



SAN JUAN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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MEMO

REPORT DATE: April 26, 2022
TO: San Juan County Planning Commission
CC: David Williams, Department of Community Development (DCD) Director
FROM: Sophia Cassam, Planner II, DCD *sc*
SUBJECT: 2036 Comprehensive Plan Update
Draft Section B, Element 6, Transportation

DISCUSSION: May 6, 2022

ATTACHMENTS: A. Draft Section B, Element 6, Transportation
B. Public comments from the Agricultural Resources Committee

PURPOSE

To provide the draft Comprehensive Plan (*Plan*) Section B, Element 6, Transportation (Transportation Element) to the Planning Commission for review and to prepare a public hearing draft.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please send all public comments to compplancomments@sanjuanco.com. Please do not copy the County Council, Planning Commission members, or County Staff. Written public comments received by 12pm on May 5 will be provided to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting. Please focus public comments on the issues and options contemplated in this report.

All comments received on the Transportation Element are available on the County website at:
<https://www.sanjuanco.com/1306/Comprehensive-Plan-Elements>

BACKGROUND

The Transportation Element establishes the goals and policies that will guide the development of air, marine, and land transportation facilities and services in San Juan County in a manner consistent with the overall goals of the Comprehensive Plan and Vision Statement. This element addresses how transportation infrastructure will accommodate the needs of the population. The Transportation Element is a mandatory component of a Comprehensive Plan prepared in accordance with the WA Growth Management Act (GMA). Appendix 6, Transportation provides additional required information including a transportation facilities inventory and level of service analysis based on adopted standards.

The Transportation Element draft was developed by the Department of Public Works (Attachment A). This draft of the Element shows the proposed amendments in strikeout and underline format (~~Removal~~, Addition). The proposed changes reflect the work of the Planning Commission and County Council on goals and policies during the *Plan* update. Public comments were considered during the work on the draft Transportation Element.

The Planning Commission and County Council each completed four rounds of review and editing with Public Works in 2018 - 2020. The Planning Commission and County Council were last briefed on the Transportation Element in August 2020. The staff report for the August 2020 briefings summarizes the most recent major revisions to this element: <https://www.sanjuanco.com/DocumentCenter/View/20865/>. No additional changes have been made to the Transportation Element since the Planning Commission and County Council reviewed it in August 2020.

CHANGES FOR PLANNING COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

The Agricultural Resources Committee (ARC) suggested the addition of policy language to the Transportation Element in their February 16, 2022, comments (Attachment B). The ARC suggests adding the following underlined language to draft policy 18 on page 25:

18. Support continued safe and effective transport of livestock on ferries per WAC 468-300-700(1)(p). Work with legislature and WSF to add language to WAC 468-300-700(1)(p) giving priority loading to perishable livestock products, or vehicles providing scheduled, time-sensitive livestock processing services and inspection.

The ARC's letter in Attachment B states that the proposed language is reflective of a memo the County Council sent to legislators on December 14, 2021. At the May 6, 2022, meeting the Planning Commissioners can discuss and decide whether to include the proposed addition.

TRANSPORTATION IN THE *PLAN* VISION

The Vision adopted in 2018 contains a section specifically for transportation. The Transportation and Communication section states:

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. Transportation plans carefully consider multimodal transportation and rural character. Expansion or construction of transportation systems, infrastructure, and facilities occurs only based on demonstrated local public need. Advanced communication infrastructure is encouraged.

The Transportation Element should support the *Plan* Vision. When reviewing the draft Transportation Element, the Planning Commission should consider whether the existing draft goals and policies will bring the County closer to the Vision.

PUBLIC HEARING DRAFT

At the meeting on May 6, 2022, the Planning Commission will review the draft Transportation Element to agree on a draft to use for the future *Plan* public hearing. The draft Element can be brought forward as-is (Attachment A), or the Planning Commission can discuss and make any edits or additions before agreeing on a public hearing draft.

NEXT STEPS

After the Planning Commission makes its edits to the draft Transportation Element the draft will become the public hearing draft. This is the draft that will be brought forward at the Planning Commission's public hearing on the *Plan*. At the public hearing, the Planning Commission will hear public testimony and, after deliberations, make its final edits to the draft *Plan* to be recommended to the County Council.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

SECTION B, ELEMENT 6

TRANSPORTATION

September 14, 2020

~~October 21, 2016~~

~~Adopted November 8, 2016~~

"We have water, land, and air transportation systems commensurate with our island culture. ~~On island circulation is by means of a system of scenic rural roads with automobile, bicycle and pedestrian ways functioning without conflict. In some places, the roads are unpaved, narrow, and winding, and care is taken to maintain a rustic quality in public signs. Transportation plans carefully consider multimodal transportation and rural character. Expansion or new construction of basic public transportation systems, infrastructure, and facilities occurs only on the basis of based on demonstrated local public need. Advanced interactive communication systems are infrastructure is encouraged.~~"

ELEMENT 6

TRANSPORTATION

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1 **6.1 INTRODUCTION**

2
3 **6.1.A Purpose and Background**

4
5 The purpose of the Transportation Element is to establish goals and policies ~~which~~that will guide the
6 development of air, marine, and land transportation facilities and services in San Juan County, in a manner
7 consistent with the overall goals of the Comprehensive Plan (*Plan*) and Vision Statement. It establishes
8 direction for development of regulations for transportation systems, and for facilities and transportation
9 improvement programs, now and through the year ~~2030~~ 2036. The goals and policies in the
10 Transportation Element are based upon ~~the~~ community vision, ~~the 2021~~ 2036 travel population forecasts,
11 ~~and other~~ information provided in Appendix 6, and other applicable transportation plans, ~~that address~~
12 ~~nonmotorized trails development for pedestrians, equestrians and bicyclists.~~

13
14 The San Juan County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan and Nonmotorized Plan (PTNA-NM) was
15 developed to meet the multimodal transportation and recreational needs of the community. It was
16 adopted as Appendix 11 of the Plan in 2016. The PTNA-NM is implemented collaboratively by San Juan
17 County Parks, Public Works, the Land Bank and other partners. It establishes the community’s criteria for
18 prioritizing nonmotorized projects, contains a trails classification system, and identifies trail corridors for
19 development, as well as identifying nonmotorized facility funding mechanisms and local financing options.
20 The PTNA-NM also lists marine facilities and shore access sites within public right-of-way that can be used
21 to provide access to motorized vessels or hand-carry boats and recreation. Its goals and strategies provide
22 a framework that the community can use to meet its vision of providing safe, nonmotorized travel on a
23 multi-purpose trail and corridor system and locations designed to provide accessibility to community
24 activities, recreational areas and public shorelines.

25
26 Another San Juan County plan referenced in the Transportation Element is the San Juan County
27 Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan (CHST). This plan built upon community efforts to gain
28 a better understanding of the transportation needs of San Juan County residents (especially low-income,
29 elderly and disadvantaged persons) and visitors. It explores potential options for creating a new vision of
30 island travel, awareness of transportation needs and issues, and explores public and private transit
31 coordination and transit funding strategies.

32
33 The Transportation Element is a mandatory planning element under the Growth Management Act (GMA)
34 and was developed in accordance with RCW 36.70A.070(6) to be consistent with and implement the Land
35 Use Element. It is based on a systematic planning approach that considers anticipated growth and
36 transportation demand in planning for future transportation system needs.

37
38 The Transportation Element contains the introduction, goals and policies, and is based upon the data and
39 analysis provided in Appendix 6, Transportation, ~~Appendix 6, Transportation of this Comprehensive Plan~~
40 which includes inventories of the existing air, marine and land transportation systems. A consultant,
41 Transpo Group, evaluated the available population and vehicular data to prepare projected growth rates
42 to ~~2021~~ 2036, which were used to assess transportation facility and service demand and capacity. The
43 transportation analysis includes a ~~ten-year~~ forecast of impacts to the transportation system and state-
44 owned transportation facilities, consistent with land use and growth assumptions. ~~Factors affecting the~~
45 ~~existing level of service (LOS) and recommended LOS for the various facilities was presented by Transpo~~
46 ~~Group in the following series of memos dated June 16, 2010:~~

- 47
48
 - ~~Memo 1 of 3: San Juan County Transportation Element Growth Rates~~

- ~~Memo 2 of 3: San Juan County Transportation Level of Service Analysis~~
- ~~Memo 3 of 3: Potential Transportation Level of Service Refinement~~

~~The LOS analysis resulted in the recommended level of service standards and identification of long-range planning needs.~~

~~Appendix 6 also includes a discussion of transportation demand management transportation options and intergovernmental coordination. Lastly, it contains an analysis of the County's transportation funding capability and financing options, and a multi-year financing plan for transportation improvement projects.~~

~~Additional white papers developed by the Community Development and Planning Department and the Public Works Department were considered during the development of the transportation goals and policies. These papers provided information pertaining to LOS, Washington State Ferries (WSF) LOS, impact fees and concurrency, prioritizing trails with road projects, transportation benefit districts and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations.~~

~~Many state and federal transportation regulations and programs require accommodation of or encourage the development of nonmotorized transportation facilities and connections as part of an integrated transportation system. Starting with the federal government and working down to state, regional and county levels, the acceptance of the need to design facilities to accommodate pedestrians, equestrians, bicyclists and hand and wind powered marine vehicles has become a legislative directive for local and county government, including San Juan County.~~

~~The provision of a safe and efficient network of pedestrian, equestrian, bicycling, and marine trails has been an important component of the County's multi-modal transportation system for many years. Since 1979, the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan has included direction to accommodate safe use of bicycles and pedestrian pathways. Based on significant public and Parks and Recreation input, two resolutions were passed in the 1990's that sought to develop important bicycle and walking trails.~~

~~While the demand for these facilities has been made and recognized repeatedly, in the adopted Transportation Improvement Plans and the 1999 – 2004 Parks, Recreation and Preserved Lands Plan for San Juan County residents were historically ambivalent about accommodating bicycles and creating new paths for walking and riding. On one hand, historic surveys showed that many residents yearned for a safer, more tranquil way to get out of their cars. On the other hand, funding and implementation have been challenges for the realization of these plans.~~

~~The San Juan County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan and Nonmotorized Plan is updated every six years. It contains the nonmotorized inventories, strategies, goals, policies, actions, and financial components. It is adopted by reference to serve as the County's Nonmotorized Transportation Plan.~~

~~The San Juan County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan and Nonmotorized Plan also contains a trails classification system (road right of way trail, rustic trail and bike trail), and identifies trail corridors for development. It identifies nonmotorized facility funding mechanisms and local financing options. Its' goals and strategies provide a framework that the community can use to meet its vision of providing safe nonmotorized travel on a multi-purpose trail and corridor system designed to provide accessibility to community activities and recreational areas.~~

1 ~~The plan is designed to meet the transportation and recreational needs of the community. It is~~
2 ~~implemented collaboratively by San Juan County Parks and Public Works departments, the San Juan~~
3 ~~County Land Bank and other partners. It establishes the community's criteria for prioritizing nonmotorized~~
4 ~~projects. A long range action plan and project list guides community investment in a variety of trail~~
5 ~~development projects. In addition, a detailed six year plan identifies projects and funding sources for~~
6 ~~trails development in the near term and inclusion on the capital facilities six year plan. Trail development~~
7 ~~projects implemented by Public Works in the County road rights of way are identified on Public Works'~~
8 ~~six year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).~~

9
10 ~~Another plan, the 2006 San Juan Islands Trails Plan prepared by the San Juan Island Trails Committee to~~
11 ~~promote island wide trail networks provided information for the development of the nonmotorized goals~~
12 ~~and policies. Another plan, the 2006 San Juan Islands Trails Plan prepared by the San Juan Island Trails~~
13 ~~Committee to promote island wide trail networks provided information for the development of the~~
14 ~~nonmotorized goals and policies. Currently, the Lopez Island Community Trails Network is developing a~~
15 ~~plan. The National Parks Service has provided technical assistance in the development of these plans~~
16 ~~through its Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program.~~

