

# 2017

# Annual Listing of Federal Obligation

February 2018



**Southwest Washington  
Regional Transportation Council**



## Agency Overview

**Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC)** is the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Clark County, Washington, a portion of the larger Portland-Vancouver urbanized area. RTC conducts the federally required transportation Planning process that is a condition for the receipt of federal transportation funds.

RTC's Website: [www.rtc.wa.gov](http://www.rtc.wa.gov)



## Title VI Compliance

The Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC) assures that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (P.L. 100.259), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity. RTC further assures that every effort will be made to ensure nondiscrimination in all of its programs and activities, whether or not those programs and activities are federally funded.

## Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information



Materials can be provided in alternative formats by contacting the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC) at 360-397-6067 or [info@rtc.wa.gov](mailto:info@rtc.wa.gov).

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*Vancouver: NE 137<sup>th</sup> Avenue Roundabout*

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*This report responds to the directive established in federal statute and serves as a useful evaluation tool to track the regions progress in implementing federally funded transportation projects.*

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## Introduction

The 2017 Annual Listing of Federal Obligation for Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC) details the projects from the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) that obligated federal transportation funds in calendar year 2017.

This report responds to the directive established in federal statute and serves as a useful evaluation tool to track the regions progress in implementing federally funded transportation projects.

## Requirements

RTC is required by federal regulations to annually publish a list of all federal obligations that occurred in the previous program year (23 CFR §450.332):

*(a) In metropolitan planning areas, on an annual basis, no later than 90 calendar days following the end of the program year, the State, public transportation operator(s), and the MPO shall cooperatively develop a listing of projects (including investments in pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation facilities) for which funds under 23 U.S.C. or 49 U.S.C. Chapter 53 were obligated in the preceding program year.*

*(b) The listing shall be prepared in accordance with §450.314(a) and shall include all federally funded projects authorized or revised to increase obligations in the preceding program year, and shall at a minimum include the TIP information under §450.324(e)(1) and (4) and identify, for each project, the amount of Federal funds requested in the TIP, the Federal funding that was obligated during the preceding year, and the Federal funding remaining and available for subsequent years.*

*(c) The listing shall be published or otherwise made available in accordance with the MPO's public participation criteria for the TIP.*



*Vancouver: Stencil Worker*

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*Obligation occurs when FHWA or FTA authorizes funds for a transportation improvement.*

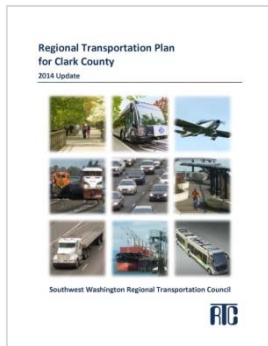
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An obligation, otherwise known as a commitment, is the federal government's budgetary term that refers to a binding agreement that results in an outlay to pay for a project. Obligation occurs when Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) or the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) authorizes funds for a transportation improvement. In fact, a project sponsor may not necessarily begin or complete an obligated project in its program year and the amount obligated may not necessarily equal the total cost of that project phase.

Federal regulations require MPOs to publish an annual listing of projects for which federal funds have been obligated in the preceding year as a record of project delivery. Although it is the primary responsibility of the MPO to prepare the obligation list, the list must be developed through a cooperative effort with WSDOT and other agencies who are responsible for tracking project obligation. This report responds to the federal directive by listing all transportation projects in the Clark County region that were obligated in calendar year 2017 (January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017).

## Regional Transportation Plan

At least once every five years, RTC prepares a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) that establishes the long-range goals for the region and identifies projects and strategies that will be necessary to implement those goals. The 2014 Update of the Regional Transportation Plan for Clark County was adopted by the RTC Board on December 2, 2014. RTC is currently working on an update to the RTP that should be completed by the end of 2018.



## Transportation Improvement Program

The Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) serves as a short-range programming document and indicates commitment for funding on these planned projects over the next four years. Projects programmed in the TIP are drawn either directly from specific project recommendations made in the Regional Transportation Plan or are developed from a more general series of recommendations (preservation, maintenance, safety, etc.). The regional TIP is adopted by the RTC Board each October and becomes effective in January of the following year. Occasionally changes need to be made to the TIP following its adoption and are handled through a monthly TIP administrative process.

