MEMORANDUM

TO: Southwest Washington Regional Transportation Council Board of Directors
FROM: Matt Ransom, Executive Director
DATE: February 25, 2020
SUBJECT: **2019 Annual Listing of Federal Project Obligation**

AT A GLANCE – INFORMATION

The purpose of this memorandum is to present the 2019 Annual Listing of Federal Obligation. The annual listing is a federal requirement of each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). The 2019 Annual Listing of Federal Obligation meets the federal requirements by presenting and analyzing federal obligation in calendar year 2019.

BACKGROUND

Each Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is required by the end of March to publish a list of projects for which federal transportation funds were obligated in the previous year. The attached 2019 Annual Listing of Federal Obligation is developed in response to this directive. In addition to providing the list of obligated projects, the attached report provides a brief analysis of the annual obligation. Annual obligation reports can be viewed from RTC's web site at: http://www.rtc.wa.gov/programs/tip/projects/.

Obligation occurs when the Federal Highway Administration or Federal Transit Administration enters into an agreement to reimburse a local agency for the federal share of a project. The actual expenditure on a project occurs after obligation and can often take years.

2019 Obligation

A total of $54.2 million in federal transportation funds were obligated in Clark County during calendar year 2019. The 2019 obligation resulted in the construction of many regionally significant road, bridge, bike and pedestrian, transit, and preservation projects.

RTC Managed Obligation

WSDOT has placed responsibility on RTC to manage the obligation of regional STBG, CMAQ, and TA funds. The region received approximately $10.5 million in 2019, and projects are selected for these programs through a competitive process administered by the RTC Board. In 2019, the region obligated $8.5 million in RTC-managed funds. Even though obligated funds were lower than the allocation, the region continues to be ahead in the obligation of funds. Although, the margin by which the region hits our obligation target is getting smaller every year.

Attachment

20190303RTCB-AnnualObligation.docx

2019
Annual Listing of Federal Obligation

February 2020

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

RTC Respects Civil Rights

RTC operates its programs without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age or disability in accordance with applicable laws, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and RCW 49.60. To request additional information on RTC's Title VI nondiscrimination requirements, or if any person believes they have been aggrieved by an unlawful discriminatory practice under Title VI or other applicable law and would like to file a complaint, contact us at 564.397.6067 TTY 711 or email info@rtc.wa.gov.

Persons who do not speak or read English well may request language assistance, oral interpretation and/or written translation, at no cost. Contact RTC at 564.397.6067 TTY 711 or email info@rtc.wa.gov.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations may request written materials in alternate formats, sign language interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodations by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Mark Harrington at 564-397-5207 TTY 711, with two weeks advance notice.

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Vancouver: NE 137th Avenue Roundabout

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.

Introduction

The 2019 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 2019.

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.*

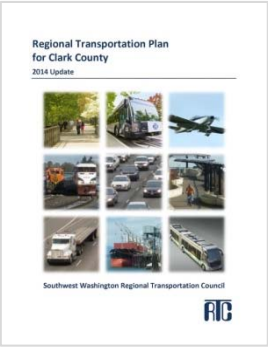
Vancouver: Stencil Worker

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

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 though a cooperative effort with WSDOT and other agencies that 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 2019 (January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019).

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 2019 Update of the Regional Transportation Plan for Clark County was adopted by the RTC Board on March 5, 2019.

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.

