



CITY OF TUALATIN

Staff Report

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

FROM: Steve Koper, AICP, Assistant Community Development Director
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DATE: July 14, 2025

SUBJECT:

This is an informational update on the 2045 Transportation System Plan efforts.

BACKGROUND:

What is a Transportation System Plan?

A Transportation System Plan (TSP) is the part of the Comprehensive Plan that establishes transportation goals and policies and a list of capital projects that are anticipated to be constructed over a 20-year planning horizon. All cities and counties in Oregon are required to have a Comprehensive Plan and a Transportation System Plan (TSP). Tualatin's TSP was last updated in 2012 (Ordinance #1354-13), then later updated in 2014, with several minor updates in 2019 and 2021.

Why update the TSP now?

Over the past decade, Tualatin has experienced growth within its existing boundaries, as well as through expansion to the Basalt Creek Planning Area. The City also committed to a Climate Action Plan in 2024, which included new policies intended to reduce the City's greenhouse gas emissions. Transportation was identified as one of the larger sources of emissions. As a result, the City Council found that it was timely to update the existing TSP's goals, priorities, strategies, and projects to ensure that the TSP best reflects Tualatin's current and future needs.

What is informing the TSP update?

In addition to community and Council input, the development of the 2045 TSP is informed by various state, regional, and local plans and regulations. This includes the new requirements provided by the State of Oregon's Climate-Friendly and Equitable Communities (CFEC) rules, which, like the City's own Climate Action Plan, are intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation. It emphasizes the need for a balanced transportation system that considers all modes of travel, and closely coordinates with county, regional, and state partners that are essential for integrating Tualatin's transportation system into the broader network.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The 2045 TSP studied how the transportation system operates by documenting the existing transportation infrastructure and identifying infrastructure gaps or deficiencies. Future transportation needs were identified by assessing current conditions, planned investments, and anticipated population and employment growth (both locally and regionally). This assessment was informed by input from the community, a Community Advisory Committee, City Council, public feedback, technical advice, and issues highlighted in other plans and studies. Many of the roadway policies and projects from the 2014 TSP have been carried over into this plan with updates, such as changes to road types and travel speeds.

However, a major focus of the 2045 TSP is enhancing facilities for active transportation modes—like walking and bicycling—and improving connections to transit. The goal is to create a more complete, integrated transportation network across Tualatin.

The TSP is included in Exhibit 1 and is organized into the following chapters:

- Chapter 1: Provides background and introduction.
- Chapter 2: Details the public involvement and stakeholder feedback gathered during the development of the TSP.
- Chapter 3: Includes the goals and policies crafted to guide the city's long-range transportation vision.
- Chapter 4: Discusses the TSP's findings and recommendations for each transportation mode. It outlines current conditions and future needs for pedestrians, cyclists, transit users, drivers, and systems like transportation demand management.
- Chapter 5: Covers the financial aspects of the TSP, outlining how the projects and improvements will be funded.
- Chapter 6: Provides a recommended project list.
- Chapter 7: Includes performance measures for tracking progress over time.

Public Engagement:

The City of Tualatin engaged over 2,000 residents, businesses, and visitors in different activities and events between August 2023 and August 2024. Engagement was organized into four different phases:

1. Recruit- Build our project contact list and awareness of the TSP
2. Listen and Learn- Broad engagement, focus groups, workshop, awareness campaign, survey
3. Reflect- Connect the dots. What did we hear? Share draft project recommendations.
4. Refine- Share the draft plan and updated project recommendations. Are we on track? What did we miss?

A variety of public involvement methods were used in the development and review of the 2045 TSP including: Community members participated in the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and in focus groups;

- Agency representatives aided and reviewed through the Technical Advisory Group (TAG);
- In-person and virtual events and online surveys allowed for broader engagement with the wider community; and
- Targeted outreach was conducted through both digital and printed advertisements, as well as through conversations with community liaisons.

Public Comment:

A number of public comments were received and are included as Exhibit 2. A large number of comments include consideration to remove the proposed traffic signal at Tualatin Road and SW 115th Avenue. Additional concerns include:

- The reclassification of Leveton Drive from minor arterial to collector and Tualatin Road from major collector to arterial
- Increased cut-through traffic in the surrounding neighborhoods
- Increased traffic near the Hazelbrook Middle School zone
- Neighborhood safety and potential pollution from vehicle traffic

Staff have included an analysis in support of retaining the planned traffic signal as a future project (Exhibit 3). The traffic signal was identified in the 2014 TSP. The 2045 TSP studied current and forecasted traffic volumes

and found that a traffic signal at the intersection of Tualatin Road with 115th Avenue would be an appropriate traffic control device due to anticipated growth of traffic volumes and worsening ability for vehicles to make turns over the 20-year planning period. More specifically, the signal would serve to address difficulties for drivers turning left from 115th Avenue onto Tualatin Road and for pedestrians to cross Tualatin Road at this location.

A public comment was also received that expressed:

- Interest in maintaining local vehicular access in the Basalt Creek area. In response, staff notes that Map 8-3 (Local Street Plan) provides minimum local street connectivity and that no updates to this map are proposed by the TSP amendments.
- Concerns regarding the location of trails in the Basalt Creek area. In response, staff notes that Map 8-4 (Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan) and Map 72-2 (Greenway Development Plan) identify approximate locations of trails and pathways and no updates in the Basalt Creek area are proposed by the TSP amendments.
- Concerns regarding the specific policies, criteria and assessment used to evaluate the 2045 TSP. In response, staff notes that the 2045 TSP was evaluated for conformance against all applicable state, regional, and local criteria. A draft set of findings demonstrating conformance was provided to the Planning Commission and a final set of findings will be included with the City Council adoption materials.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

The Planning Commission made a unanimous recommendation that City Council approve the 2045 TSP as proposed. The Planning Commission also made a second advisory motion to the City Council in consideration of concerns from the Riverpark CIO regarding traffic issues at the intersection of 115th Avenue and Tualatin Road. The Planning Commission recommended that involvement of the surrounding neighborhood in the future planning to design and construct intersection improvements.

CLIMATE IMPLICATIONS:

The amendments support several of Tualatin's Climate Action Plan (CAP) strategies, including:

- **Action 5.1.6** Develop a decision matrix to consider alternatives to roadway widening to ease traffic congestion.
- **Action 5.2.6** Update code to increase the planter width to a minimum of 5 feet wide for street trees.
- **Action 6.2.1** Update the Transportation System Plan (TSP) to increase the use of active transportation options.
- **Action 6.2.2** Update the Transportation System Plan (TSP) to increase the use of electric micromobility options.
- **Action 6.2.3** Prioritize building and completing transportation projects that enhance bicycle, pedestrian, and transit access in Tualatin included in the updated Transportation System Plan.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The TSP identifies potential future federal, state, regional, and local funding sources to support projects, as well as on-going operations and maintenance in Exhibit 1, Chapter 6. Examples of transportation funding include the State Highway Fund, Transportation Development Tax, and Road Utility Fees. The state requires a TSP to identify a financially constrained project list that can total up to 125% of projected revenues for transportation. With revenue estimated at \$151.53 million over the planning horizon, the list can total no more than \$189.41 million. The 2045 TSP project list contains 114 projects with a total projected cost of \$179 million, which is broken down into \$71.7 million in Complete Streets projects, \$106.8 million in Active Transportation projects, and \$500,000 in Transit projects.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Presentation

Exhibit 1 – 2045 Transportation System Plan

Exhibit 1a – Technical Appendices

Exhibit 2 – Public Comments

Exhibit 3 – Traffic Signal Analysis