17
18 ~~In addition, another San Juan County plan referenced in the Transportation Element is the San Juan County~~
19 ~~Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan. This plan built upon community efforts to gain a better~~
20 ~~understanding of the transportation needs of San Juan County residents (especially low income, elderly~~
21 ~~and disadvantaged persons) and visitors. It explores potential options for creating a new vision of island~~
22 ~~travel, awareness of transportation needs and issues, and explores public and private transit coordination~~
23 ~~and transit funding strategies.~~

24
25 ~~The development of this Transportation Element and related transportation plans have included extensive~~
26 ~~public participation processes. In addition, the results of the Council on Economic Development's~~
27 ~~Transportation Summit and subsequent work by the County's Critical Needs Task Force which was~~
28 ~~organized with the support of the San Juan Community Foundation helped to shape the County's~~
29 ~~development of recent transportation plans.~~

30 Organization

31
32
33 ~~The Transportation Element is organized to first to outline the overriding goals and objectives for all forms~~
34 ~~of transportation, then to provides specific goals and policies for air, marine, and land transportation~~
35 ~~systems, and as well as intergovernmental and regional coordination. In addition to providing general~~
36 ~~guidance for action, these policies are designed to assist the County in determining priorities and assigning~~
37 ~~responsibilities for plan implementation.~~

38
39 ~~The Air Transportation goals and policies address the long term management of airports, airport-related~~
40 ~~operations and services, and other air transportation facilities. The Marine Transportation goals and~~
41 ~~policies address long term marine transportation services and development of new facilities. The Land~~
42 ~~Transportation goals and policies address the development and maintenance of land transportation~~
43 ~~facilities and provide guidance for County decisions on their funding, scheduling, design and construction.~~
44 ~~Intergovernmental and regional coordination goals address County transportation system development~~
45 ~~in relation to adjacent jurisdictions, and other counties, regions and entities.~~

1 **6.1.B Level of Service Standards and Concurrency**

2
3 Level of Service

4
5 One of the principal criteria for identifying needed capital improvements for transportation systems is the
6 establishment of level of service (LOS) standards. ~~LOS standards to~~ measure the capacity of capital
7 facilities and services ~~which are~~ necessary to support new development and maintain or enhance the
8 quality of life in the community. The LOS standards adopted by San Juan County are based on the
9 community's values and vision of its future. LOS standards serve as a gauge to judge the performance of
10 the transportation systems and ensure that the community:

- 11
12 • Has set realistic, measurable and attainable transportation goals;
13 • Accounts for the impacts of growth and development; and
14 • Makes transportation planning and programming decisions based upon community valued
15 policy direction.
16

17 The LOS standards for ~~the~~ San Juan County's road transportation systems are based on the physical
18 capacity of the facility or service, as well as ~~and~~ development projections. An explanation of the LOS
19 standards is provided in Appendix 6.

20
21 Transportation plans carefully consider multimodal transportation and rural character. ~~The County~~
22 ~~prioritizes transportation~~ improvements for expansion or construction of transportation systems,
23 infrastructure, and facilities are prioritized ~~roadways, bridges, marine facilities and bicycle/pedestrian~~
24 ~~accommodations~~ based on capacity, safety, operation, maintenance, and demonstrated local public
25 ~~importance to the community.~~ These aspects of the transportation facilities are reviewed in
26 Appendix 6.

27
28 Concurrency

29
30 Consistent with GMA requirements, the County adopted development regulations ~~which~~ that prohibit
31 development approval if a development would causes the level of service on a transportation facility to
32 decline below the adopted standards, unless transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate
33 the impacts of the development are made concurrent with the development in accordance with county
34 standards.

35
36 **6.1.C Relationship to Plan Elements, Consistency with Adjacent Jurisdictions and Regional Plan**
37 **Coordination**

38
39 Relationship to Plan Elements

40
41 This Element was developed to evaluate existing conditions, and to identify future planning needs. It sets
42 out the goals, policies and preferences of the County for maintaining and improving the quality of
43 transportation facilities and services, and to ~~guide intergovernmental and regional and international~~
44 ~~coordination~~ while assuring consistent adherence to the general goals and policies regarding the use and
45 development of land and transportation facilities as expressed in the other elements of the
46 Comprehensive Plan, including subarea plans.

47
48 Consistency with Plans of Adjacent Jurisdictions and Regions

1
2 Intergovernmental, regional and international coordination of plans are addressed in this element,
3 including coordinated planning for consistency with jurisdictions with common borders and counties that
4 share common regional issues. The Town of Friday Harbor is the only incorporated city in San Juan County.
5 In 1992, the County and the Town of Friday Harbor jointly adopted Countywide Planning Policies (CPPs)
6 (Resolution No. 120–199, which was updated by the adoption of Ordinance 48-2008). These policies
7 address the need for consistent and coordinated County and Town comprehensive plans. The CPPs are
8 included as Appendix 2 in this *Plan*. Consistency between this *Plan* and the Town of Friday Harbor
9 Comprehensive Plan, including Chapter 5, Transportation, ~~Element~~ is required by the GMA. San Juan
10 County is not a member of a Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO); however, the County
11 coordinates with ~~the~~ Whatcom, Island, and Skagit-Island RTPOs Counties on regional planning issues.
12

13 **6.2 GENERAL TRANSPORTATION GOALS AND POLICIES**

14
15 The general goals and policies apply to all transportation modes.

16 17 **6.2.A General Goals:**

- 18
19 1. To develop and maintain a safe, reliable, environmentally responsible, economically feasible, locally,
20 regionally and internationally integrated transportation system that reflects the desires and
21 preferences of County residents, supports economic vitality and preserves the rural character, scenic
22 roadway features and aesthetics of island communities and the natural, social, and economic
23 environment of San Juan County.
24
25 2. To implement the following principles to guide planning, design and construction of Complete Streets,
26 in accordance with Ordinance 24-2018:
27
28 a. Promote healthy communities by designing walking villages and encouraging walking, bicycling,
29 and use of public transportation;
30
31 b. Improve safety by designing roads to accommodate all users;
32
33 c. Reduce congestion by providing safe alternatives to single-occupancy driving; and
34
35 d. Preserve the rural character of the community by involving local citizens and stakeholders to
36 participate in the planning and design of Complete Streets.
37
38 3. To develop a transportation system that corresponds to and is consistent with patterns of land
39 development envisioned in adopted land use plans and also:
40
41 a. Addresses the complex transportation demands of current land use patterns, ~~and~~ prioritizes
42 service to the Urban Growth Areas, accommodates the needs and priorities of residents and
43 businesses while meeting the basic transportation needs of all islands in the County ~~including non-~~
44 ~~ferry served islands;~~
45
46 b. Enhances the character of the County as a single community of islands, while maintaining the
47 individual character of each island;
48

- c. Directs development of facilities in a manner and at a scale consistent with the capabilities of the site and the community to absorb them and increases the efficiency and safety of existing transportation systems by using demand management strategies to avoid costly capital expenditures;
- d. Minimizes noise generated by transportation facilities and travel modes associated with them;
- e. Provides a variety of transportation modes including air, marine and land (including nonmotorized transportation options), and provides for efficient intermodal connections between the ferry terminals, activity centers, and points of interest;
- ~~f. Provides a safe and efficient network of trails for bicyclists, equestrians, pedestrians, nonmotorized marine traffic and encourages nonmotorized transportation as a viable, healthy, non-polluting alternative to single-occupancy vehicles;~~
- ~~g.~~ Supports the promotion and enhancement of tourism, recreation, special events, scenic byway programs and diverse economic activities or opportunities;
- ~~g.h.~~ Facilitates the development of privately and/or publicly funded projects to address specific transportation needs and challenges, where appropriate;
- ~~h.i.~~ Promotes modes of transportation and multi-modal connections that support active and healthy communities and mobility for all users;
- ~~i.j.~~ Encourages energy conservation, greenhouse gas emission reductions, and the use of low-impact development techniques when physically and economically feasible in the development of transportation systems and facilities;
- ~~j.k.~~ Encourages development of transit system facilities and services that can reduce the reliance of visitors and residents on single occupancy vehicles; ~~and~~
- ~~k.l.~~ Coordinates transportation and emergency management services planning; ~~and~~
- l. Support and incentivize interconnected, multi-modal transportation options, including conversion to electric vehicles, buses, vans, shuttles, taxis, electric rideshare and rental program.

- 4. To establish an adaptation planning process for transportation infrastructure to evaluate actions to increase community and environmental resilience to climate change, while maintaining or modifying essential services.

General Policies (6.2.A.1-8):

1. Promote active citizen participation in the development and implementation of this Element.
2. Recognize the needs and desires of the residents of each island in making decisions regarding transportation facilities and their operation for that island.

3. Ensure that consistency with the land use goals and policies adopted in the Comprehensive Plan and Shoreline Master Program is a primary consideration in the evaluation of proposed transportation facilities, while encouraging diverse economic opportunities.
4. Anticipate and monitor changes in the use of and demand for transportation facilities, while managing development impacts and seeking ways to avert conflicts generated by increases in demands over time.
5. Explore ways to promote transportation modes that may decrease demands for increased automobile traffic capacities on roads and ferries.
6. Prevent the consideration and development of bridges and tunnels between islands and/or from the mainland.
7. ~~Consider~~ Identify, develop and implement cross-border transportation routes, in addition to those established by WSF Washington State Ferry Service.
8. Evaluate transportation system vulnerabilities to climate change, promote community and environmental resilience, and define adaptive strategies to reduce damage and maintenance.
- ~~9.8. Consider the risk of sea level rise in expenditures of public funds for transportation infrastructure.~~
9. Support transportation facility design and operational measures that protect the environment, such as energy conservation, greenhouse gas emission reductions, and stormwater management.
10. Support the electrification of all transportation modes and provide recharge stations at key destinations throughout the County.
11. Switch to electric vehicles for new county fleet purchases and electric motors, when feasible.

6.2.B Transportation Financing Goals and Policies

Section II in Appendix 6 of this *Plan* addresses transportation financing strategies for the ~~2012–2032~~ 2020–2036 planning period. It also includes an inventory of funding sources and levels for capital projects, an analysis of the County’s funding capabilities, and a copy of the ~~2019–2024~~ 2020–2036 six-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) prepared by Public Works. The TIP identifies specific projects and funding sources for ~~both~~ road, marine, and nonmotorized trail projects along County roads. Public Works also creates an annual construction road plan (ARP ACP) that includes the Public Works projects budgeted for and approved by the County Council.

Funding and financing options for rustic and bike (non right-of-way) trail developments are addressed in the San Juan County *PTNA-NM Plan*. Trail projects are selected from a 20-year, long-range project plan for inclusion on the County’s six-year capital facilities plan (CFP) and Parks Department and Land Bank budgets. Financing goals and policies for transit services and mobility coordination are addressed and prioritized in the ~~2010 SJC Health and Human Services Coordinated Transportation Plan CHST~~ and implemented through inclusion in the Health and Human Service Department’s budget.

1 As noted above, various County departments share responsibility for transportation planning, prioritizing
2 projects, and managing and developing transportation services and facilities. The following goals and
3 policies are intended to help guide the County as it develops transportation strategies, programs and
4 projects based on community needs, budget capacity, and desire.