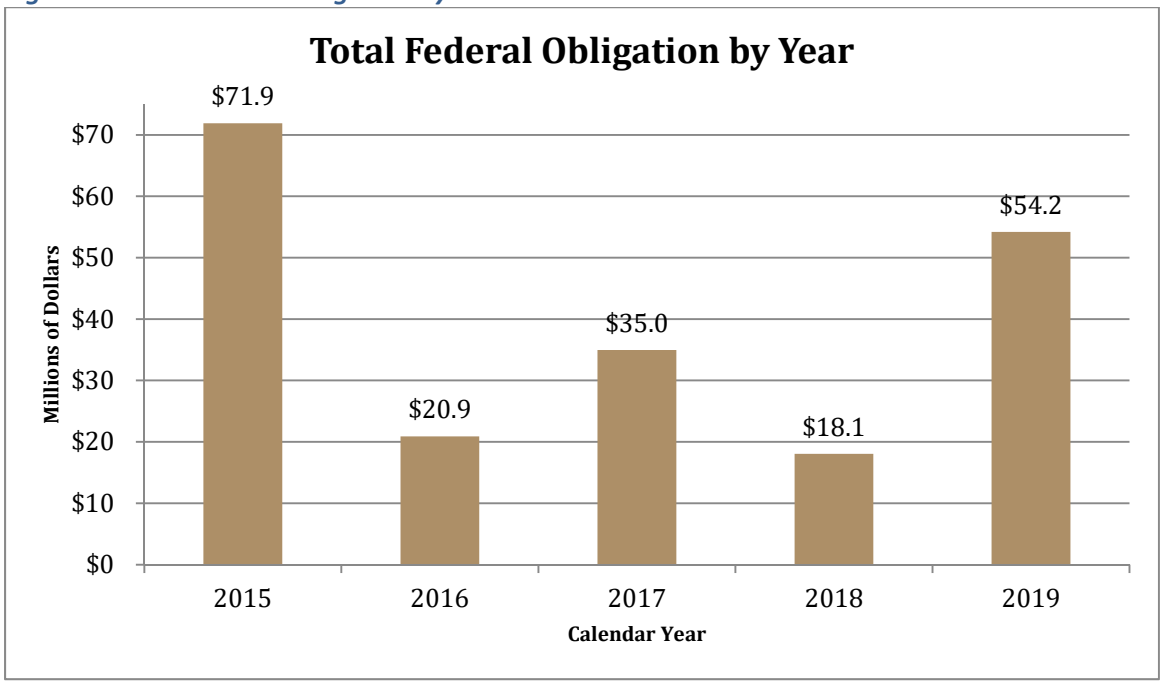
Projects phases (PE-Preliminary Engineering, RW-Right of Way, and CN-Construction) are programmed in the TIP and are obligated through FHWA and FTA. An obligation of a federal highway project occurs when FHWA and WSDOT execute a project agreement, while federal transit obligation occurs when FTA awards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

2019 Obligation Summary

Total Obligation

A total of approximately $54.2 million in federal funds were obligated in calendar year 2019 between 50 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 2019 obligation totals were significantly higher than in the previous three years.

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 diferent 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:

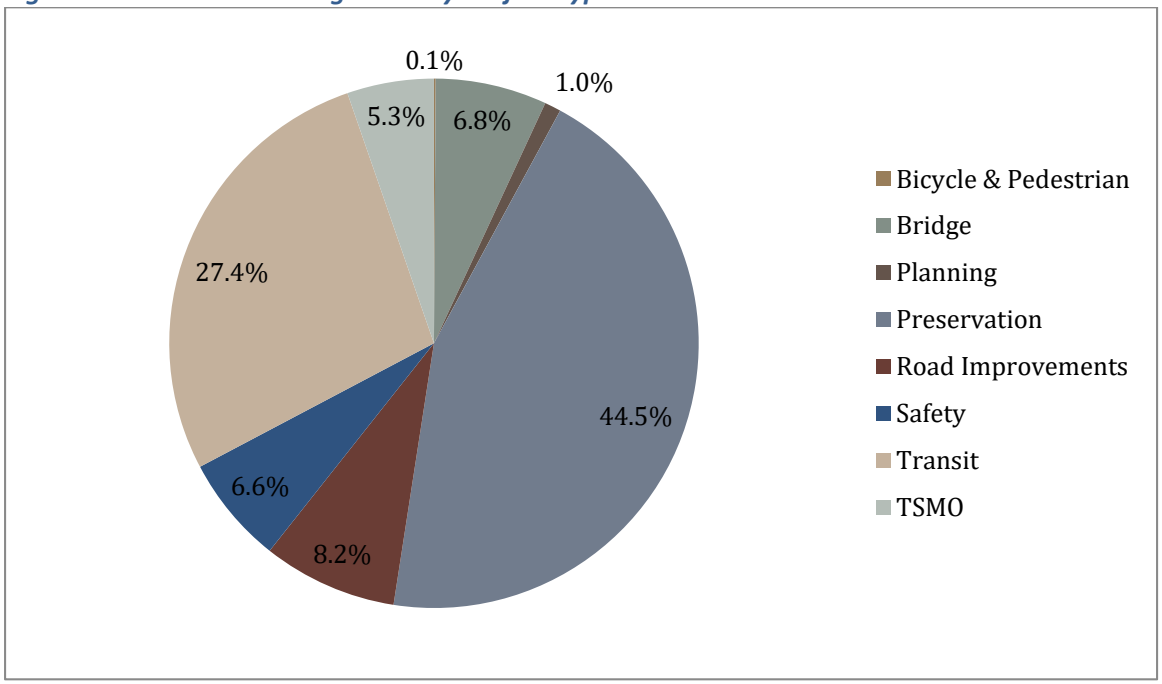
- **Bicycle & Pedestrian**: This includes standalone projects that primarily encourage walking and bicycling. This can include sidewalks, bicycle lanes, paths, improved pedestrian crossing, etc.
- **Bridge**: This represents all work that is accomplished on bridges. This can include bridge replacement, 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.
- **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.

