

Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council

Annual Report 2023



1 Projects Funded

2023 Grants and Investment Program

RTC administers the largest transportation system grant program in Clark County. Over the past ten years, RTC has awarded over \$126 million in grants. In 2023, through RTC, approximately \$6.8 million in federal grants were awarded to 12 projects (project list at right). These RTC grant funds will help build the region's priority transportation systems.

Four-Year Regional Investment Program

The RTC Board of Directors adopted the 2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Program in October 2023. The four-year program anticipates \$760 million in multimodal transportation system investments for 73 regionally significant projects.

\$6.8 Million Awarded

12 Projects Funded

10 Member Agencies

Executive Director's Reflection

Regional planning has been the focus of much of the agency's work in YR 2023. Periodic Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) updates for Clark, Skamania, and Klickitat counties have been underway with the Board and committees. These updates provide our communities and region with the chance to celebrate our accomplishments, assess our collective future needs, and commit to advancing project and program investments.

Funding through RTC's grant programs was robust. We saw a one-time dip in the agency's primary grant program (STBG), yet were able to compensate by securing a one-time award of funds. The net result is RTC was able to award over \$20.3 million in grant awards to 15 projects within the three-county region.

Other highlights this year include a comprehensive Travel Study within Clark County and the purchase of a Big Data license, which is now being used by partner agencies to monitor multimodal conditions on regional roadways. RTC landed a regional Safety Planning grant for the Clark region and is hopeful for a comparable award for Skamania and Klickitat counties. In addition, the Board approved a pilot grant to improve corridor signal timing on the Clark County region Congestion Monitoring Program corridors, scheduled to launch in early 2024.

RTC is fortunate to have such great partners to advance an array of programs and grants in pursuit of our shared goals to improve the livability and economic prosperity of our region.

Looking forward to 2024...



C-TRAN Vine along Mill Plain in Vancouver

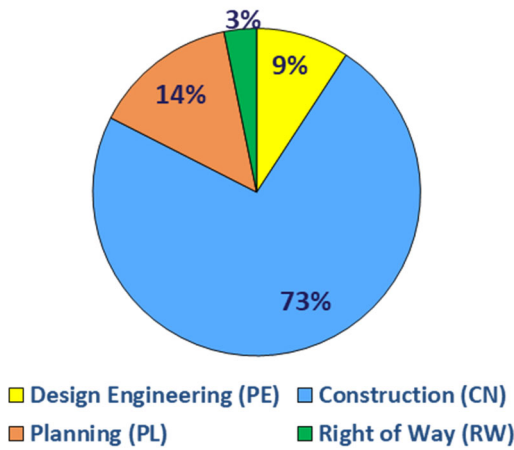
2 Plan Updates

2023 Additional Obligation Authority Funds

Local agencies worked together to deliver projects on time to meet the region’s obligation target by June of each year. By doing so, construction-ready projects become eligible for additional federal funding. In 2023 the region received an additional \$13.5 million in federal grants for the following projects:

NW 38th Avenue Phase 3	\$3,157,900
NE 119th Street/NE 152nd Avenue	\$850,000
NE 68 th Street Sidewalk	\$3,534,000
NE 137th Avenue, 49th St.-Fourth Plain	\$6,000,000

2023 RTC Grant Awards By Project Phase



2023 RTC Grant Awards Projects

Agency	Project	Amount
Bingen	Sidewalks Alder and Cedar St	\$100,000
Camas	SR 500/Everett, NE 35th-43rd Av	\$375,000
Clark County	Highway 99 Sidewalk	\$105,000
C-TRAN	Fourth Plain BRT Extension	\$750,000
La Center	Pacific Highway Shared Use Path	\$700,000
RTC	RTC Program Support (UPWP)	\$975,000
Stevenson	1st Street Pedestrian Amenities & Overlook	\$663,000
Vancouver	Garrison Road Sidewalk Infill	\$350,000
Vancouver	Hazel Dell/Burnt Bridge Trail Crossing	\$300,000
Washougal	S 27th Street Shared Use Path	\$816,250
White Salmon	Bluff Pedestrian Connector Trail	\$74,170
WSDOT	I-5, SR 502 to Cowlitz Way	\$1,600,000
Total		\$6,808,420