5
6 **Goals:**

- 7
- 8 1. To ~~ensure~~ assure that public transportation facilities provided by the County are within the ability of
9 the County to fund.
 - 10
 - 11 2. To develop funding, budgeting and operational strategies that can be implemented over the planning
12 period ~~that~~ in order to create sustainable transportation funds, balance expenses with available
13 revenue, and preserve appropriate cash reserves.
 - 14
 - 15 3. To consider the use of appropriate methods of transportation financing, when necessary to meet
16 community transportation needs.
 - 17
 - 18 4. To include funding from the Public Works road fund budget for nonmotorized projects in ~~each~~ of the
19 six-year transportation improvement programs.
 - 20
 - 21 5. To encourage public-private cooperation and partnerships, in order to reduce barriers to maintaining
22 and improving transportation facilities and services.
 - 23
 - 24 6. To coordinate with the Town of Friday Harbor, Port Districts, and the Washington State Department
25 of Transportation to plan fair share financial contributions to any transportation improvements
26 needed to mitigate town, regional, County, or island-wide impacts.
 - 27
 - 28 7. To support State legislation that would provide funding for local transportation system improvement,
29 preservation and maintenance, and long-term, sustainable funding of WSF services and facilities.
 - 30
 - 31 8. To work with state and federal agencies to increase marine traffic from the Gulf Islands, Canada.
 - 32
 - 33 9. ~~To work with state and federal legislatures to create additional~~ international ports of entry on Lopez
34 and Orcas islands.
 - 35
 - 36 ~~10. To obtain transportation planning grants for a dock utilization study and the development and~~
37 ~~adoption of updated engineering and design standards and/or other transportation planning needs.~~
 - 38
 - 39 ~~101.~~ To consider partnering with the Port Districts on future development projects.
 - 40
 - 41 ~~112.~~ To consider funding for marine-based projects.
 - 42

43 **Policies (6.2.B.1-8):**

44
45 The County should:

- 46
- 47 1. Prepare a six-year Transportation Facilities Improvement Plan (TIP) in accordance with Chapter 36.81,
48 RCW. The County Engineer should propose which roads, marine facilities, docks, boat ramps, barge

1 landing sites, log dumps, mooring buoys, and road right-of-way trails should be improved, based on
2 priority rating systems established for these facilities (see Appendix 6). Review prioritized projects
3 with the Planning Commission and County Council prior to adoption of the Six-Year TIP.
4

5 2. ~~Develop a rating system based upon the Public Works Department in consultation with the Planning,~~
6 ~~Parks, Land Bank, and Sheriff's departments and other interested parties to rank priorities for County~~
7 ~~transportation projects other than roads such as (docks, boat ramps, barge landing sites, log dumps,~~
8 ~~mooring buoys, and pedestrian, equestrian and bicycle trails).~~
9

10 3. ~~Organize the six-year TIP Plan in two three-year periods. Consideration of to incorporate all phases of~~
11 ~~projects to allow for: needed projects and their design should be managed as follows:~~
12

13 a. ~~Projects should be identified~~ Scheduling time early in the plan period for public discussion and
14 County study of needs and desirability. After project definition, aAdditional public discussion to
15 be held during the project design phase, followed by project construction.
16

17 b. ~~Public discussion and County study of project design should occur in the later Plan period. The~~
18 ~~Public Works Department County Council should submit the six-year TIPPlan to the Planning~~
19 ~~Department and Planning Commission for review and recommendation regarding its relationship~~
20 ~~to policies and regulations of adopted County plans at least 45 days before the Council is~~
21 ~~scheduled to adopt it for review and recommendations regarding its relationship to policies and~~
22 ~~regulations of adopted County plans. A copy of the recommendation should be provided to the~~
23 ~~Public Works Director for comment before Council action.~~
24

25 34. Allocate County road funds in the following order of program priority:
26

27 a. Debt service;

28 b. Maintenance and preservation of County transportation facilities; and

29 c. Engineering and construction of improvements.
30
31

32
33 4. Rank County transportation facilities and services that require improvements using a priority rating
34 system which allots additional points for projects financed cooperatively. In addition, the County should
35 For improvement of transportation facilities and services, the County should:
36

37 a. Allow County roads to be improved by others, with approval from the County Engineer, in
38 accordance with county standards;
39

40 b. Cooperatively finance transportation facility and service improvements with land developers. The
41 amount of financial assistance should be based on a proportionate amount of increase in traffic
42 volumes attributable to the development project;
43

44 c. Consider forming transportation benefit districts and/or local improvement districts, when
45 cumulative land development projects cause transportation problems on County roads or to fund
46 needed transportation improvements;
47

1 d. Coordinate efforts with the Town of Friday Harbor for cooperative funding of road improvements
2 within the Town and its urban growth area; and

3
4 e. Seek to minimize regulatory impediments to investment in commercial transportation facilities,
5 by conducting a code review process and making needed code amendments.
6

7 5.6. Require that the estimated cost of providing those public transportation facilities, which are the
8 responsibility of the County, not exceed conservative estimates of revenues from sources that are
9 available to the County, pursuant to current statutes. Conservative estimates need not be the most
10 pessimistic estimate, but cannot exceed the most likely estimate.
11

12 6.7. Have the costs of needed transportation improvements be borne by both existing and future
13 development. These costs may be paid by grants, entitlements, or public facilities from other levels
14 of government and independent districts. For the purposes of this ~~Comprehensive Plan~~, "existing
15 development" means development which has occurred and "future development" means
16 development which has not yet occurred. ~~Financial responsibilities should be implemented as follows:~~
17

18 a. Existing Development
19

20 (1) Financial ~~responsibilities~~ includes:

- 21 i. ~~Transportation~~ improvements that reduce or eliminate existing deficiencies; and
22 ii. ~~Some~~ or all of the replacement cost of obsolete or worn out facilities, including a portion
23 of the cost of transportation improvements needed by future development.
24

25 (2) Sources of funds should be utilized in the following order of priority: state transportation
26 taxes, grants, and real property taxes. User fees, charges for services, and special assessments
27 should only be utilized if all of the above-listed ~~available~~ sources have been exhausted.
28

29 b. Future Development
30

31 (1) Financial responsibilities include:

- 32 i. Providing a fair share of the costs of capital improvements needed to address the impact
33 of future development; and
34 ii. Providing a portion of the cost of the replacement of obsolete or worn out facilities.
35

36 (2) Financial responsibilities do not include payment of impact fees for the portion of any public
37 facility that reduces or eliminates existing deficiencies.
38

39 (3) Sources of funds may include, but are not limited to: voluntary contributions for the benefit
40 of any public transportation facility; impact fees (upon adoption of impact fee regulations),
41 capacity fees, dedications of land, provision of public transportation facilities, public or private
42 partnerships and future payment of user fees, charges for services, special assessments and
43 taxes.
44

45 (4) Upon completion of construction, "future" development becomes "existing" development,
46 and will contribute to paying the costs of the replacement of obsolete or worn out facilities
47 as described in Policy ~~7~~6.a, above.
48

1 ~~c. Existing and Future Development~~

2
3 The costs of needed transportation improvements may be paid by grants, entitlements, or public
4 facilities from other levels of government and independent districts.
5

6 ~~7.8. Revise the *Comprehensive Plan* to adjust for the lack of such revenues in the event that revenues~~
7 ~~identified as necessary for the provision of adequate transportation facilities and services, are but~~
8 ~~unavailable, in any of the following ways:~~

- 9
- 10 a. Reduce the level of service for one or more public transportation facilities;
 - 11
 - 12 b. Increase the use of other sources of revenue;
 - 13
 - 14 c. Decrease the cost, and possibly the quality, of some types of public transportation facilities, while
 - 15 retaining the quantity of the facilities that is inherent in the standard for the adopted level of
 - 16 service;
 - 17
 - 18 d. Decrease the demand for and subsequent use of the transportation facilities; or
 - 19
 - 20 e. Use a combination of the above alternatives.

21

22 ~~8. A portion of ? will be used to fund clean transportation initiatives that help reduce greenhouse gas~~
23 ~~emissions.~~

24

25 ~~9. Consider managed retreat for locating transportation infrastructure away from climate impacted~~
26 ~~locations, as risk of failure increases or upgrade is required, to improve long-term resilience of~~
27 ~~investments.~~

28

29 **6.2.C General Level of Service (LOS) Goals and Policies**

30

31 **Goals:**

- 32
- 33 1. To ensure that those public transportation facilities and services necessary to support development,
34 including, but not limited to roads, and docks are adequate to serve the development at the time the
35 development is available for occupancy and use, without decreasing current service levels below
36 locally established minimum standards.
 - 37
 - 38 2. To ensure that suitable mitigation measures for addressing the impacts of growth are fair and
39 equitable, and that transportation impacts at the project and system levels are mitigated concurrently
40 with the project in accordance with county standards.

41

42 **Policies (6.2.C.1-5):**

- 43
- 44 1. Assign LOS standards to provide a basis for upon which to evaluate the adequacy of public
45 transportation facilities ~~adequacy which~~ over time. The standards shall be ~~are~~ measurable,
46 understandable, and appropriate to the services and/or facilities being considered.

2. Identify transportation LOS standards and response mechanisms ~~that~~^{which} balance the need for the facility or service with the possible environmental, economic and aesthetic impacts of those facilities and services.
3. Establish a monitoring program for transportation LOS, in which the Public Works Department will ~~annually~~ evaluate the demand and capacity of transportation concurrency facilities and other components of transportation management, and will work cooperatively with the Planning Department to review on a three-year basis the consistency of the six-year ~~TIP transportation facilities plan~~ with this ~~Comprehensive Plan~~ and the Growth Management Act. This monitoring program should include cooperation with the Town of Friday Harbor to analyze the correlation between traffic volume increases on County roads and on town streets.
4. Require concurrency, in accordance with the goals and policies of this Element. For the purposes of this Element, "concurrent with development" means that improvements or strategies are in place at the time of development, or that a financial commitment is in place to complete the improvements or strategies within six years.
- ~~5. Encourage County departments to work together and coordinate with other jurisdictions to develop a comprehensive level of service standard that includes nonmotorized and transit services.~~

6.2.D Communications and Information Technology Goals and Policies

Goal:

To encourage the use of communications and intelligent systems technology to support diverse economic opportunities; ~~facilitate remote work and telecommuting;~~ manage transportation system demands; improve accessibility to services; meetings and work; promote energy conservation; reduce peak-period travel; reduce congestion and reliance on single-occupancy vehicle travel; and reduce the need to provide additional transportation facilities, such as roads, parking and ferry service.

Policies (6.2.D.1-7):

1. Promote the use of ~~telecommunications systems meetings~~ and facilitate remote work and telecommuting in order to alleviate the need for additional, traditional transportation facilities.
2. Evaluate County business ~~operations~~ to identify opportunities to reduce individual travel and encourage for the enhanced use of telecommuting and teleconferencing.
3. Encourage the development of county-wide, high-speed broadband service, with priority placed on ~~in~~ the Urban Growth areas, Town of Friday Harbor and business centers.
4. Encourage and support the development of, or expansion of, the County's data networking infrastructure, in order to minimize reliance on vehicular travel.
5. Coordinate with local libraries, Skagit Valley College, and other entities to share telecommunication resources.

- 1 6. Promote the use of social media, web-based applications, intelligent transportation system
2 development, and state transportation websites to provide information on transportation system
3 scheduling, real-time data, trip reduction, ride sharing, and nonmotorized travel options.
4
- 5 7. Utilize broadband technology and information systems to help create markets for locally produced
6 agriculture, trade, manufactured and intellectual goods, and ~~or~~ services.
7

8 **6.2.E Hazardous Materials Transport Goals and Policies**

9 **Goal:**

10 To limit activities ~~which that~~ encourage the external and internal transportation of hazardous materials
11 or dangerous ~~good goods~~ in a frequency or manner ~~which that~~ could compromise the public health and
12 safety or water quality, and to protect the economy, environment, and citizens by minimizing and
13 mitigating the risks of hazardous materials, dangerous goods, and/or fossil fuel spills.
14
15

16 **Policies (6.2.E.1-6):**

- 17 1. Support strategies that address the risk of major fossil fuels and/or material spills that could occur
18 with current, as well as increased ~~s in~~ transport vessel traffic.
19
- 20 2. Discourage the construction of fossil fuels trans-shipment facilities or other facilities and pipelines
21 through San Juan County or its waters that would compromise San Juan County's economy, public
22 health, safety, or water quality.
23
- 24 3. Ensure that transportation of hazardous materials or dangerous goods generated or used within the
25 County will meet established state and federal guidelines, and oppose the transportation of other
26 hazardous materials or dangerous goods that could endanger San Juan County's economy, public
27 health, safety, or water quality.
28
- 29 4. Improve the level of emergency preparedness for fossil fuel and material spills and other disasters,
30 by working with state, federal, and Canadian entities to develop and improve training and emergency
31 response plans, promote the location of response equipment in San Juan County, and support the use
32 of Best Achievable Protection Methods and Best Achievable Technologies.
33
- 34 5. Encourage responsible parties to locate spill response resources in San Juan County and to be
35 prepared to respond to material spills in waters surrounding San Juan County.
36
- 37 6. Advocate for the assignment of permit conditions on bulk shipping facility development project
38 permits, in order to guarantee the mitigation of all potential impacts from accidents that could
39 adversely affect San Juan County's economy, public health and safety, water quality, and fish and/or
40 wildlife habitat.
41
42
43
44
45
46
47

