



City Council Workshop Agenda

April 28, 2026 at 6:30 PM

City Hall Council Chambers - 210 W 6th Ave and Virtual


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1. Presentation: Tri-Cities National Park Committee
 2. Comprehensive Plan Update: Transportation Element & Transportation System Plan

Council Agenda Coversheet	Item Number: 1. Date: 4/28/2026	Category: Info Only
	Item Type: Presentation Subject: Presentation: Tri-Cities National Park Committee Department: City Manager	
Summary Becky Burghart, Hanford Site Manager for the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, and Brent Gerry, former West Richland Mayor and Chair of the Tri-Cities National Park Committee, will provide a brief, informative presentation sharing information about the Tri-City National Park Committee, highlighting past projects, and educating attendees about the park's history, significance, and importance.		
Attachments: 1. Presentation 2. Information 3. Clipping		

Manhattan Project National Historical Park Tri-Cities National Park Committee



Manhattan Project National Historical Park



- Established in 2015 to preserve and interpret the nationally significant historic sites, stories, and legacies associated with the top-secret race to develop an atomic weapon during WWII and provides access to these sites consistent with the mission of the Department of Energy.
- The park is co-managed with the National Park Service & Department of Energy
- Park has operations in Hanford (Tri-Cities), WA; Los Alamos, NM; and Oak Ridge, TN.



A Community Effort



Tri-Cities National Park Committee



- The TCNPC began meeting in early 2015. Visit Tri-Cities, the region's destination marketing organization, serves as the convener for the committee, while the committee functions as a key point of contact for the National Park Service (NPS) and Department of Energy (DOE), offering assistance and advocacy.



Committee Members



The TCNPC meets on a quarterly basis and has historically been comprised of:

- Four City Mayors
- Benton and Franklin Counties
- Port of Benton
- B Reactor Museum Association
- TRIDEC
- Visit Tri-Cities
- WSU Tri-Cities Hanford History Project
- Hanford Communities
- REACH Museum
- Richland Public Library

Representation from:

- DOE + NPS
- Congressional Delegation Staff -
 - Senator Cantwell, Senator Murray, and Representative Newhouse

TCNP Committee Accomplishments



**TRI-CITIES
NATIONAL
PARK
COMMITTEE**



February 8, 2021

Mr. Chaun Benjamin
Government Services Administration
Regional Headquarters Building
400 15th Street SW
Auburn, WA 98001

Dear Mr. Benjamin:

RE: Support of Washington State Attorney General Save the State of Washington Archives

The Tri-Cities Manhattan Project National Historical Park Committee fully supports the twenty-nine federally recognized tribes, tribal communities, the State of Oregon, and the nine community organizations who have partnered with the Washington State Attorney General's office lawsuit to save the National Archives and Record Administration's (NARA) building in Seattle from being sold.

In brief, the case for preserving the National Archive in Seattle boils down to three essential considerations: ancestry, accessibility, and accountability.

- The Seattle facility houses original and important federal records for four states— Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Alaska—and our region's first people, dating back more than 150 years. These records represent the history of the Pacific Northwest, our history, and they belong here with us.
- According to NARA, just ".001% of the facility's 56,000 cubic feet of records are digitized and available online." With so few of its holdings available digitally, removal of physical archival records to Riverside, CA and Kansas City, MO would effectively eliminate access to these resources for whom they are most valuable: researchers, historians, and individuals seeking greater understanding of our region's history and heritage.
- As access to public records and other historical documents is a cornerstone of transparency and accountability, restricting availability to these archival materials would most certainly serve to further erode public trust in state and federal leadership.

The archive is home to many of the most important records relating to the history of the Manhattan Project and its many legacies. For this reason, keeping the Seattle facility is of particular importance to this community and to the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, Hanford Unit, which works closely with this committee. These records are instrumental to the National Park Service's efforts to tell the whole story of what was arguably the most important event of the last century, not only for our community, but for our country and for the entire world. In addition, they remain a vital resource for scholars, historians, writers, and public policy experts interested in better understanding how government, scientists, academics, and industry came together to launch the nuclear age that we are living in today. The Hanford History Project is a partnership between the U.S. Department of Energy and Washington State University (WSU) that is responsible for archiving and digitizing Manhattan Project History. Loss of these records during relocation is of great concern and we request that at a minimum they be retained for digitization.