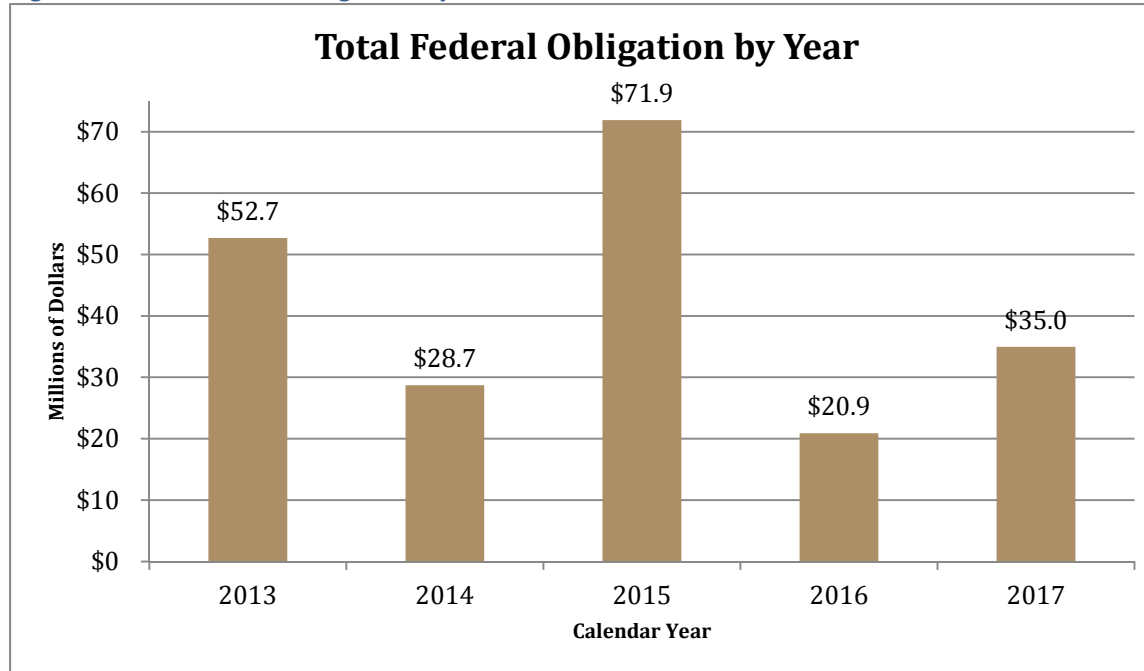
Projects phases (PE-Preliminary Engineering, RW-Right of Way, and CN-Construction) are programmed in the TIP and are obligated through FHWA and FTA. An obligation of a federal highway project occurs when FHWA and WSDOT execute a project agreement, while federal transit obligation occurs when FTA awards the grant. Once obligated, the project sponsor can start work and receive reimbursement for work incurred.

## 2017 Obligation Summary

### Total Obligation

A total of approximately \$35.0 million in federal funds were obligated in calendar year 2017 between 48 projects within the Clark County region. The 2015 obligation totals were unusually high due to the one-time \$38.3 million Fourth Plain BRT project. The 2017 total obligation totals were also higher due to C-TRAN's obligation of \$14.7 million, up from \$2.6 million in 2016. Beginning in year 2014, the region has seen a decrease in federal obligations by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT). This may not be indicative of total spending by WSDOT in the region, as several recent major projects were funded through State only resources.