1 **6.3 AIR TRANSPORTATION GOALS AND POLICIES**

2
3 An inventory of aviation facilities and services, along with a ~~and~~ presentation of long-range planning
4 needs, is provided in ~~Section A of~~ Appendix 6 of this Comprehensive Plan. The following goals and policies
5 apply to land- and sea-based air transportation facilities and services.
6

7 **6.3.A Goals:**

- 8
9 1. To recognize the importance of public air transportation facilities to island commerce, as well as to
10 the mobility of island residents.
11
12 2. To promote optimum compatibility between air transportation facilities and services and other land
13 uses, in a manner that minimizes the impacts of airstrip, airfield, and airport use while maintaining
14 adequate, safe, efficient, and convenient service.
15
16 ~~3. To explore the establishment of new ports of entry in the Eastsound and Lopez Village Urban Growth~~
17 ~~Areas.~~
18

19 **Policies (6.3.A.1-5):**

- 20
21 1. Coordinate with the WSDOT Aviation Division, FAA and port districts to provide and maintain air
22 transportation facilities and services which:
23
24 a. Serve the needs of island residents and visitors;
25
26 b. Are planned in concurrence ~~consistent~~ with the County’s adopted land use goals and policies, and
27 ~~that~~ are developed through cooperation, consultation and participation with port districts, ~~and~~
28 airport operators, owners, users and the public; and
29
30 c. Are consistent with state, regional, and international air transportation plans.
31
32 2. Foster recognition by pilots and other airport users of their roles in minimizing air traffic safety
33 hazards, noise, and other immediate impacts of airport activities on surrounding land uses. Cooperate
34 with the port districts and solicit participation from airport operators, owners, and users, as well as
35 the general ~~and the~~ public, in anticipating and responding to land use, safety and noise concerns.
36
37 3. Moderate the impacts of facilities for aircraft uses and facility expansion by:
38
39 a. Applying adopted policies and regulations and the permit systems established in land use plans to
40 private airstrips and airfields, as well as to public airports;
41
42 b. Coordinating with the FAA, WSDOT Aviation Division, port districts, and airport operators to
43 consider airport overlay districts, ~~and~~ airport master plans, and layout plans for public airports;
44
45 c. Encouraging consideration of the effects of noise, light, vibration, and fumes, and the perception
46 of low-flying aircraft; and
47

- 1 d. Ensuring that location-specific standards for airports will identify and prohibit the siting of
- 2 incompatible uses adjacent to them.
- 3
- 4 4. Consider seaplane use during review of County shoreline permits for docks, marinas, and port
- 5 developments. The following should be considered for seaplane landing sites:
- 6
- 7 a. Give preference to the location of landing sites for regular commercial seaplane service within
- 8 public or private marinas or established port areas.
- 9
- 10 b. Consider flight patterns with regard to noise and navigation impacts in granting shoreline permits
- 11 for docks for seaplane use associated with residential or commercial use.
- 12
- 13 5. Work to ensure that all existing public use airports, including land and sea bases, are identified as
- 14 essential public facilities.
- 15

16 **6.4 MARINE TRANSPORTATION GOALS AND POLICIES**

17

18 Marine transportation includes the Washington State Ferry System (WSF) services and facilities, County

19 marine facilities, ~~docks, barge landings sites, ramps, public mooring buoys~~, log dumps, common landing

20 areas, international transportation routes, facilities to support hand- and wind-powered vessels, and

21 associated parking areas, and private marine transportation services. The following goals and policies

22 apply to marine transportation facilities and services which that are inventoried and analyzed in ~~Section~~

23 ~~1-B of~~ Appendix 6 of this Comprehensive Plan. These goals and policies express the desires of County

24 residents for actions by the County, WSF, and private service providers for the creation, operation,

25 maintenance, and evaluation of marine transportation systems. ~~Policies stated here provide direction for~~

26 ~~County coordination with WSF on operations, review of updates to the WSF Division Long Range Plan,~~

27 ~~legislative priorities, and for action on applicable development proposals. They also provide direction for~~

28 ~~the development of, and investment in County operated marine transportation facilities including County~~

29 ~~docks, barge landings sites, ramps, public mooring buoys, log dump facilities and associated parking areas.~~

30 **Goals:**

- 31
- 32
- 33 1. To recognize that marine transportation systems are essential facilities, which that provide critical
- 34 functions in maintaining the quality, safety, and character of life in San Juan County and that play a
- 35 vital role in driving economic development ~~and tourism~~ in island communities, while ~~and~~ providing a
- 36 major draw for State tourism.
- 37
- 38 2. To recognize the environmental, economic, and social conditions of the islands as primary factors in
- 39 the management of transportation facilities and services.
- 40
- 41 3. To ~~establish LOS standards and~~ encourage the use of demand management strategies to contain
- 42 capital expenditures.
- 43
- 44 4. To promote state transportation plans that would provide long-term sustainable funding of ~~state ferry~~
- 45 WSF routes ~~that linking~~ the County to the mainland and Canada.
- 46
- 47 5. To enhance the County's working relationship with ~~the~~ WSF and other transportation providers.
- 48

- 1 6. To inform ~~the~~ WSF and other state entities of the travelling needs of County residents and propose
2 priority solutions.
- 3
- 4 7. To encourage the development of public and private-sector marine transportation services and
5 facilities that improve multi-modal transportation options and connectivity.
- 6
- 7 8. To increase marine traffic to the Eastsound Urban Growth Area and the Lopez Village Urban Growth
8 Area.
- 9
- 10 9. To provide public dock facilities on Shaw Island and other outer islands, if necessary.
- 11

12 **6.4.A General Marine Policies** ~~(6.4.A.1-10):~~

- 13 1. Encourage appropriate funding, design, and development of facilities and services which:
 - 14 a. Serve the needs of island residents and visitors;
 - 15
 - 16 b. Ensure the preservation of rural island character, environmental quality, economic
17 development, and individual island identities;
 - 18
 - 19 c. Provide better access to and among the islands served by County roads and marine facilities
20 docks, barge landing sites and ramps;
 - 21
 - 22 d. Provide parking and dockmarine facilities on ferry-served islands to meet the needs of outer
23 island residents; and
 - 24
 - 25 e. ~~Encourage~~ Consider the development of privately owned and operated passenger-only ferries
26 that would provide transportation between the County islands and mainland and Canadian
27 destinations.
 - 28
- 29
- 30
- 31 2. Establish and maintain a minimum of one barge landing site and facility when essential to ~~the~~ public
32 wellbeing on each island with County roadways, ~~particularly non-ferry served islands~~, to address the
33 special freight mobility needs of agriculture, forestry, and other essential island businesses.
- 34
- 35 3. Support the development of one log dump on each island if needed to address the freight mobility
36 needs of the forestry industry.
- 37
- 38 4. ~~Consider~~ Support the evaluation of need ~~for~~ alternative modes of marine transportation, such as
39 private marine passenger-only service and barges, and encourage the development of direct
40 connections to mainland intermodal transportation hubs.
- 41
- 42 5. Promote planning for, and the development of, intermodal connections between marine
43 transportation services and facilities and land-based transportation systems, in order to improve
44 mobility and accessibility.
- 45
- 46 6. Update, gather and interpret data on the use characteristics of marine transportation facilities and
47 services, in order to measure changes in ~~level of service~~ capacity, and design and implement demand
48 management strategies as needed.

- 1
- 2 7. Support improvements to marine transportation facilities and services that address the non-peak
- 3 period needs of residents, businesses, and visitors, to improve the economic and social quality of
- 4 island life.
- 5
- 6 8. Encourage delivery of an optimum state of ferry service for County residents and the business
- 7 community at maximum efficiency and lowest cost.
- 8
- 9 9. Prohibit use of personal watercraft, such as jet skis, in the waters around and in San Juan County.
- 10
- 11 10. Consider direct marine access or expanded transportation service facilities in Eastsound, Lopez
- 12 Village, Shaw, Waldron, and other outer additional islands.
- 13

14 **6.4.B Policies Related to the Washington State Ferry System (~~6.4.B.1-1~~):**

15

16 San Juan County is highly dependent upon transportation services and facilities provided by the

17 Washington State Department of Transportation Ferries Division (WSF). The Washington State ~~f~~Ferry

18 system is the Sstate highway for the San Juan Islands. Ferry service is the primary mode of transportation

19 to the mainland and the mainstay of social and economic life. Coordination with the WSF and other state

20 entities is integral to maintaining an efficient system of moving people, goods and freight. Moreover, the

21 ferry system is essential in meeting the special transportation needs of residents, businesses, social

22 services, schools, and other public institutions. It also plays a critical role in maintaining and enhancing

23 the state and local tourism sectors.

24

25 The County Council established the San Juan County Ferries Advisory Committee (FAC), under the

26 requirements of RCW 47.60.310 and SJCC 2.44, to work with ~~the~~ WSF to address community needs related

27 to ferry schedules, customer problems, and regional issues. The FAC obtains community input on ferry

28 service issues, advises WSF on those issues, and provides the County Council with information on the

29 condition of facilities, ~~and~~ as well as service and operational matters affecting the San Juan Islands service

30 area. These issues pertain to safety, tariffs, service, scheduling, economic vitality, vessel allocation,

31 terminal facility adequacy, and vessel maintenance.

32

33 With the help of the FAC, the County identifies solutions to on-going funding and service challenges and

34 promotes improvements in the ferry system through interactions with the WSF, the Washington State

35 Transportation Commission, and the State legislature.

36 **Policies (~~6.4.B.1-1~~):**

- 37
- 38
- 39 1. Consider the following primary factors while planning and developing marine transportation systems:
- 40
- 41 a. Existing marine terminal facilities and connecting roads are components of the marine
- 42 transportation system and have significant physical constraints which must be considered in
- 43 planning for changes to marine facilities and services;
- 44
- 45 b. Transportation facilities and activities can have significant direct and indirect impacts on land use
- 46 and circulation patterns and the economic vitality of the community;
- 47
- 48 c. Cost-effective and time-efficient ferry transportation is essential to island commerce;

- 1
- 2 d. The County and the State of Washington have separate but complementary responsibilities for
- 3 inter-island marine transportation; and
- 4
- 5 e. Washington State ferry routes are the primary economic routes for San Juan County.
- 6
- 7 2. Work with the state and federal government to encourage:
- 8
- 9 a. The long-term, sustainable funding of WSF service levels and capital funding for on-going ferry
- 10 construction needed to replace the aging fleet;
- 11
- 12 b. The construction of a second ferry terminal slip with vehicle access in the Town of Friday
- 13 Harbor, to improve efficiency, scheduling flexibility and serve as a back-up slip;
- 14
- 15 c. The dedication of funding needed to construct a commuter parking lot near the Friday Harbor
- 16 ~~and Orcas and Lopez Island ferry terminals, and including priority funding to expedite~~
- 17 ~~development of a lot on Department of Transportation property located in Orcas Village; and~~
- 18
- 19 d. The dedication of funding needed to improve the off-loading of passengers and vehicles, and
- 20 especially at the terminal located in the Town of Friday Harbor.
- 21
- 22 3. Support the work of the FAC in collecting and interpreting data, gathering community input, and
- 23 providing recommendations to the County Council on ferry service improvement issues requiring
- 24 coordination with ~~the~~ WSF and the Washington Transportation Commission.
- 25
- 26 4. Support a local public review process conducted by WSF that seeks comments regarding potential
- 27 modifications to its administration of the adopted preferential loading policies identified in WAC 468–
- 28 300–700. This review process should include, but not necessarily be limited to, the Ferry Advisory
- 29 Committee. The County should support operations and procedures for processing requests for
- 30 preferential loading ~~which~~ that reflect local needs.
- 31
- 32 5. Submit requests to modify WAC 468–300–700 pertaining to preferential ferry loading to the FAC, who
- 33 will coordinate with WSF. The FAC should review and make recommendations on each request to the
- 34 San Juan County Council. The Council should make any formal recommendations to amend WAC 468–
- 35 300–700 to the Washington State Transportation Commission.
- 36
- 37 6. Coordinate with WSF, other regional transportation systems entities, and community transportation
- 38 partners and providers to promote non-vehicular traffic on ferries, in order to spread demand and
- 39 moderate increased demands on terminal facilities and County roads. To accomplish this, the County
- 40 should encourage WSF to:
- 41
- 42 a. Work with the County and Town to provide traffic control support near ~~t~~The Town of Friday
- 43 Harbor ferry terminal, and near and around the Orcas parking lot and County road ferry queue;
- 44
- 45 b. Consider the impacts of proposed service and facility improvements on traffic circulation at island
- 46 terminals, as well as ~~and~~ on County roads and Town streets;
- 47