NE 119th Street RR Crossing

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 2019 obligation by the type of project. Of the total federal funds obligated approximately $24.1 million (44.5%) was for preservation, $14.8 million (27.4%) for transit, $4.4 million (8.2%) for road improvements, $3.7 million (6.8%) for bridges, $3.6 million (6.6%) for safety, $2.9 million (5.3%) for TSMO, $0.6 million (1.0%) for planning, and $0.1 million (0.1%) for bicycle and Pedestrian improvements.

Figure 2: 2019 Federal Obligations by Project Type



Federal Obligation by Funding Program

Table 1 provides a summary of the 2019 federal obligation by funding program. The following is a brief discription of each of the programs:

- **Bridge**: This program provides funding for projects and programs which improve bridges.
- **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.
- **IM**: This program funds the maintenance of the Interstate Highway System.
- **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 projects funded under an old federal program. This may include Emergency Relief, earmarks, Rail/highway crossings, Interstate Maintenance, Highway Infrastructure Program, and other funding programs.

C-TRAN: Fourth Plain BRT

La Center: 4th Street & Pacific Hwy Roundabout

Table 1: 2019 Federal Obligations by Funding Program

Funding Program	Funds Obligated	Percent of Total
Bridge	$69,284	0.1%
CMAQ	$1,393,900	2.6%
HSIP	$4,590,851	8.5%
NHPP	$17,815,612	32.9%
NHS	$5,269,000	9.7%
Other	$5,277,740	9.8%
Section 5307	$10,643,687	19.7%
Section 5310	$1,035,641	1.9%
Section 5337	$345,454	0.6%
Section 5339	$1,602,646	3.0%
STBG	$6,041,802	11.1%
TA	$79,600	0.1%
Total	**$54,165,217**	**100.0%**

Vancouver: NE 18th Street Construction

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 (3rd thru 4th 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 $8.47 million in the local share of Federal Highway funds were obligated in calendar year 2019 between 17 projects within the Clark County region. The region recieves approximately $10.1 million of Federal Highway funds annually. The

2019 total is higher, because of one-time additional allocationllocal 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 2019 allocation before the end of the federal fiscal year (September 30, 2019) .

Clark County: NE 10th Av. Construction

Table 2: 2019 Federal Obligations of Local Share

Funding Program	2019 Allocation	2019 Obligation	Total
STBG	$6,277,356	$5,958,462	95%
CMAQ	$2,696,595	$1,393,900	52%
HIP	$1,037,538	$1,037,538	100%
TA	$516,112	$79,600	15%
Total	**$10,527,601**	**$8,469,500**	**80%**

2019 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 2019 calendar year.