*Figure 1: Total Federal Obligation by Year*



## Project by Type

Projects have been classified by the primary project type to represent the number of dollars associated with different types of projects. The difficulty is that many projects could be classified under multiple project types, and for the purpose of this analysis only the primary project type is included. Projects are classified by the following project types:

- ◆ **Bicycle & Pedestrian:** This includes standalone projects that primarily encourage walking and bicycling. This can include sidewalks, bicycle lanes, paths, improved pedestrian crossing, etc.
- ◆ **Bridge:** This represents all work that is accomplished on bridges. This can include bridge replacement, repair, and painting.
- ◆ **Planning:** This is about preparing, analyzing, and implementing studies and plans to improve the transportation systems.
- ◆ **Preservation:** This represents a proactive approach in maintaining the existing transportation system. This can include pavement overlay, pavement repair, and transit preventative maintenance.
- ◆ **Road Improvement:** This represents an improvement that enhances a roadway for motor vehicles. This can include road widening, reconstruction, intersection improvements, and other geometric improvements.
- ◆ **Safety:** This includes methods and measures used to prevent fatalities or serious injuries on the transportation system.



*Washougal: 32<sup>nd</sup> Street*

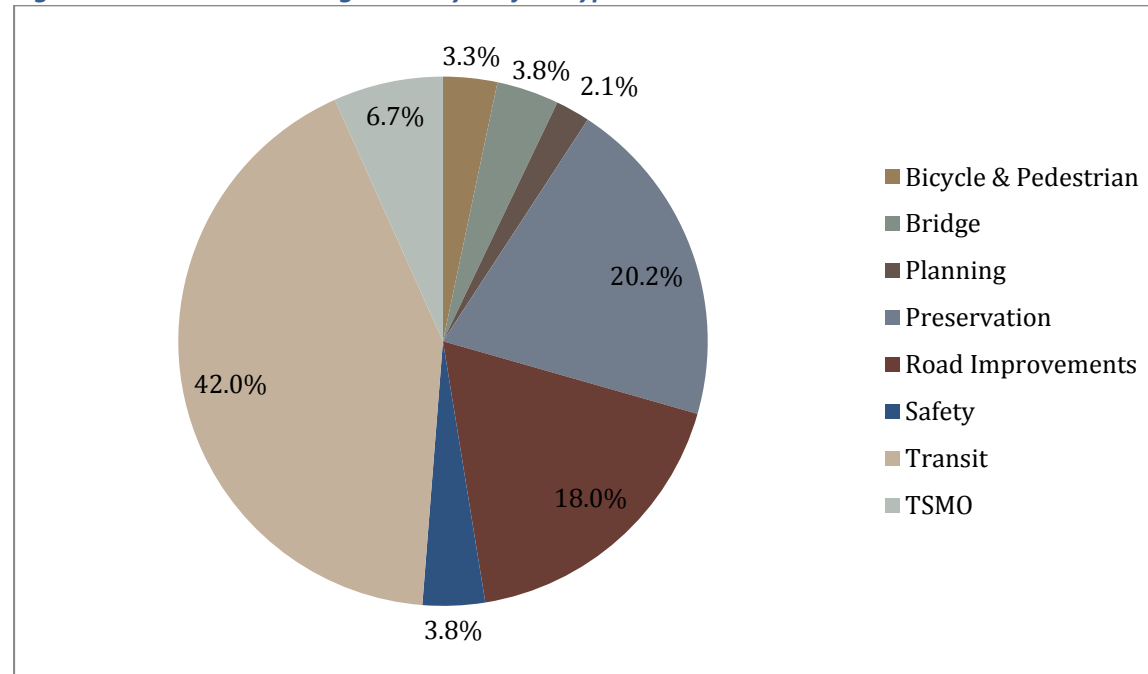
- ◆ **Transit:** This includes all capital and planning projects of the public transit service which C-TRAN provides within Clark County.
- ◆ **TSMO:** Transportation System Management and Operations are low-cost projects that are implemented to optimize the performance of existing transportation systems. These projects often include technology based improvements such as traffic detection and signal improvements.



*The Surface Transportation Program provides flexible funding that may be used for a wide range of projects and programs that address the federal-aid transportation system.*

**Figure 2** illustrates the 2017 obligation by the type of project. Of the total federal funds obligated approximately \$14.7 million (42.0%) was for transit, \$7.1 million (20.2%) for preservation, \$6.3 million (18.0%) for road improvements, \$2.4 million (6.7%) for TSMO, \$1.3 million (3.8%) for safety, \$1.3 million (3.8%) for bridge, \$1.2 million (3.3%) for bicycle & pedestrian, and \$0.8 million (2.1%) for planning.