- 1 c. Solicit resources to improve transit schedules and ~~transit~~ connections at ferry terminals and
2 coordinateing with Skagit Transit and other transit providers; and
3
- 4 d. Promote the development of improved pedestrian, ~~and~~ bike, and shuttle access at terminals to
5 encourage walk-ons.
6
- 7 7. Coordinate with WSF to adjust operational practices, such as improving the use of information
8 technology to mitigate adverse impacts on safe traffic circulation and safety on island roads. The
9 County should encourage WSF to:
- 10
- 11 a. Promote operational and/or scheduling changes in preference to expanding terminal facilities;
12
- 13 b. Provide ferry boats in a vessel class that meet the needs of the County;
14
- 15 c. Separate the unloading of bicyclists and pedestrians from motor vehicles at island terminals;
16
- 17 d. Provide information regarding ferry and land transportation schedules at ferry terminals, on fixed
18 displays for ~~regarding~~ scheduled services and costs and on adjustable displays for ~~providing~~
19 current information on ferry operations, (e.g., overload status) and multimodal and transit
20 options;
21
- 22 e. Enhance user information by developing updated and new social media and mobile information
23 regarding ferry schedules, reservations, overloads, wait-times, and parking lot capacity; and
24
- 25 f. Work with the state legislature and WSF to add one additional ferry to the San Juan summer
26 schedule to service seasonal demand.
27
- 28 8. Encourage the WSF to coordinate with the County and other parties when passenger ferry terminals
29 or transfer floats are proposed by other parties, and on the preservation, expansion or improvement
30 of all terminal facilities consistent with County and Town of Friday Harbor land use plans, including
31 consideration of circulation patterns, potential public transit system connections, and public shoreline
32 access.
33
- 34 9. Identify community needs and desires, and support the 2040 WSF Long Range Plan vision which
35 depends on a coordinated set of investments in WSF's fleet, terminal infrastructure, workforce and
36 technology with a focus on building a reliable fleet that has a lighter footprint on the environment
37 and outperforms CO₂ reduction targets through the following strategies:
38 ~~encourage refinements in the ferry level of service, its methodology and standards and response~~
39 ~~mechanisms to ferry capacity and service issues.~~
- 40
- 41 a. Stabilizing the system to maintain reliable service through 2040 via vessel preservation and
42 replacement with new electric-hybrid vessels;
43
- 44 b. Improving the customer experience by enhancing connections for all users and harnessing
45 technology for an overall easier commute;
46

- c. Managing growth by leveraging vessel, terminal and technology investments to provide strategic service enhancements for operational efficiencies, while encouraging bicycle and walk-on passengers; and
- d. Providing sustainability and resilience in the fleet by investing in infrastructure to maintain reliable service in a changing climate and reducing the environmental impact by employing adaptive management strategies.

10. ~~Adopt WSF's level of service standard, Level 2 for ferry service which is based upon the daily percent of sailings at full vehicle capacity and is fully described in Section B of Appendix 6 of this Comprehensive Plan. Level 2 LOS indicates whether or not ferry assets are being used efficiently and when the LOS is exceeded, additional investment would be considered.~~

11. ~~Adopt WSF LOS Level 2 for ferry service for consistency with the WSF 2030 Long-Range Plan although the WSDOT does not identify the Anacortes to San Juan Islands ferry route as a highway of statewide significance and concurrency requirements are not mandated.~~

12. ~~Work with the WSF and other transportation providers to implement demand management strategies outlined in the WSF 2030 Long-Range Plan and other local plans addressing non-motorized transportation and take the following steps:~~

- a. ~~Re-evaluate the ferry LOS standard to determine if changes in available data, suggest that revisions of the LOS standards are appropriate. If changes are appropriate, amend this Element to revise the level of service standards.~~
- b. Work with WSF, the Town of Friday Harbor and other entities to consider and implement adaptive demand management strategies, designed to address increases in peak demand and improve the operation and efficiency of the ferry system. These strategies may include, but are not limited to, those outlined in the WSF ~~2030~~ 2040 Long-Range Plan and identified by the County, including taking steps to:

~~a.(1)~~ Shift the demand from vehicle traffic to non-vehicular traffic, ~~implement a vehicle reservation system, ride-sharing programs, improve passenger and pedestrian handling capabilities at terminals, enhance public transit scheduling and real time connection information, expand park and ride capabilities, decentralize parking or other parking improvements, improve pedestrian and bike connections, and provide new loading/facilities and new/expanded services;~~

~~b.(2)~~ Promote alternative modes of transportation, such as private ferry systems, barges, air transportation, and passenger-only services, especially the location of a passenger ferry terminal at Bellingham which offer substantial benefits to island residents and, by encouraging passenger traffic, which could reduce need for expanded vehicle terminal facilities in the islands, ~~etc.;~~

~~c.(3)~~ Work with WSF to ~~establish a~~ refine and update the reservation system ~~that will~~ to enable users to obtain assured ferry space ~~to and that~~ best meets the needs of residents, commercial enterprises, and other users, to expand the reservation system to include Lopez and Shaw islands, and to supports economic development;

1
2 d.(4)Optimize fare collection techniques and explore fare pricing options for different customer
3 types, including fares that address the needs of local residents, frequent users, visitors, and
4 off-peak, off-capacity, and promotional fares;

5
6 e.(5) Explore targeted, route-specific strategies to reduce queuing congestion ~~traffic flow~~ and
7 smooth traffic flow ~~queuing congestion~~ at terminals, such as new traffic and dock space
8 management techniques, parking, holding, and scheduling methods, and/or use of enhanced
9 electronic and mobile user information applications and fare collection strategies that provide
10 better customer service;

11
12 f.(6)-Support data gathering and interpretation that provides real information upon which to base
13 ferry operation and scheduling decisions;

14
15 g.(7)-Promote and market the use of non-single occupancy vehicles, combined with transit
16 enhancements; and

17
18 h.(8)Market tourism events and programs during times of greater ferry capacity, and supporting
19 with promotional fares to spread demand to non-capacity sailings.

20
21 11.13- Take the following steps if ferry service level falls below LOS 2 community needs and desires:

22
23 a. ~~Re-evaluate the LOS standard to~~ Determine if whether changes in available data indicate that
24 ferry assets are being used most effectively, and recommend that WSF move towards further
25 system investments; and

26
27 b. Evaluate the goals and policies contained in the Land Use Element and Shoreline Master Program
28 that affect the rate and amount of residential, commercial, recreational, and industrial growth
29 allowed.

30
31 12.14- Evaluate development for impacts ~~to~~ on ferry service and terminal parking through the SEPA
32 process, except for single-family residential proposals and other development proposals that do not
33 require SEPA.

34
35 13.15- Work with WSF to evaluate the effects that demand management strategies from the WSF 2030
36 Long Range Plan have on ferry terminal parking issues, and work together to consider the costs,
37 benefits, environmental and land impacts associated with the creation of additional parking capacity,
38 located either on-site at the ferry terminal or at remote locations, if demand management strategies
39 are not effective in reducing parking congestion issues.

40
41 14.16- Work with WSF to develop a meaningful LOS standard for ferry terminal parking that could be used
42 ~~to more effectively gauge the adequacy of~~ ferry terminal parking.

43
44 17- ~~Support public and private transit and other multi-modal transportation system opportunities that~~
45 ~~promote non-vehicular ferry trips and reduce the need for terminal parking.~~

1 ~~15.18.~~ Encourage WSF and the State to secure funding to construct adequate commuter or short-term (1-
2 3 days) parking areas at all ferry-served terminals as needed, after demand management strategies
3 have been implemented.
4

5 16.19. Support WSF plans to “Green the Fleet” and request prioritization of San Juan Island ferry service
6 for electric ferries to reduce fuel consumption and quiet ferries to reduce impact on orca whales.
7

8 ~~17.20.~~ Support WSF plans to improve resiliency by planning for earthquakes and climate change.
9

10 18. Support continued safe and effective transport of livestock on ferries per WAC 468-300-700(1)(p).
11

12 **6.4.C Policies for County Marine Facilities ~~Docks, Barge Landing Sites, Ramps~~ and Associated Parking**
13 **Areas (6.4.C.1–10):**
14

15 Public marine facilities serve as extensions of the County road system, provide access for kayaks and other
16 boats, create access to popular water trails and recreation areas, are essential components of a thriving
17 economy, and are a significant element of the transportation system in an island community. ~~Appendix~~
18 ~~6, Section I.B.4.c of this Comprehensive Plan provides an explanation of marine facility level of service~~
19 ~~(LOS). Tables 7 and 8 in Appendix 6 provides detailed dock inventories and current LOS information. for~~
20 ~~three types of docks and dock service areas in the County.~~
21

22 ~~Type 1 docks are located on ferry-served islands and provide primary access for non ferry served islands.~~
23 ~~Type 2 docks are located on non ferry served islands that have County roads. Type 3 docks serve~~
24 ~~recreational uses or provide access between ferry-served islands. Appendix A indicates that the current~~
25 ~~LOS for Types 1, 2 and 3 docks are C, D and F based upon lineal feet per seasonally adjusted dwelling unit~~
26 ~~in a service area. This measurement has not been found to be significantly useful and warrants an~~
27 ~~investigation of alternative methods of determining LOS standards for docks.~~
28

29 The availability of sufficient barge landing sites and storage areas, and their safe use, are required and
30 ~~development will be needed through the planning period~~ to accommodate business development and
31 road building, especially if materials for road building must come from off-island providers. Barge landing
32 sites are also critical for emergency situations.
33

34 Marine facilities as an extension of the County road system shall be constructed on islands with County
35 roads. Proposed marine facilities are based on location, population served, needs of population served,
36 emergency response requirements and condition of existing facilities. Appendix 6 provides marine facility
37 demand and capacity assessments, and long-range planning recommendations.
38

39 **Policies (6.4.C.1-9):**
40

- 41 1. County and state responsibilities for inter-island services and marine facilities ~~docks, barge landing~~
42 ~~sites, ramps~~ and their associated parking area facilities differ, but should be coordinated. The County
43 should:
44
 - 45 a. Work with the port districts, island communities, and WSF when applicable, to coordinate the
46 planning, development, and maintenance of marine facilities ~~docks, barge landing sites, ramps~~
47 and associated parking areas;
48