The Tri-Cities National Park Committee is made up to the Tri-Cities cities of Kennewick, Pasco, West Richland and Richland, Benton County, Visit Tri-Cities, TRIDEC, Hanford History Project, B Reactor Museum Association, and the Port of Benton. We get monthly updates from U.S. Department of Energy on facilities and tours and from National Park



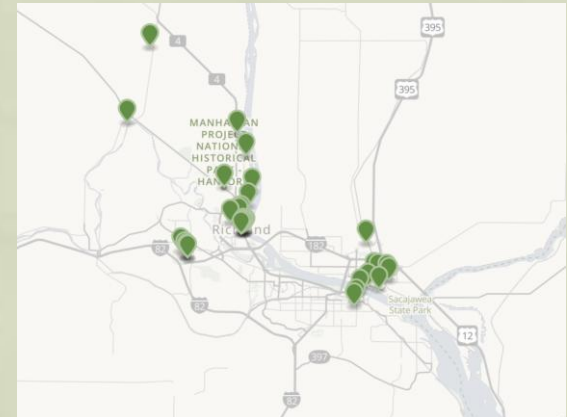
NATIONAL
ARCHIVES



TCNP Committee Goals for 2026 & Beyond



- B Reactor Grand Re-Opening
- American WWII Heritage City Designation Promotion
- River, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA)
- Community Visioning and Analysis of STEM Assets
- Preservation of Pre-Manhattan Assets
- Park Boundary Expansion



Where is MPNHP Park?



B Reactor



Hanford High School



MPNHP is a Community-Based Park



- Historic buildings and districts within each of the communities share the social history as much as the B Reactor shares the science and technology history. Collaborating with partners leverages limited resources and staffing.