**Figure 2: 2017 Federal Obligations by Project Type**



### Federal Obligation by Funding Program

Table 1 provides a summary of the 2017 federal obligation by funding program. The following is a brief description of each of the programs:

- ◆ **CMAQ:** This program provides funding for projects and programs which reduce transportation related emissions.
- ◆ **HSIP:** This program provides funds for projects that reduce traffic fatalities and serious injuries.

- ◆ **NHPP:** This program provides funding for improvements on the National Highway System.
- ◆ **Section 5307:** This program provides funding both capital and operating assistance to public transit.
- ◆ **Section 5310:** This program provides funds to enhance mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- ◆ **Section 5337:** This program is a formula-based program to repair and upgrade the transit system.
- ◆ **Section 5339:** This program is a discretionary fund that provides capital assistance for transit vehicles.
- ◆ **STBG:** This program provides flexible funding that may be used for a wide range of projects and programs that address the federal-aid transportation system. The funds are divided between regions and the state department of transportation.
- ◆ **TA:** The Transportation Alternatives Program provides funding for a variety of alternative transportation projects.
- ◆ **Other:** This category includes federal funding programs that are not funded on an annual basis or project funded under an old federal program. This may include Emergency Relief, earmarks, and other funding programs.



*C-TRAN: Fourth Plain BRT*



*C-TRAN: Fisher's Landing Transit Center Expansion*

**Table 1: 2017 Federal Obligations by Funding Program**

Funding Program	Funds Obligated	Percent of Total
CMAQ	\$1,856,952	5.3%
HSIP	\$1,850,747	5.3%
NHPP	\$6,704,168	19.2%
Other	\$1,494,461	4.3%
Section 5307	\$7,484,757	21.4%
Section 5337	\$154,175	0.4%
Section 5339	\$6,912,589	19.8%
STBG Regional	\$6,282,000	18.0%
STBG State	\$1,885,782	5.4%
TA	\$348,000	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$34,973,631</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

*Clark County: Orchards Traffic Signal Optimization*

### RTC Managed Obligation

WSDOT has placed additional responsibility on RTC to ensure that the region annually obligates their local share of the Federal Highway program. The local Federal Highway programs include the Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG), Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Program (CMAQ), and Transportation Alternatives Program (TA). Projects within these programs are selected by the RTC Board through a competitive prioritization process and implemented by local agencies. The first two years of projects programmed in the Transportation Improvement Program are considered selected and can proceed when ready. Due to statewide management of obligation and the two-year project selection, projects in out years (3<sup>rd</sup> thru 4<sup>th</sup> year) are not allowed to proceed. RTC has also developed project delay policies which encourage the timely obligation of projects and limits project delay.

A total of \$8.5 million in the local share of Federal Highway funds were obligated in calendar year 2017 between 14 projects within the Clark County region. The region receives approximately \$9.2 million of Federal Highway funds annually. The 2017 total is lower than the available local Federal Highway funds (Table 2). The region has been obligating at a level that is higher than the available rate for many years. As a result of the previous high level of obligation, the region had obligated all of their 2018 allocation by November 2017.

**Table 2: 2017 Federal Obligations of Local Share**

Funding Program	2017 Allocation	2017 Obligation	Total
STBG	\$5,728,000	\$6,282,000	110%
CMAQ	\$3,019,000	\$1,856,952	62%
TA	\$509,000	\$348,000	68%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,256,000</b>	<b>\$8,486,952</b>	<b>92%</b>

*Clark County: Fifth Plain Creek Bridge*

## 2017 Annual Listing of Federal Obligations

Table 3 is a list of federal funded transportation projects within the MPO boundary for Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (Clark County, Washington) that were obligated during the 2017 calendar year.