- 1 b. Provide marine facilities ~~public docks, barge landing sites, ramps~~ and parking areas to facilitate
2 inter-island transport of goods and people, as essential public facilities and components of the
3 County road system that are available for public use, ~~to facilitate inter-island transport of goods~~
4 ~~and people~~ and coordinate these facilities with potential passenger-only ferry service operations.
5 ~~Support development of one barge landing site per island when consistent with the Shoreline~~
6 ~~Master Program;~~
7
- 8 c. Place emphasis on first providing adequate loading/unloading space on floats, and secondly ~~on~~ at
9 short-term tie-up space. Overnight moorage for recreational use should not be allowed, until a
10 feasibility study is conducted that includes an analysis of individual dock usage characteristics,
11 costs and benefits, strategies to minimize user conflicts, implementation and enforcement
12 measures, and a pilot program has been implemented and assessed;
13
- 14 d. Include freight lifting equipment, where necessary or appropriate ~~to facilitate;~~
15
- 16 e. Encourage WSF to install loading/unloading floats or reasonable alternatives ~~to them~~ at all ferry
17 terminals, including the Anacortes terminal, to enhance inter-island travel and promote efficient
18 and convenient use of passenger-only ferry service;
19
- 20 f. Work with developers of small boat docks (loading/unloading floats) at ferry terminals designed to
21 improve marine access to the terminals from islands not served by ferries; and
22
- 23 g. Work with the local utilities to improve service to all marine locations, where possible.
24
- 25 2. ~~Locate County docks and ramps only on islands served by County roads. Barge landing sites should be~~
26 ~~located as needed. Preference should be given to locations where public shoreline access is available~~
27 ~~and where there is adequate parking space to serve the type of use anticipated. Potential connection~~
28 ~~to public vehicular transport should also be considered in establishing dock, ramp and barge landing~~
29 ~~site locations. Prioritize the use of existing County owned or private barge landings. Limit barge~~
30 ~~landings in critical areas unless no other option is viable.~~
31 Support the development of one public barge landing site per island, consistent with the Shoreline
32 Master Plan and where adequate parking space is available.
33
- 34 3. Prioritize County ~~dock~~ marine facilityies projects as follows:
35
- 36 a. Modifications and maintenance necessary for the safe usage of: (1) existing Type 2 County Docks.
37 ~~Type 2 County Docks are those County docks~~ marine facilities located on non-ferry served islands;
38
- 39 b. ~~Modifications and maintenance necessary for the safe usage of (2) existing Type 1 County Docks.~~
40 ~~Type 1 County Docks are those County docks~~ marine facilities, located on ferry-served islands,
41 which provide primary access to ferry-served islands from non-ferry served islands; and
42
- 43 c. ~~Modifications and maintenance necessary for the safe usage of existing Type 3 (3) other existing~~
44 ~~County docks~~ marine facilities. ~~Type 3 County Docks are those County docks located on ferry-~~
45 ~~served islands which are primarily used for recreational purposes or are used for access between~~
46 ~~ferry-served islands;~~
47

1 ~~b.d. New Type 1 County docks~~ marine facilities on non-ferry served islands without existing County
2 ~~docks~~ marine facilities; ~~within service areas which have no existing County dock pursuant to the~~
3 ~~LOS policies for County docks;~~

4
5 c.e. Capacity improvements to existing County ~~docks~~ marine facilities located on non-ferry served
6 islands; ~~Type 1 County docks pursuant to the LOS policies for County docks;~~

7
8 ~~d.f. New Type 2 County docks~~ marine facilities located on ferry-served islands, which provide primary
9 access to ferry-served islands from non-ferry served islands ~~within service areas which have no~~
10 ~~existing County dock pursuant to the LOS policies for County docks;~~

11
12 e.g. Capacity improvements to other existing Type 2 County docks marine facilities pursuant to the
13 ~~LOS policies for County docks;~~ and

14
15 f.h. All other new or improved Type 3 County docks marine facilities.

16
17 4. ~~Establish LOS C as adequate for existing and new Type 1 County docks and LOS D as adequate for~~
18 ~~existing and new Type 2 County docks. Dock level of service is addressed in section B.4 of Appendix 6~~
19 ~~of this Comprehensive Plan.~~

20
21 5. ~~For islands and locations where no County dock currently exists, establish LOS F as adequate. Annually~~
22 ~~evaluate the condition, demand, and capacity of County docks~~ marine facilities, in order to and review
23 ~~the LOS standards and capital needs every three years as part of the development of the six year~~
24 ~~transportation facilities plan. prioritize maintenance and capital improvement projects based on the~~
25 ~~annual evaluation. Evaluate alternative means of increasing capacity or decreasing demand. Include~~
26 ~~in the evaluation the costs, benefits, and environmental impacts of expanding existing dock(s), leasing~~
27 ~~facilities, requiring new development to provide access at private joint moorage facilities, or adding~~
28 ~~additional public docks to serve the service area(s). Implement an appropriate mix of capacity~~
29 ~~improvements and/or demand management strategies to bring the service back to a level identified~~
30 ~~as adequate by this Element.~~

31
32 5.6. Consider the impacts of sea level rise, and accompanying flood and erosion hazards, and
33 opportunities to improve resiliency, when evaluating new development or maintenance of marine
34 facilities.

35
36 When the level of service for existing and new County docks falls below the LOS standards in Policy 4,
37 above, initiate the following response mechanisms:

38
39 a. ~~Re-evaluate the LOS standard to determine if changes in available data, and/or community needs~~
40 ~~or desires, make modification of the LOS standards appropriate; and/or re-evaluate the defined~~
41 ~~service areas to determine if they still accurately reflect the majority of the users. If changes are~~
42 ~~appropriate, amend this Element to revise the LOS standards. Identification of how new data,~~
43 ~~changes in community needs or desires, or changes in the designated service areas make changes~~
44 ~~appropriate should accompany any proposal to amend this Element.~~

45
46 b. Evaluate alternative means of increasing capacity or decreasing demand. Include in the evaluation
47 the costs, benefits, and environmental impacts of expanding the existing dock(s), leasing facilities,

1 requiring new development to provide access at private joint moorage facilities, or adding
2 additional public docks to serve the service area(s).

3
4 c. ~~Implement an appropriate mix of capacity improvements and/or demand management strategies~~
5 ~~to bring the service back to a level identified as adequate by this Element.~~

6
7 7. ~~Adopt and enforce concurrency standards which would prohibit development approval if it can be~~
8 ~~shown that the development would cause the level of service for Type 1 and Type 2 County docks to~~
9 ~~decline below the standards adopted in Policy 4, above, unless transportation improvements or~~
10 ~~strategies to accommodate the impacts of development are made concurrent with the development.~~
11 ~~Transportation improvements or strategies may include, but are not limited to those identified in~~
12 ~~Policy 6 above.~~

13
14 ~~6.8. Provide County parking at Type 1 County docks where appropriate and necessary. In general, the~~
15 ~~number of spaces to be provided should be based on the number of dwelling units in the service area~~
16 ~~or the more detailed parking utilization study proposed in item 10 below.~~

17
18 9. ~~Complete a dock utilization study which considers the availability of private and public dock space and~~
19 ~~other dock use characteristics including typical dwell time, useable dock space, peak period use, dock~~
20 ~~parking amenities, the percentage of non-resident users and other pertinent factors. Use the study~~
21 ~~results to revise the dock LOS methodology and standards and to and to consider the adoption of a~~
22 ~~dock parking LOS.~~

23 24 6.5 LAND TRANSPORTATION GOALS AND POLICIES

25
26 Land transportation facilities and services are inventoried and analyzed in Appendix 6, ~~Section I.C~~ of this
27 Comprehensive Plan. This Element addresses public and private roads, bridges, parking, bicycles, mopeds,
28 and transit service. Levels of service standards for County roads are also established presented in Section
29 ~~I.C.1.b in Appendix 6 of this Comprehensive Plan.~~

30 31 **Goals:**

- 32
- 33 1. To maintain a road planning and improvement system that corresponds to the land development
34 goals and policies expressed in the Land Use Element of this ~~Comprehensive Plan~~, and its subarea
35 plans.
 - 36
 - 37 2. To maintain a public road system that is as safe and efficient as possible, while recognizing the
38 importance of conserving the environmental ~~and scenic~~ qualities and rural character of island roads.
 - 39
 - 40 3. To facilitate diverse modes of transportation and provide intermodal connectivity and improved
41 accessibility.
 - 42
 - 43 4. To follow the goals and policies adopted in the San Juan County ~~Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan~~
44 ~~and Nonmotorized Plan~~ PTNA-NM for nonmotorized and recreational transportation facilities.
 - 45
 - 46 5. To increase education and outreach to improve bicycle and pedestrian safety, promote ~~and~~ healthy
47 lifestyles, and facilitate transportation alternatives which conserve energy, reduce greenhouse gas
48 emissions, and reduce reliance on fossil fuels.

- 1
2 6. To encourage transit providers to provide and expand low-emissions transportation services that
3 support the needs of local residents and visitors.
4
5 7. To implement the principles of the Complete Streets Program, adopted in Ordinance 24-2018.
6
7 8. To establish level of service standards for the County's road system to gauge the performance of the
8 system and determine areas where transportation improvements are required.
9

10 **6.5.A Policies for Road Classification, Right-of-Way, Design and Construction (6.5.A.1-15):**

11 Road Classification

- 12
13
14 1. Classify all County roads as major collectors, minor collectors or local access roads, as shown on the
15 road classification maps adopted as part of this ~~Comprehensive~~ Plan in Appendix 6.
16
17 2. ~~Establish~~ Continue the prioritized ongoing traffic count program for County roads. ~~Local access~~ Road
18 counts should be monitored to ensure that traffic volumes do not exceed road design capacities.
19

20 Right-of-Way

- 21
22 3. Make County road rights-of-way widths adequate to accommodate anticipated improvements,
23 including utilities, franchise use options, telecommunications infrastructure, and nonmotorized
24 transportation facilities, and to maintain the roadway. A minimum twenty-year planning period
25 should be used for the purposes of anticipating needed improvements. ~~The County should:~~
26
27 a. ~~4.~~ Obtain dedications of road rights-of-way when discretionary use permits or land division
28 approvals are sought by property owners, ~~and~~
29
30 b. ~~Ensure coordination between the County, Planning, Public Works, Parks, Land Bank, trail~~
31 ~~organizations such as the San Juan Island Trails Committee, Orcas Pathways, Lopez Community~~
32 ~~Trails Network, and other local, state and federal partners during the planning, development, and~~
33 ~~maintenance of nonmotorized transportation projects.~~
34

35 ~~5.4.~~ Refrain from vacating public road rights-of-way needed to provide an adequate road system, access
36 to private property, public access to, or a view of water bodies and links to trails systems.
37

38 ~~6.5.~~ Approve parking on County road right-of-way if it will provide a public benefit; however, in rural
39 areas, shoulders of County roads should not be widened or improved to provide parking for residential
40 or commercial uses.
41

42 ~~7.6.~~ Consider the inventory of County road ends ~~which that~~ abut shorelines, that which is included in the
43 ~~2010 San Juan County Parks, Trails and Natural Areas Plan and Nonmotorized Plan~~ PTNA-NM, and
44 evaluate on a case-by-case basis their potential for marine access, recreational or other uses. If
45 appropriate, develop the shore access and ensure protection of neighboring private properties.
46

1 8. Support agriculture in the county by continuing to allow unrestricted movement of farm equipment
2 and machinery, as well as unrestricted driving of livestock, on County roads in a reasonable and
3 prudent manner.
4

5 Road Design and Construction 6

7 ~~9.7.~~ Develop and adopt County road standards that meet minimum WSDOT and other applicable
8 agency requirements and follow Complete Streets principles. ~~The standards should protect rural~~
9 ~~character, provide for safety, the types and intensities of land uses to be served, volumes of traffic~~
10 ~~and transportation modes to be accommodated, and planning principles contained in the 1995~~
11 ~~Scenic Road Manual. These principles include the design and planning guidelines addressing the~~
12 ~~Protection of rural character and aesthetics.~~
13

14 10.9. Ensure that County road standards and practices are updated to reflect climate change projections,
15 and that new roads are sited appropriately and protected from sea level rise, increased flood and
16 erosion hazards, and storm surge.
17

18 ~~11.9.~~ Support road designs that follow the goals and guidelines in the 1995 Scenic Road Manual until they
19 are superseded by Council-adopted County road standards, as described in item 7 above. ~~While safety~~
20 ~~of County roads is a primary concern, the design, construction, and maintenance of roads and right-~~
21 ~~of way trails should minimize adverse impacts on the scenic character of roadways that is provided by~~
22 ~~roadside trees, brush and terrain, the routes themselves and vistas from them.~~
23

24 ~~12.10.~~ Prevent the construction of public or private roads through areas designated Natural or
25 Conservancy areas in the San Juan County Shoreline Master Program, where a feasible alternative
26 exists.
27

28 ~~13.11.~~ Make use of the procedure provided in Chapter 36.86, RCW, to deviate from state standards for
29 collector roads when necessary to maintain their scenic qualities.
30

31 ~~14.12.~~ Include a thorough public participation program and interdisciplinary teams advisory to the County
32 Engineer, as early as practicable in the planning and design phases of major projects. Adjacent
33 property owners and other affected persons should be represented on interdisciplinary teams.
34

35 ~~15.13.~~ Strive to preserve the significant scenic, rural quality of island roads, including the San Juan Islands
36 Scenic Byway.
37