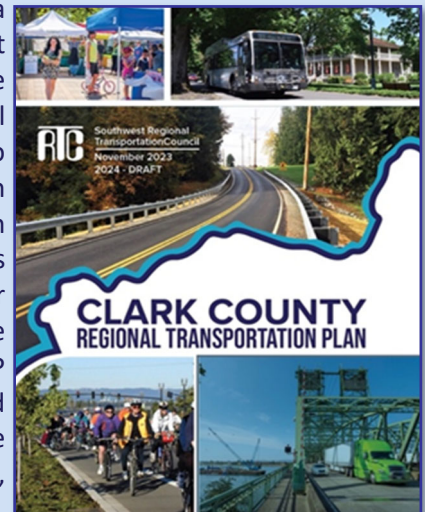
2024 Regional Transportation Plans

At the center of the regional transportation planning process is the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP serves as a strategic blueprint for future transportation investments and improvements based on the specific goals and objectives. The RTP sets the vision for the region’s multimodal transportation system and guides investment in the projects and programs to achieve that vision. The regional investments identified on the RTP are critical for our economic prosperity and our community vibrancy.

Clark County Regional Transportation Plan

Looking 20-plus years into the future, the [Clark County RTP](#) recommendations and fiscally constrained funding plan guides local, state, and federal funding needs. Using growth forecasts and employment trends, the RTP considers how to build and maintain a multimodal transportation system that will serve the needs of people who live, work, and travel in Clark County. The Clark County RTP provides an opportunity to identify transportation strategies today to address the mobility needs that come with planned future growth.

The goals outlined in the Clark County RTP, indicating priorities, serve as a measuring stick against which RTC can gauge the success of regional programs and projects. To measure that success, each goal area is associated with a set of action strategies that will implement or further the goals in the RTP. The Clark County RTP will be implemented through the collective work of RTC, Clark County, cities, C-TRAN, WSDOT, and other agency partners to develop and/or implement action strategies during the RTP planning period. The recommendations contained in the RTP will collectively transform and advance the transportation landscape of the Clark County region.

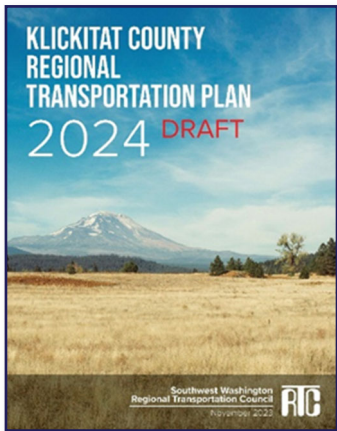


2 Plan Updates

Klickitat and Skamania Counties' Regional Transportation Plans

The [Klickitat County RTP](#) and [Skamania County RTP](#) are each county's long-range transportation planning document. Each plan assesses their unique transportation systems, expresses the community's vision for tomorrow, and lays out the goals for how it can be achieved over the next 20 years. The focus of these plans is to promote a transportation network that supports future economic growth, improves access to services and employment, and enhances quality of life for residents and visitors.

The RTPs provide a wealth of information about the region and its transportation system. The plans describe the people, communities, and industries the transportation system supports; the key transportation facilities and services that make up the system today; and gaps in the system, both today and projected, as the region's population and economy grow. In their final chapters, the RTPs describe the financial resources available to each county to support the transportation system, strategies and solutions to meet the projected needs, and how projects will be implemented and monitored to ensure they are performing as required.



Cyclists along Vancouver shared use path

3 Special Projects

Clark County Travel Study

In coordination with regional and bistate partners, RTC collected an updated sample of travel behavior data from over 2,000 Clark County Households. Local, real-world travel behavior data improves the accuracy of and confidence in travel forecasts and other analyses, which serve as the basis for many public policy and transportation investment decisions. Household travel studies are conducted roughly every 10 years, as household demographics and related travel behaviors change over time. This study will update data collected during a prior study in 2009 and provide insight into post-pandemic travel behavior.



Traffic congestion along I-5 in downtown Vancouver



WE ARE the

Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council

