



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Findings of High Capacity Transit Study Ready for Public Review

Clark County, WA –The Clark County High Capacity Transit System Study has reached a critical milestone and is seeking answers to how High Capacity Transit (HCT) could serve travel needs within Clark County.

The study, led by the Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council (RTC) working with local jurisdictions and agencies, has completed an evaluation of several potential HCT systems. Each system compares different mixes of light rail, bus rapid transit and streetcar on four major corridors in the county. The results of the evaluation will be presented at an open house next Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00pm at the Clark County Elections Building, 1408 Franklin St., Vancouver, WA.

The scenarios include combinations of four corridors and compare how well different HCT modes would work within a potential system.

- The **I-5/Highway 99** corridor extends from downtown Vancouver to Salmon Creek and compares Light Rail, Streetcar and variations of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT).
- The **4<sup>th</sup> Plain** corridor extends from downtown Vancouver to east of I-205, and considers Light Rail, variations of BRT, and Streetcar.
- The **I-205** corridor extends from the Columbia River to Salmon Creek and compares BRT and Light Rail.
- The **Mill Plain** corridor extends from downtown Vancouver to Fisher's Landing, and considers a form of BRT that operates mostly in mixed traffic.

The findings of the study will be presented at the open house and on the study website: <http://rtc.wa.gov/hct>. The findings include information on:

- **Ridership** – The total number of riders, new transit riders, and the number of riders who would use HCT within Clark County.
- **Cost** – Capital costs, operating costs, and cost effectiveness.
- **Land use** – How well HCT would serve population and job centers, and whether HCT in the corridor could meet Federal Transit Authority funding criteria.
- **Community values** – How well each option satisfies the study Goals and Objectives.

RTC developed the system scenarios through work with a citizens Task Force and a Steering Committee comprised of elected officials and agency heads from throughout the county. Together, the groups explored 15 potential corridors and nine modes. Based on technical analysis and public input, the committees narrowed the corridor and mode options to provide the basis for the scenarios that will be presented at the open house.

The HCT Study is focused on addressing the transit needs of Clark County residents, but is being closely coordinated with the Columbia River Crossing project to share data and ensure efficient transit connections in the future.

*For more information visit the Clark County High Capacity Transit System Study website: <http://rtc.wa.gov/hct>.*

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