38 ~~16.14.~~ Establish alternative design standards for roads on non-ferry served islands that meet the specific
39 transportation needs of these islands.
40

41 ~~17.15.~~ Consider the creation of a local improvement district to finance improvements consistent with the
42 applicable activity center or subarea plan, when owners of property in activity centers desire road
43 improvements that exceed County requirements, ~~such as sidewalks and curbs.~~
44

45 ~~18.16.~~ Consider using low-impact development techniques, when physically and economically feasible.
46

47 **6.5.B Policies for Driveway Approaches to County Roads, Setbacks, and Maintenance** ~~(6.5.B.1-3):~~ 48

- 1 1. Hold the number of driveway approaches to County roads to a minimum, in order to improve traffic
2 safety and minimize maintenance expenses.
- 3
- 4 2. Ensure that all structures are set back from road rights-of-way, ~~in order to maintain the rural and~~
5 ~~scenic character of County roads and provide for underground utilities~~ in compliance with county
6 codes.
- 7
- 8 3. Conduct maintenance of County transportation facilities by:
9
 - 10 a. Keeping its transportation facilities in a usable and safe condition;
 - 11
 - 12 b. Assigning first priority to maintaining major and minor collector roads;
 - 13
 - 14 c. Supporting integrated control of noxious weeds within county road rights-of-way with
15 environmentally responsible practices per SJCC 18.60.090; and
 - 16
 - 17 ~~de. Reducing the number presence of noxious weeds occurring over the long term by minimizing to~~
18 ~~the extent that safety allows clearing of vegetation, particularly trees, in road rights of ways.~~
19 ~~Scheduling clearing should be coordinated with the tourism season in mind. Developing and~~
20 ~~implement programs as legally required under Chapter RCW 17.10 and Chapter WAC 16.750 to~~
21 ~~remove noxious weeds, controlling the spread of their seeds prior to mowing and reducing the~~
22 ~~spread of noxious seeds after mowing by sweeping and removing refuse from the roadway.~~
 - 23
 - 24 d. ~~Do not use herbicides, pesticides, toxic substances, or other chemicals for weed control or other~~
25 ~~purposes in road rights-of-way.~~

27 **6.5.C Policies for Land Transportation Level of Service (LOS) (6.5.C.1-7):**

- 28
- 29 1. Establish LOS standards and response mechanisms for land transportation facilities and services which
30 balance the needs of the community for land transportation with the impacts of those facilities and
31 services.
- 32
- 33 2. ~~Establish LOS standards for collector roads and UGA and Activity Center Intersections based upon~~
34 ~~Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) volumes. For San Juan County, the maximum AADT levels for~~
35 ~~specific LOS standards are provided in Appendix 6, Transportation of this Comprehensive Plan.~~
- 36
- 37 3. ~~Adopt~~ Establish LOS D as adequate for County collector roads. LOS D is defined as traffic flows
38 approaching unstable flow and can be described as speeds slightly decreasing and volumes slightly
39 increasing. ~~as that condition during the peak hour when average vehicle operating speeds drop to 35~~
40 ~~miles per hour, platoon sizes are typically 5-10 vehicles, and 75 percent of the motorists are delayed~~
41 ~~by congestion or slower vehicles.~~
- 42
- 43 3. ~~Adopt~~ UGA intersection LOS (D) as adequate for Eastsound and Lopez Village key collector road
44 intersections. Key collector road intersections are defined by the County Engineer. For Urban Growth
45 Areas and Activity Centers, conduct intersection studies to determine the current LOS and evaluate
46 future needs.
- 47

- 1 4. ~~Initiate the following response mechanism w~~When a County collector road Annual Average Daily
2 Traffic (AADT) exceeds the LOS D standard, perform a traffic study to evaluate alternatives to increase
3 capacity and/or decrease demand and define an implementation schedule. ~~road falls below LOS D,~~
4 ~~based on the AADT:~~
- 5
- 6 a. ~~Perform a traffic study to evaluate a collector road outside of an activity center by calculating the~~
7 ~~LOS using the methods described in the most current edition of the Highway Capacity Manual,~~
8 ~~and data for the specific section of a collector road outside of an activity center;~~
- 9
- 10 b. ~~Re-evaluate the LOS standard to determine if changes in available data, and/or community needs~~
11 ~~or desires, make modification of the LOS standards appropriate. If changes are appropriate,~~
12 ~~amend this Element to revise the LOS standards. Identification of how new data or changes in~~
13 ~~community needs or desires make changes appropriate should accompany any proposal to amend~~
14 ~~this Element;~~
- 15
- 16 c. ~~Initiate an evaluation of alternatives for increasing capacity and/or decreasing demand. The~~
17 ~~alternatives considered should:~~
- 18
- 19 (1) ~~include demand management strategies and other non-structural improvements,~~
- 20
- 21 (2) ~~be cost effective,~~
- 22
- 23 (3) ~~not significantly increase adverse impacts of the transportation facility on surrounding land~~
24 ~~uses or the natural environment,~~
- 25
- 26 (4) ~~be consistent with the goals and policies of this Element and the other elements of the~~
27 ~~Comprehensive Plan, and~~
- 28
- 29 (5) ~~include the evaluation of the goals and policies contained in the Land Use Element and~~
30 ~~Shoreline Master Program that affect the rate and amount of residential, commercial,~~
31 ~~recreational, and industrial growth allowed;~~
- 32
- 33 d. ~~Begin implementation of an appropriate mix of capacity improvements and/or demand~~
34 ~~management strategies to bring the facility(s) back to a level identified as adequate by this~~
35 ~~Element within one year.~~
- 36 5. When a UGA intersection exceeds the LOS D standard, perform a traffic study to evaluate alternatives
37 to increase capacity and/or decrease demand to meet the community's needs.
- 38
- 39 ~~56.~~ Adopt and enforce concurrency standards ~~which that~~ would prohibit development approval if the
40 development causes the AADT level of service to exceed the LOS D standard or exceed intersection
41 LOS standards. ~~for the collector roads to exceed the decline below the standard adopted in Policy 3,~~
42 ~~above, unless transportation improvements or strategies to accommodate the impacts of~~
43 ~~development are made concurrent with the development. Transportation improvements or strategies~~
44 ~~may include, but are not limited to those identified in Policy 4, above.~~
- 45
- 46 ~~67.~~ Develop specific LOS standards for collector roads when needed inside of urban growth areas or
47 activity centers as part of the planning for individual activity centers.
- 48

1 ~~7.~~ Do not require concurrency for any other land transportation facilities.

2
3 **6.5.D Policies for Private Roads** ~~(6.5.D.1-2):~~
4

- 5 1. Private roads should not be incorporated into the County road system, unless public benefits are
6 substantial and the County's road design standards are met.
7
8 2. Establish standards for private roads in accordance with the following:
9
10 a. Establish private road standards to provide adequate vehicular safety, low maintenance, and
11 meet anticipated vehicular demand;
12
13 b. Require private roads to avoid and minimize environmental impacts and maintain the scenic
14 character of island roads;
15
16 c. Subject roads developed as part of land development or new subdivisions to develop
17 maintenance agreements when necessary;
18
19 d. Consider adoption of lesser road standards for islands not served by ferries; and
20
21 e. Require improvements to off-site private roads in approving a land development, if these roads
22 serve the development and do not meet applicable design standards.

23
24 **6.5.E Policies for Parking** ~~(6.5.E.1-7):~~
25

- 26 1. Encourage the development of community parking facilities in all areas designated as activity centers
27 in County land use and subarea plans. Shared parking among separate facilities should be provided,
28 if other applicable parking requirements allow.
29
30 2. Provide off-street parking areas open to the public, where they would serve transportation facilities
31 or meet community needs.
32
33 3. Encourage the business community in commercial core areas to provide parking areas in locations
34 where they would relieve traffic congestion and accommodate taxi, van, and bus services without
35 disrupting traffic circulation. Design and location should be carefully considered in accordance with
36 applicable area plans.
37
38 4. Provide parking areas on the nearest ferry-served island to accommodate residents of non-ferry
39 served islands, after considering possible funding mechanisms, costs and benefits, and possible
40 parking lot locations.
41
42 5. Consider the use of local improvement districts or other administrative and financing structures when
43 desired to build, operate and maintain community parking areas.
44
45 6. All major transportation facilities should include adequate off-street parking areas.
46
47 7. All parking areas associated with new public or private development should:
48

- a. Include safe ingress and egress;
- b. Be screened or well set back from roads;
- c. Reflect adequate design for ease of use;
- d. Provide for the physically impaired; and
- e. Provide for alternative forms of transportation.

6.5.F Policies for Motorized Bicycles and Mopeds. (6.5.F.1):

Mopeds are small motorcycles that have less stringent licensing requirements than motorcycles and do not include motorized bicycles. They are important modes of transportation used by residents and visitors to the islands. The use of mopeds, requires planning for the development of transportation facilities and operations that promote safe travelling experiences for all users and benefit the local economy.

- 1. ~~Promote enforcement of road rules and speed limits, and educate the public how to share the road safely.~~
- 2. ~~Evaluate the potential to improve safety by reducing the speed limits on high use or other County road segments with unique characteristics considering the legality, usage, season, events and practicality.~~
- 3. ~~Require that moped vendors provide and enforce the use of protective headgear when required by State law and give written and oral instruction regarding safe operation of mopeds as part of a land use project permit approval.~~
- 4. ~~Encourage WSF to unload mopeds in a safe and efficient manner.~~

~~**6.5.F Policies for Bicycles and Mopeds. (6.5.F.1):**~~

Motorized bicycles and mopeds are modes of transportation used by both residents and visitors to the island. Increases in the number of bicycling and moped enthusiasts require planning for the development of transportation facilities and operations that promote safe travel experiences for all users, and also benefits the local economy.

- 1. Safe facilities and programs for use of bicyclists, (standard bicycles and motorized bicycles) should be developed by the County and addressed in updates to the PTNA-NM.
- 2. The County and its economic and community development partners should:
 - a. Require that moped vendors provide and enforce the use of protective headgear when required by State law, and give written and oral instruction regarding the safe operation of mopeds, as part of a land use project permit approval;
 - b. Identify other ways to foster recognition of rights and responsibilities in the use of County roads by both motorists and cyclists;

- c. Sweep road shoulders regularly to facilitate safe use by cyclists and mopeds;
 - d. Encourage WSF to load and unload bicyclists and mopeds in a safe and efficient manner;
 - e. Include parking facilities for bicycles and mopeds at public transportation facilities, and encourage commercial developments and other traffic generators to provide parking facilities away from pedestrian paths;
 - f. Promote the enforcement of road rules and speed limits and educate the public on how to share the road safely, and
 - g. Evaluate the potential to improve safety by implementing road design changes on high-use or other County road segments with unique characteristics, taking into account legality, usage, season, events and practicality.
- ~~3.—Require that moped vendors provide and enforce the use of protective headgear when required by State law and give written and oral instruction regarding safe operation of mopeds as part of a land use project permit approval.~~
- ~~4.—Encourage WSF to unload mopeds in a safe and efficient manner.~~

6.5.G Transit Goals and Policies:

Although San Juan County does not operate a centralized public transit service, many social service, non-profit and private transit providers are working to meet community transportation needs and fill accessibility gaps identified in the 2010 San Juan County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan CHST.

Goals:

1. To encourage and support development of public and private transit and shuttle services.
2. To improve access to health and human services, employment, social, educational, recreational, and tourism destinations.
3. To improve mobility and quality of life for residents and workers.
4. To increase transportation options for tourists and guests.
5. To encourage alternatives to the use of single-occupant vehicles.
6. To consider transit operations in roadway designs.