Table 3: 2019 Annual Listing of Federal Obligations

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2019-2022 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal $ Remaining
Battle Ground	4460(001)	SW Eaton Blvd., SW 20th Av. to SR-503	Road	STP Regional	PE	$346,000	$346,000	$0
C-Tran	WA-2017-063	FY 17 5337 Bus Replacement (Partial)	Transit	Section 5337	CN	$491,033	$57,980	$433,053
C-Tran	WA-2019-039	FY 17 5337 Bus Replacement (Partial)	Transit	Section 5337	CN	$433,053	$44,800	$388,253
C-Tran	WA-2019-076	FY 18 & 19 5337 Bus Replacement	Transit	Section 5337	CN	$388,253	$242,674	$145,579
C-Tran	WA-2019-014	FY 17 5339 Bus Replacement	Transit	Section 5339	CN	$1,334,338	$231,162	$1,103,176
C-Tran	WA-2019-075	FY 18 & 19 5339 Bus Replacement	Transit	Section 5339	CN	$1,103,176	$1,371,484	($268,308)

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2019-2022 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal $ Remaining
C-Tran	WA-2019-021	FY 18 Section 5307 Preventative Maintenance	Transit	Section 5307	CN	$10,400,000	$5,337,705	$5,062,295
C-Tran	WA-2019-058	FY 19 Section 5307 Preventative Maintenance	Transit	Section 5307	CN	$5,062,295	$5,305,982	($243,687)
C-Tran	WA-2019-089	FY 18 & 19 5310 Purchased Services, Mobility Management	Transit	Section 5310	CN	$995,716	$1,035,641	($39,925)
C-Tran	FT19(002)	FTA Transfer: Mill Plain Traffic Signal Priority	Transit	CMAQ	CN	$195,500	$195,500	$0
C-Tran	FT19(009)	FTA Transfer: Mill Plain BRT Development	Transit	CMAQ	CN	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	$0
Camas	7040(006)	NE 3rd Ave. Bridge-Seismic Retrofit	Bridge	Bridge Bridge	PE RW	$0 $70,000	$30,642 $38,642	($30,642) $31,358
Clark Co.	000S(477)	NE 259th St. & NE 72nd Ave Intersection	Safety	HSIP	CN	$320,000	$320,000	$0
Clark Co.	4253(015)	Highway 99 Pavement Improvements	Preservation	NHS	CN	$3,551,000	$3,551,000	$0
Clark Co.	4364(002)	NE 63rd St. & NE 58th Ave Signal	Safety	HSIP	CN	$681,160	$795,000	$113,840
Clark Co.	4410(004)	NE 99th Street (NE 94th to NE 117th)	Road	STP Regional	PE	$150,000	$150,000	$0
Clark Co.	9906(053)	STEVE 2 – Signal Timing, Evaluation, Verification, and Enhancement	TSMO	CMAQ	PE	$102,000	$102,000	$0
Clark Co.	U066(002)	NE Blair Road, SR-500 to MP 2.47	Road	STP Regional HIP	CN CN	$929,401 $70,599	$929,401 $70,599	$0 $0
Clark Co.	4231(006)	NE Hazel Dell Avenue Sidewalk	Bicycle & Pedestrian	TA	PE	$79,600	$79,600	$0
Port of Ridgefield	1085(004)	Pioneer Street Rail Overpass	Bridge	STP Regional	CN	$2,000,000	$2,000,000	$0
RTC	2006(074)	Active Transportation Plan for Clark Co.	Planning	STP Regional	PL	$100,000	$100,000	$0
RTC	9906(054)	2020 UPWP & CMP Support	Planning	STP Regional	PL	$400,000	$400,000	$0
RTC	9906(055)	Columbia Connects Bi-State Study	Planning	STP Regional	PL	$50,000	$50,000	$0
Vancouver	4242(025)	Mill Plain Blvd.-104th to NE Chkalov Dr.	Road	STP Regional HIP	CN CN	$1,033,061 $966,939	$1,033,061 $966,939	$0 $0
Vancouver	4242(026)	East Mill Plain Blvd NHS	Preservation	NHS	CN	$665,000	$665,000	$0