**Table 3: 2017 Annual Listing of Federal Obligations**

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2017-2020 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal \$ Remaining
C-Tran	WA-2018-002	Open Trip Planner and Alerts System	Transit	CMAQ	CN	\$128,000	\$128,000	\$0
C-Tran	WA-2018-001	FY 17 Section 5339 Bus Purchase	Transit	Section 5339	CN	\$300,336	\$300,336	\$0
C-Tran	WA-2017-063	FY 17 Section 5337 Bus Purchase	Transit	Section 5337	CN	\$57,980	\$57,980	\$0
C-Tran	WA-2017-056	FY 16 Section 5339 Bus Purchase	Transit	Section 5339	CN	\$532,253	\$532,253	\$0
C-Tran	WA-2017-051	FY 17 Section 5307 Preventative Maintenance	Transit	Section 5307	CN	\$2,706,951	\$2,706,951	\$0
C-Tran	WA-2017-040	FY 16 Section 5307 Preventative Maintenance	Transit	Section 5307	CN	\$4,777,806	\$4,777,806	\$0
C-Tran	WA-2017-055	FY 16 Section 5337 Bus Purchase	Transit	Section 5337	CN	\$96,195	\$96,195	\$0
C-Tran	WA-2017-039	FY16 Section 5339 Discretionary Bus Purchase	Transit	Section 5339	CN	\$6,080,000	\$6,080,000	\$0
Camas	1602(020)	NW Forest Home Road Slide Repair	Preservation	Emergency Relief	CN	\$511,283	\$511,283	\$0

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2017-2020 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal \$ Remaining
Clark Co.	0005(455)	Hazel Dell Avenue Adaptive Traffic Signals	TSMO	HSIP	PE	\$188,000	\$188,000	\$0
Clark Co.	0005(455)	Hazel Dell Avenue Adaptive Traffic Signals	TSMO	HSIP	CN	\$816,000	\$816,000	\$0
Clark Co.	0005(456)	Curve Safety Improvement	Safety	HSIP	PE	\$42,000	\$42,000	\$0
Clark Co.	0005(456)	Curve Safety Improvement	Safety	HSIP	CN	\$289,000	\$289,000	\$0
Clark Co.	4253(014)	Highway 99 Pedestrian/Bicycle Improvements, 63rd St. to 78th St.	Bicycle & Pedestrian	STBG Regional	CN	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
Clark Co.	4253(014)	Highway 99 Pedestrian/Bicycle Improvements, 63rd St. to 78th St.	Bicycle & Pedestrian	TA	CN	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
Clark Co.	4430(005)	NE 119th Street (NE 50th Avenue to NE 72nd Avenue)	Road Improvement	STBG Regional	CN	\$1,885,000	\$1,885,000	\$0
Clark Co.	9906(046)	Signal Timing, Evaluation, Verification and Enhancement (STEVE)	TSMO	CMAQ	PE	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0
Clark Co.	9906(046)	Signal Timing, Evaluation, Verification and Enhancement (STEVE)	TSMO	CMAQ	CN	\$497,700	\$497,700	\$0
La Center	D063(003)	Pacific Highway at West 4th St. Roundabout	Road Improvement	STBG Regional	CN	\$692,000	\$692,000	\$0
Port of Ridgefield	1085(004)	Pioneer Street Rail Overpass, Main to Division St.	Road Improvement	STBG Regional	CN	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$0
RTC	9906(048)	VAST Coordination and Management	Planning	STBG Regional	PL	\$355,000	\$355,000	\$0
RTC	9906(049)	2018 UPWP & CMP Support	Planning	STBG Regional	PL	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0
Vancouver	9906(041)	Fourth Plain Subarea Sidewalk Infill	Bicycle & Pedestrian	CMAQ	CN	\$380,000	\$380,230	\$0
Washougal	1385(005)	Grade Separated Analysis 27th Street, Main St. to E St.	Road Improvement	Re-purposed Earmark	PL	\$863,178	\$863,178	\$0
Washougal	7071(002)	Evergreen Way/32nd Street	Road Improvement	STBG Regional	CN	\$850,000	\$850,000	\$0
WFL (RTC)	2006(069)	Main Avenue Access Improvements	Bicycle & Pedestrian	TA	CN	\$148,000	\$148,000	\$0
WSDOT	0005(016)	I-5/Woodland Vicinity at Horseshoe Lake - Upgrade Pump System	Preservation	STBG-State	PE	\$144,000	\$144,000	\$0