Policies for Transit (6.5.G. 1-9):

1. Support the development of social service public transit options and the work of nonprofit and private community transportation partners to:

- 1
2 a. Reduce the isolation of target populations;
3
4 b. Increase accessibility to transportation services; and
5
6 c. Address seasonal tourist travel peaks through the development of transit alternatives; and
7
8 d. Create additional organizational capacity to sustain implementation of community identified
9 transportation needs.
10
11 2. Support the work of community transportation partners ~~such as San Juan Community Services, Senior~~
12 ~~Services, Family Resource Centers, San Juan Friends and Neighbors Program, SJ Rideshare, social~~
13 ~~service organizations and private transportation providers to evaluate public transit needs, further~~
14 ~~identify opportunities for service coordination, and implement actions described in the 2010 San Juan~~
15 ~~County Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan CHST to~~
16
17 3. ~~Encourage the development of transportation services that meet the needs of the community,~~
18 ~~especially individuals with lower incomes, seniors, persons with disabilities, and veterans.~~
19
20 4. ~~Support coordinated human services transportation planning that creates improved access to~~
21 ~~transportation information, develops economies of scale, eliminates inefficiencies, and provides greater~~
22 ~~visibility of transportation options.~~
23
24 4.5. Explore and support the collaborative efforts of community organizations, state and federal partners,
25 and transportation providers to provide cost-effective service delivery, to increase capacity to serve
26 unmet needs, and to improve mobility and the quality of transportation services.
27
28 5.4. Support community transportation planning efforts focused on gaining a better understanding of the
29 transportation needs of the San Juan Islands, creating new methods of island travel, raising awareness of
30 transportation issues, and exploring private and public funding for new public transportation solutions.
31
32 6.5. Leverage community resources to obtain appropriate state and federal funding for transit projects
33 that address both year-round and seasonal transit challenges.
34
35 7.8. Coordinate with the WSDOT Public Transportation Division to implement high-priority projects
36 identified by the community, using the ranking criteria for selecting projects established in the San Juan
37 County ~~2010 Health and Human Services Transportation Plan CHST.~~
38
39 ~~9. Support private and nonprofit efforts to address seasonal tourism travel peaks through the~~
40 ~~development of transit alternatives.~~
41

42 **6.6 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND REGIONAL COORDINATION GOALS AND POLICIES**

43
44 San Juan County and the Town of Friday Harbor have adopted County-wide Planning Policies (CPPs),
45 included in Appendix 2 of this Comprehensive Plan. These CPPs include policies for ~~T~~ransportation
46 ~~F~~acilities and ~~S~~trategies ~~that~~ to foster the alignment of transportation planning priorities and strategies
47 affecting the Town and County. ~~Alignment with the Town of Friday Harbor Comprehensive Plan~~

1 Transportation Element and subarea plans of this Comprehensive Plan is important for intergovernmental
2 coordination of transportation services and facilities. Consistency with the transportation goals and
3 policies established in the ~~Whatcom and Skagit adjacent~~ County Comprehensive Plans related to regional
4 transportation service impacts are also considered in this Transportation Element. Lastly, this section
5 provides guidance for alignment with state transportation plans, which is an important component of
6 local and regional transportation planning.

7 Generally, ~~in Washington,~~ regional transportation plans in the State of Washington are developed in
8 conjunction with local plans and County-wide transportation policies. San Juan County does not meet the
9 population requirements for creating its own Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO), but
10 is eligible to join ~~the Skagit-Island RTPO or~~ another RTPO from a neighboring region. As of 2018, Skagit
11 County and Island County are separate RTPOs. San Juan County has chosen not to join a local RTPO, but
12 does informally coordinate with ~~the Skagit adjacent counties and regional organizations other RTPOs. and~~
13 ~~the North Sound Connecting Communities Group (i.e., the Farmhouse Gang).~~ San Juan County
14 coordinates with the Town of Friday Harbor and the Port of Friday Harbor as in an informal RTPO, to align
15 transportation plans and share Federal Highway Funds.

16 The following goals and policies address the alignment of transportation plans, and provide guidance on
17 the intergovernmental coordination of local, regional and state planning priorities.

18
19 **Goals:**

- 20
21 1. To plan, prioritize, and finance transportation improvements in coordination with portions of local,
22 regional and state transportation plans.
23
24 2. To coordinate with multiple agencies and jurisdictions to facilitate the efficient transportation of
25 people, goods, and services, in order to strengthen the local and regional environment and economy.
26
27 3. To identify common regional transportation issues and work cooperatively with other agencies,
28 jurisdictions, and regional organizations to develop solutions to transportation system challenges.
29
30 4. To collaborate with adjacent jurisdictions and regional interests to lobby for legislation and funding
31 ~~that~~ to solves regional transportation issues and for the provision of beneficial state transportation
32 facilities and services.
33

34 **Policies (6.6.A.1-17):**

- 35
36 1. Coordinate with the Town of Friday Harbor to ensure consistency with the ~~County-wide Planning~~
37 ~~Policies~~ CPP for Transportation Facilities and Strategies adopted in Appendix 2 of this ~~Comprehensive~~
38 ~~Plan~~ and to facilitate integration of the transportation system.
39
40 2. Coordinate with the Town of Friday Harbor, Port of Friday Harbor and the WSDOT to plan fair share
41 financial contributions to transportation improvements needed to mitigate regional or island-wide
42 transportation impacts consistent with The Town of Friday Harbor Transportation Element Goals. ~~FE-~~
43 ~~16.~~
44

- 1 3. Coordinate with the Town of Friday Harbor on cooperative funding of road improvements within the
2 Town of Friday Harbor and the Friday Harbor Urban Growth Area Consistent with the Friday Harbor
3 Transportation Element Goals ~~TE-23~~.
4
- 5 4. Cooperate with WSDOT, ~~t~~The Town of Friday Harbor and the Port of Friday Harbor during the
6 development of aviation facilities ~~and~~ consistent with the Town of Friday Harbor's Comprehensive
7 Plan ~~_General Air Transportation Policies_~~ TE-33, ~~plan for facilities that:~~
8
9 a. ~~Are scaled to serve the needs of Town and Island residents;~~
10
11 b. ~~Are planned in a coordinated and comprehensive manner;~~
12
13 c. ~~Are planned to protect the character of the Town and its neighborhoods; and~~
14
15 d. ~~Are consistent with the policies in the Town and County Land Use Elements.~~
16
- 17 5. Coordinate with the WSF and the Town of Friday Harbor to support marine transportation ferry
18 system policies that provide optimum ferry system services and facilities.
19
- 20 6. Encourage the development of transit service, in order to reduce vehicular traffic in downtown Friday
21 Harbor and on County roads and to support conservation goals consistent with Town of Friday Harbor
22 Comprehensive Plan ~~Policy TE-85~~.
23
- 24 ~~7.~~ Identify and encourage the development of transportation projects that have local and regional
25 benefits and cost-sharing efficiencies, consistent with Whatcom County Policy 6C-11 to:
26
27 *~~"Identify areas and mechanisms for potentially collaborative projects so that~~*
28 *~~multiple jurisdictions can share costs and efficiencies."~~*
29
- 30 8. Inform the North Sound ~~Connecting Communities Group~~ Transit Alliance-NTSA (aka Farmhouse Gang)
31 and adjacent RTPOs of San Juan County's transportation issues and identify coordination issues.
32
- 33 9. Work with neighboring counties, as well as ~~and~~ the Skagit, Island RTPOs and Whatcom RTPOs to
34 recommend and develop planning goals, policies, and plans that address regional issues.
35
- 36 10. Coordinate with transportation planners in Whatcom and Skagit counties and Canada to develop
37 compatible transportation recommendations that support efficient trade and commerce.
38
- 39 ~~11.~~ Coordinate with the Skagit County Island RTPO to support the continued provision of ferry service
40 between to and from Anacortes-San Juan Islands and -Vancouver Island, B.C. ~~consistent with Skagit~~
41 ~~County Transportation Element Policy 8A-5.6 to:~~
42
43 *~~"Support the State's continued provision of ferry service to and from Anacortes-~~*
44 *~~San Juan Islands Vancouver Island, B.C."~~*
45
- 46 12. Promote the development of transportation facilities that serve to improve the mobility of goods,
47 services, and people to encourage economic development, environmental sustainability, and

- 1 implement ~~compatible~~ transportation plans compatible with those of the County and neighboring
2 RTPOs.
3
4 13. Coordinate with other jurisdictions, public transit providers, agencies, and other entities, to promote
5 multimodal travel options and promotions that provide alternatives to the single-use passenger
6 vehicle.
7
8 14. Coordinate with ~~the~~ WSF, ~~and~~ the Skagit County RTPO, and the Whatcom RPTO to improve intermodal
9 connectivity between public transit operations on the mainland and WSF ferry-service.
10
11 15. Periodically assess the costs and benefits of joining an RTPO.
12
13 16. Continue to promote ~~Establish better~~ communications and coordination between the County and the
14 Port Districts within the County.
15
16 17. Participate in statewide transportation planning organization teleconferences.
17
18 18. Work with the Governor, Legislature and WSF to prioritize the San Juan Islands for construction of
19 new, quieter, hybrid-electric ferries to modernize our aging fleet, ensure reliable ferry service, and
20 benefit our waters and whales.
21
22
23
24

Sophia Cassam

From: Faith Van De Putte
Sent: Wednesday, March 9, 2022 3:29 PM
To: Comp Plan Update
Cc: Jamie Stephens; Cindy Wolf; Christine Minney; Mike Thomas
Subject: Comments regarding Transportation, Housing, Capital Facilities and Utilities Elements
Attachments: Comp Plan Comments 2022 .pdf

Hello Sophia and members of Council,

Please find attached the ARC's comments on the current drafts of the Transportation, Housing, Capital Facilities and Utilities Elements of the Comprehensive Plan.

Thank you,
Faith

Faith Van De Putte
Agriculture Resource Committee of San Juan County
Co-ordinator
360-370-7666
faithv@sanjuanco.com



**Agricultural
Resources
Committee
of San Juan County**

Memorandum

TO: Sophia Cassam, Planner 2
Jamie Stephens, County Council
Cindy Wolf, County Council
Christine Minney, County Council
Mike Thomas, County Manager

From: San Juan County Agricultural Resource Committee (ARC)

Date: 2/16/2022

Subject: Agricultural Resource Committee (ARC) Comments

The Agricultural Resource Committee (ARC) has been engaged with the Comprehensive Review Process since 2016. Below are our comments and recommendations on the current drafts of the Transportation, Housing, Capital Facilities and Utilities Elements.

Transportation Element Draft- September 14, 2020

We heartily support and encourage the inclusion of the following policies and recommend an addition to Policy 18 reflecting the County Council Memo to Legislators on December 14, 2021:

Policy 18 on page 25

18. Support continued safe and effective transport of livestock on ferries per WAC 468-300-700(1)(p). We recommend the addition of the following language to Policy 18: *“Work with legislature and WSF to add language to WAC 468-300-700(1)(p) giving priority loading to perishable livestock products, or vehicles providing scheduled, time-sensitive livestock processing services and inspection.”*

Policy 8 on page 30

8. Support agriculture in the county by continuing to allow unrestricted movement of farm equipment and machinery, as well as unrestricted driving of livestock, on County roads in a reasonable and prudent manner.

Capital Facilities and Services Element Draft- June 30, 2020

We encourage the addition of a new policy to the Solid Waste and Recycling Section 7.3.A on page 16:

Encourage service providers to offer commercial composting, or other biomass value-added processing methods which can recycle nutrients for use in local agricultural production.

Utilities Element Draft- January 6, 2021

We encourage the addition of the policy below to 8.5. B Utility-Specific Goals and Policies- Electricity- Goal 6 on page 10:

Ensure that solar installations are sited and designed in a manner that minimizes impacts on agricultural land, allows for flexibility in future agricultural activity and maximizes potential for multiple benefits from "agrivoltaics".

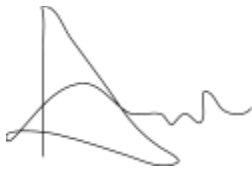
Housing Element Draft- September 16, 2021

Thank you for your hard work on this draft. Many of the recommendations that we put forward in our January 28, 2020 memo have been incorporated into the current draft. Housing is critical for the agricultural workforce. We support the language in this draft concerning tiny homes and tiny home communities and affordable housing.

We recommend a new Policy under Goal 4 on page 18:

Explore and permit innovative approaches to sewer and grey water systems.

Thank you for considering our comments and recommendations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Annie McIntyre', with a stylized, flowing script.

Annie McIntyre, ARC Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Faith Van De Putte', with a stylized, flowing script.

Faith Van De Putte, ARC Coordinator