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2019-2022 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal $ Remaining
Vancouver	4421(004)	NE 137th Ave. Corridor Completion	Road	STP Regional	RW	$950,000	$950,000	$0
Vancouver	4451(014)	SE 164th/162nd Avenue NHS	Preservation	NHS	CN	$1,003,000	$1,003,000	$0
WSDOT	2051(286)	I-205/NB Mill Plain On-Ramp Meter	TSMO	CMAQ	PE	$48,400	$48,400	$0
WSDOT	9999(835)	Centralized Signal System Enhancements	TSMO	CMAQ	PE	$48,000	$48,000	$0
WSDOT	0005(016)	I-5/Woodland Vic. at Horseshoe Lake	Preservation	IM	PE	$4,760	$4,760	$0
				STP	PE	$38,895	$38,895	$0
				IM	CN	$2,256,454	$2,256,454	$0
WSDOT	0014(040)	SR-14/Marble Road to Prindle Road	Safety	HIP	PE	$39,974	$39,974	$0
WSDOT	0014(084)	SR-14/SE 164th Ave to NW 6th Ave	Preservation	NHPP	PE	$40,000	$40,000	$0
				NHPP	CN	$2,856,026	$2,856,026	$0
WSDOT	0051(294)	I-5/E Fork Lewis River Bridge NB	Bridge	NHPP	PE	$555,328	$578,468	($23,140)
WSDOT	0051(299)	I-5/NB Interstate Bridge-S. Tower Trunnion Replacement	Bridge	NHPP	CN	$6,602,882	$729,111	$5,873,771
				IM	CN	$0	$277,424	($277,424)
WSDOT	0051(302)	I-5 NB/1 mi S of Todd Rd Vic to Weigh Station Vic	Preservation	NHPP	CN	$115,559	$115,559	$0
WSDOT	0051(308)	I-5/SB Interstate Br. To NE 99th St. Vic	TSMO	IM	CN	$0	$1,661,590	($1,661,590)
				HSIP	CN	$5,361,611	$994,599	$4,367,012
WSDOT	0051(310)	I-5/SB E Fork Lewis Rv to N Fork Lewis Rv	Preservation	NHPP	PE	$205,200	$205,200	$0
WSDOT	0051(311)	I-5 Ridgefield Weigh Station	Preservation	NHPP	CN	$931,000	$1,187,610	($256,610)
WSDOT	0051(312)	I-5/N Fork Lewis River Bridge SB	Bridge	NHS	PE	$65,520	$50,000	$15,520
WSDOT	0500(024)	SR-500/Burnt Bridge Creek to 4th Plain Rd	Preservation	NHPP	PE	$111,422	$111,422	$0
				NHPP	CN	$6,683,114	$6,683,114	$0
WSDOT	0500(025)	SR-500/I-205 Overcrossing Bridge	Preservation	NHPP	PE	$0	$23,000	(23,000)
WSDOT	0500(026)	SR-500/NE Robinson Rd and NE 3rd St.	Safety	HSIP	PE	$868,512	$858,220	$10,292
WSDOT	0501(025)	SR-501/I-5 to SW 26th St. Ext Vic Couplet	Preservation	NHPP	CN	$1,382,290	$1,768,540	($386,250)
WSDOT	0503(036)	SR-503/Rock Creek Rd. to Williams Rd.	Preservation	STP	CN	$44,445	$44,445	$0
WSDOT	0503(038)	SR-503/NE 154th St. to SR-502	Safety	HSIP	PE	$0	$98,616	($98,616)
					CN	$2,190,657	$1,093,003	$1,097,654

Agency	Federal Aid #	Project Title	Project Type	Funding Program	Phase(s)	2019-2022 TIP Program	Federal Obligation	Federal $ Remaining
WSDOT	0503(039)	SR-503/Drainage Improvements	Preservation	NHPP	CN	$24,346	$24,346	$0
WSDOT	9999(802)	SWR Breakaway Cable Terminal Replacement-Interstate	Safety	HSIP HSIP	PE CN	$0 $360,150	$32,032 $286,963	($32,032) $73,187
WSDOT	9999(812)	I-205 and I-5 Pavement Rehabilitation	Preservation	NHPP	CN	$3,493,216	$3,493,216	$0
WSDOT	9999(816)	2019 Eastern Region Chip Seal	Preservation	HSIP	CN	$52,418	$52,418	$0
WSDOT	9999(834)	SW Region/Regionwide Shoulder Rumble Strip Installation	Safety	HSIP	PE	$9,600	$60,000	($50,400)