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2017-2020 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal \$ Remaining
WSDOT	0051(294)	I-5/E Fork Lewis River Bridge NB - Replace Bridge	Bridge	NHPP	PE	\$2,105,309	\$1,320,681	\$784,628
WSDOT	0051(300)	I-5/Ridgefield Port of Entry - Scalehouse Reconstruction	Preservation	IM	PE	\$120,000	\$120,000	\$0
WSDOT	0051(301)	I-5/SB North Fork Lewis River Bridge - Resurfacing	Preservation	NHPP	PE	\$39,925	\$39,925	\$0
WSDOT	0051(301)	I-5/SB North Fork Lewis River Bridge - Resurfacing	Preservation	NHPP	CN	\$1,176,000	\$1,295,378	\$0
WSDOT	0051(304)	I-5/1.7 miles S of Todd Road to Kalama River Rd - Deck Repair	Preservation	NHPP	PE	\$78,413	\$78,413	\$0
WSDOT	0500(021)	SR 500/SR 503 to NE 4th Plain Blvd - Paving	Preservation	NHPP	PE	\$136,800	\$136,800	\$0
WSDOT	0500(021)	SR 500/SR 503 to NE 4th Plain Blvd - Paving	Preservation	NHPP	CN	\$3,241,071	\$3,241,071	\$0
WSDOT	0500(022)	SR 500/NE 42nd Ave and 54th Ave Intersections - Safety Evaluation	Planning	HSIP	PE	\$96,000	\$96,000	\$0
WSDOT	0500(023)	SR 500/Burnt Bridge Creek to 4th Plain Rd - ADA	Bicycle & Pedestrian	STBG-State	PE	\$228,087	\$237,590	\$0
WSDOT	0501(024)	SR 501/26th St Ext Vicinity to End of Road - Chip Seal	Preservation	STBG-State	CN	\$1,052,275	\$1,052,275	\$0
WSDOT	0503(031)	SR 503 ATIS Infill - I/S Bypass and Signal Study, Fourth Plain to Main	TSMO	CMAQ	CN	\$865,000	\$618,222	\$246,778
WSDOT	0503(032)	SR 503/Padden Parkway - Intersection Improvements	Safety	STBG-State	CN	\$398,008	\$398,008	\$0
WSDOT	0503(032)	SR 503/Padden Parkway - Intersection Improvements	Safety	HSIP	CN	\$76,950	\$76,950	\$0
WSDOT	0503(034)	SR 503/Brush Prairie RR XING - Bus and Truck Pullout Lanes	Safety	HSIP	PE	\$0	\$74,718	\$0
WSDOT	0503(034)	SR 503/Brush Prairie RR XING - Bus and Truck Pullout Lanes	Safety	HSIP	CN	\$562,010	\$50,000	\$512,010
WSDOT	0503(036)	SR 503/Rock Creek Rd Vic to Williams Rd Vic - Paving	Preservation	STBG-State	PE	\$53,909	\$53,909	\$0
WSDOT	0503(037)	SR 503, Fourth Plain to Main Street ITS	TSMO	CMAQ	PE	\$32,800	\$32,800	\$0

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2017-2020 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal \$ Remaining
		Device Infill						
WSDOT	0503(038)	SR 503/NE 154th St to SR 502 - Median Barrier	Safety	HSIP	PE	\$157,133	\$182,879	\$0
WSDOT	0503(039)	SR 503/Drainage Improvements	Preservation	NHPP	RW	\$410,424	\$400,000	\$0
WSDOT	2051(284)	I-205/SR 14 Interchange - Illumination Upgrade	Safety	NHPP	PE	\$142,646	\$191,900	\$0
WSDOT	9999(802)	SWR Breakaway Cable Terminal Replacement - Interstate	Safety	HSIP	PE	\$24,000	\$35,200	\$0