Community Resources & Story Telling



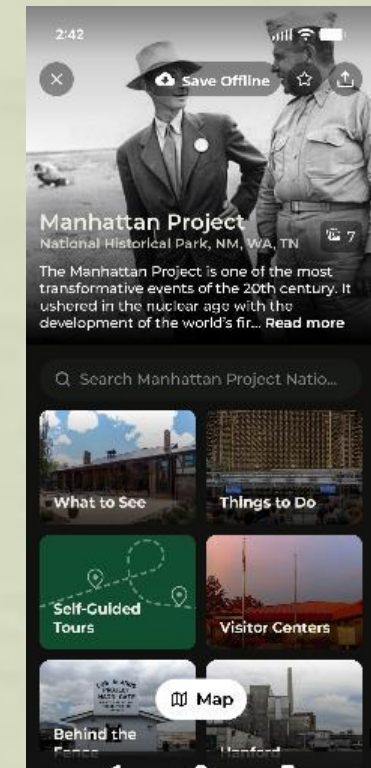
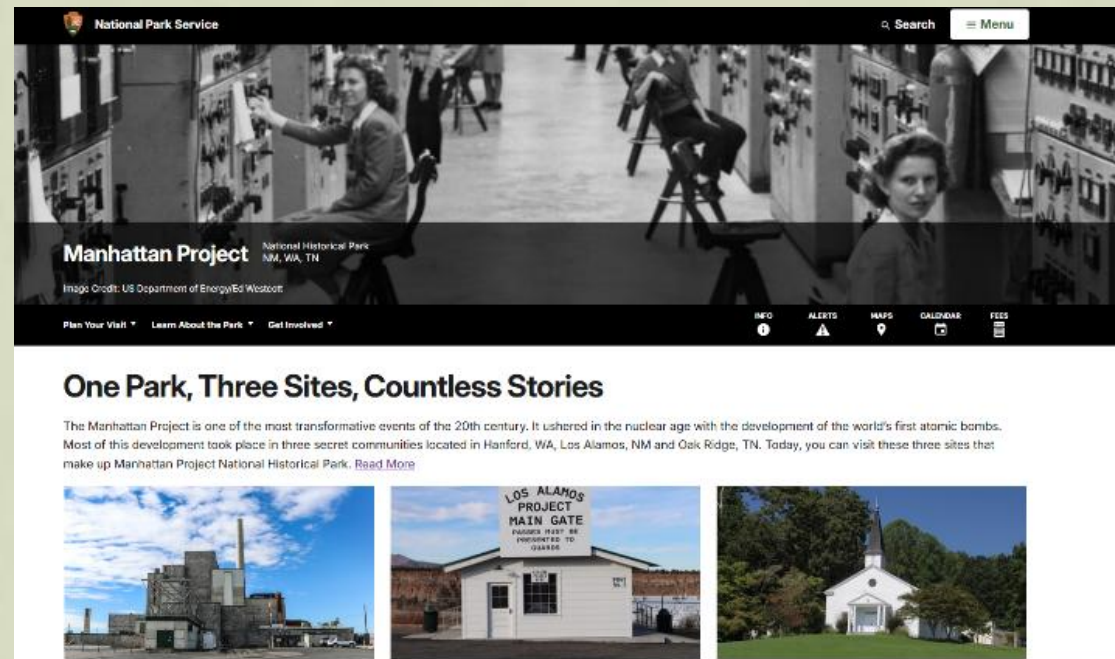
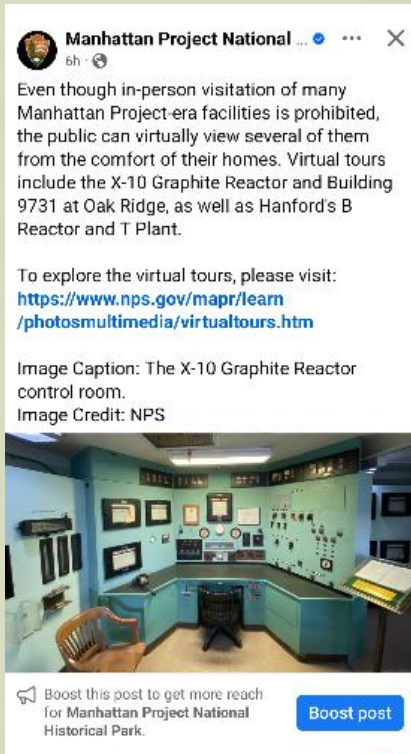
- Community resources and interpretive story telling are woven together in a variety of ranger programs including walking tours, bike rides, hikes, and special events to share this history that is hidden in plain sight.



Digital Platforms



- The park leverages social media and the park website and digital app to connect with people around the world. Staff use digital platforms to provide trip planning information, opportunities to learn about the Manhattan Project, and to provide access to historic facilities.



Expanding Partnerships



- The Tri-Cities is home to 4 National Parks, Monuments and Trails
 - Manhattan Project NHP
 - Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail
 - Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail
 - Hanford Reach National Monument
- We are partnering with the REACH Museum to increase public understanding of the Ice Age Floods, Lewis and Clark Expedition, Manhattan Project, and the shrub steppe ecosystem in the Tri-Cities region.



Final Thoughts & Questions





Tri-Cities National Park Committee

Supporting the Continued Success of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park

What is the Tri-Cities National Park Committee?

The Tri-Cities National Park Committee (TCNPC) is a regional leadership and advocacy group that serves as a central point of coordination between the community and federal partners.

- Acts as a key liaison to the National Park Service (NPS) and Department of Energy (DOE).
- Provides advocacy, alignment, and local leadership to ensure the success of Manhattan Project National Historical Park.
- Convened by Visit Tri-Cities, the region's destination marketing organization.

How Was It Formed?

- The TCNPC began meeting in early 2015, alongside the establishment of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park.
- Formed through a collaborative local effort, led by:
 - by Steve Young (former Mayor of Kennewick), Gary Petersen with TRIDEC, and the Mayors of Pasco, Richland, and West Richland.
- Purpose: The Committee formed to provide a point of contact for the National Park Service and the Department of Energy as well as to offer assistance and advocacy to ensure that the Manhattan Project National Historical Park is a great success.

