Choices**

Defend promises made in the Climate Commitment Act



Climate Commitment Act funding must meet our mobility, climate, and safety goals. We will ensure these funds go to what legislators promised, not to freeway projects. We'll be working to:

- Maintain Transit Support Grants, including the Youth Ride Free requirement
- Ensure sufficient revenue to fund Complete Streets in the maintenance and preservation budget
- Fund programs to make it easier to walk, bike, and take transit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions

Fund a Statewide Megaproject for Safety



In 2023, more people were killed walking in Washington than in any other year on record, and 47% of these fatalities occurred on roads managed by the state. Injuries and fatalities are especially common on WSDOT-owned main street highways within our cities and towns. WSDOT has successfully managed megaprojects for highways, bridges, and freight corridors. Now, we must leverage a similar level of funding and political will to make dangerous, busy roadways safer for everyone. We urge state legislators to secure \$1.5 billion in funding over the next 10 years to address safety on main street highways.

Fix the transportation infrastructure we have



With a transportation budget deficit, Washington State should prioritize our gas tax revenue to fully fund the maintenance of what we have before building new freeway projects. These initiatives create thousands of jobs and save money in the long term. By focusing on maintenance and preservation, Washington can meet the demands of a growing population and meet our climate goals.

Fund and expand Washington's <u>Intercity</u> <u>Bus Program</u>



Many Washington residents in rural areas, particularly seniors and people with disabilities, are unable to drive. The Travel Washington Intercity Bus Program links small towns and rural areas to local bus networks and cities. WSDOT found that increased investment in the program could make new intercity bus connections possible between the Olympic Peninsula, Eastern Washington, the Central Cascades, and the Central Coast. We want an investment of \$12 million per year to expand our Intercity Bus Program to serve more people in rural Washington.

Shape an equitable Road Usage Charge



The gas tax, which makes up more than half of our state's transportation funding, is declining. A road usage charge is an innovative way to create robust, progressive, and holistic transportation funding and outcomes. We urge legislators to work with stakeholders to explore road usage charge policies that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, vehicle miles traveled, and air pollution while building an equitable transportation system that benefits all users. A road usage charge should also maintain provisions for transit and tribes.





Everyone deserves to feel safe and secure on transit. Reducing safety incidents while minimizing the use of punishment and police enforcement is crucial to our work on mobility justice. This can look like partnerships with social service providers, increased security through unarmed agency presence, and improvements to buses and the built environment. Legislators can address these challenges by supporting agencies with policies and resources for pilots, programs, and infrastructure that address safety holistically, such as King County Metro's SaFE Initiative.

TCC is also supporting:





Transit-oriented development policies that increase affordable housing for all income levels near transit

Road safety bills such as lower DUI limits, and more

Policies that reduce miles driven and greenhouse gas emissions to help the state meet its climate goals

Delivering projects faster through equitable and efficient improvements to permitting for walking, biking, and transit projects

Implementation of WSDOT's performance-based investment pilot to help Washington spend to achieve our values

Further studies on jaywalking enforcement across the state to support the <u>Free to</u> <u>Walk</u> campaign

Track our legislative priorities at transportationchoices.org/policy

Transportation Choices Coalition advocates for safe, sustainable, and equitable transportation for all residents in Washington State. For over 30 years, it has brought together businesses, labor, transit agencies, transit riders, and elected leaders to win transformative policies and funding.