Who is at the Table?

A broad coalition representing government, tourism, history, and economic development. The TCNPC meets on a quarterly basis and has historically been comprised of:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Four City Mayors (Kennewick, Pasco, Richland and West Richland)• Benton and Franklin Counties• Port of Benton• B Reactor Museum Association• TRIDEC• Visit Tri-Cities• WSU Tri-Cities Hanford History Project• Hanford Communities• REACH Museum• Richland Public Library | <p>Representation from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DOE + NPS• Congressional Delegation Staff:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senator Cantwell, Senator Murray, and Representative Newhouse |
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Key Accomplishments

- Letter supporting the National Archives and Record Administration's (NARA) building in Seattle from being sold.
- Submitted Appropriations Request to Senator Cantwell and Senator Murray to fund critical work to preserve the B Reactor including the current roof project.
- Submitted an application for the NPS American World War II Heritage City Designation. The Tri-Cities was designated a Heritage City in late 2022. Only one city per state is awarded this recognition.
 - Visit Tri-Cities continues work on a new webpage to highlight and celebrate the Tri-Cities' designation as an American World War II Heritage City.
 - The new site will connect visitors and residents to locations throughout the Tri-Cities through window clings and use of QR codes.
 - Grant funding from the National WWII Museum in Louisiana and funds designated by Visit Tri-Cities, are supporting the creation and installation of signage throughout the community to help raise awareness of the designation and further celebrate this important part of our region's history.

Goals Moving Forward (2026 & Beyond)

The committee is focused on long-term growth and preservation.

- B Reactor Grand Re-Opening (target: 2028)
- Promote and leverage WWII Heritage City designation
- Rivers, Trails & Conservation Assistance (RTCA) Program
- Community Visioning and Analysis of STEM Assets
- Preservation of Pre-Manhattan Assets
- Park Boundary Expansion

Why It Matters

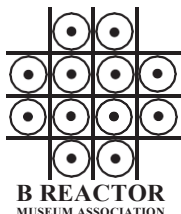
The Tri-Cities sits at the center of a nationally significant story.

Through coordinated leadership and advocacy, the TCNPC helps:

- Strengthen tourism and economic development
- Preserve globally important history
- Position the Tri-Cities as a nationally and internationally recognized heritage destination

The Tri-Cities National Park Committee is administered by Visit Tri-Cities. For additional information, please contact the Tri-Cities Visitor Center at 509-735-8486/info@VisitTri-Cities.com.

**TRI-CITIES
NATIONAL
PARK
COMMITTEE**



February 8, 2021

Mr. Chaun Benjamin
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- According to NARA, just “.001% of the facility's 56,000 cubic feet of records are digitized and available online.” With so few of its holdings available digitally, removal of physical archival records to Riverside, CA and Kansas City, MO would effectively eliminate access to these resources for whom they are most valuable: researchers, historians, and individuals seeking greater understanding of our region's history and heritage.
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Service on education and interpretation. Interest in visiting Hanford's national park facilities continues to grow due to the significance of the Manhattan Project and the Cold War. Prior to COVID, the Tri-Cities community hosted about 15,000 national park visitors to Hanford each year, and WSU held national seminars and ongoing education related to the archives. These activities help the public understand not only Hanford's history, but the legacy waste resulting from Hanford's defense role, and the importance of cleaning up the Hanford Site.

For all these reasons, we strongly support the Attorney General's coalition to save the State of Washington archives and agree that the federal government's consultation process was not followed, and this transaction should not proceed without full consultation with all tribal nations, local communities and families who desire access to their historical heritage. In addition, we urge the State of Washington to view this proposed action as causing a loss of ongoing academic scholarship on Hanford, and a loss of potential economic activity associated with bringing interested parties from around the world to Washington State to learn about the Manhattan Project.

Sincerely,



Mayor Brent Gerry, Committee Chairman
City of West Richland



Mayor Saul Martinez, Committee Vice-Chairman
City of Pasco



Mayor Don Britain
City of Kennewick



Mayor Ryan Lukson
City of Richland

cc: U.S. Senator Patty Murray
U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell
U.S. Congressman Dan Newhouse
Washington State Attorney General Bob Ferguson



2026 Ranger Programs



Manhattan Project National Historical Park Tri-Cities, Washington

Hike Through Time

May 16 | 9:00–11:00 am & Oct. 24 | 12:00–2:00 pm
Candy Mountain Trailhead, Richland

Discover the interconnected stories of Indigenous peoples, Ice Age floods, Lewis & Clark Expedition, settlers, and the Manhattan Project in the mid-Columbia River Region on this 3.6-mile guided hike up Candy Mountain.

Atomic Explorations

May 25–Sept. 5 | Monday–Saturday | 2:00–3:00 pm
Manhattan Project NHP Visitor Center, Richland

Explore the history, science, and people of the Manhattan Project. Delve into the events that culminated in the development and deployment of the world's first atomic bombs during World War II.

Ride with a Ranger

June 13 | 9:00–12:00 pm & Oct. 17 | 10:00–1:00 pm
Tennis Courts, Leslie Groves Park, Richland

Explore the secret city built for Manhattan Project workers. Discover stories and landscapes hidden in plain sight. Ride along bike paths and city streets to the REACH Museum. Attend a ranger talk before returning to the start location. Reservations required.

Schedules are subject to change. Activities may be cancelled. All programs are free. Visit www.nps.gov/mapr for more information.



Download the official **NPS app!** Search for Manhattan Project National Historic Park. Find self-guided tours, things to do, and places to visit. The NPS app is your guide to discovering World War II history in the Tri-Cities.



Department of Energy Pre-WWII Historic Facilities Tours

Fridays, Saturdays, & Holidays | May 1–Sept. 26
Manhattan Project NHP Visitor Center, Richland

Tour is 4 hours. Start times vary. Reservations required.



any weapon involving a reaction among atomic nuclei. An atomic bomb is one kind of nuclear bomb; a hydrogen (or thermonuclear) bomb is another kind that's more powerful.

1939: As World War II begins in Europe, physicist Albert Einstein hears whispers that Nazi Germany may be building the first atomic bomb. He sends a letter to President Franklin D. Roosevelt suggesting the U.S. mount an atomic effort of its own. Roosevelt replies but does nothing.

1941: Japan bombs U.S. Navy ships in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, drawing the U.S. into war. About the same time, Roosevelt authorizes the Manhattan Engineer District, later known as the Manhattan Project, a team of scientists working on an atomic bomb.

1943: Manhattan Project construction begins at Hanford, Wash.; Oak Ridge, Tenn.; and Los Alamos, N.M.

May 7, 1945: Germany surrenders to the Allies, having failed to develop an atomic bomb.

July 16, 1945: The Trinity Test in Alamogordo, N.M., detonates a plutonium-powered bomb, the world's first atomic bomb detonation.

Aug. 6, 1945: Authorized by President Harry S. Truman, a U.S. B-29 drops an atomic bomb nicknamed "Little Boy" on Hiroshima, Japan. The bomb's uranium core, fabricated at Oak Ridge, unleashes a 12.5-kiloton explosion, killing an estimated 40,000 people in 1945 and 60,000 more in the next five years.

Aug. 9, 1945: A U.S. B-29 drops a second atomic bomb — plutonium-powered and nicknamed "Fat Man" — on Nagasaki, Japan. The weapon unleashes a 22-kiloton explosion, killing an estimated 70,000 people in 1945 and 70,000 more in the next five years.

Aug. 15, 1945: Japan announces its surrender, ending World War II. Later, many public officials and historians contend that the bombs hastened the war's end, saving hundreds of thousands of lives that would have been lost in a ground invasion of Japan.

1949: Soviet Union detonates its first atomic bomb.

1952: Britain tests its first atomic bomb in Australia.

1960: France conducts its first nuclear test in the Sahara Desert in Algeria.

1964: China explodes its first atomic bomb.

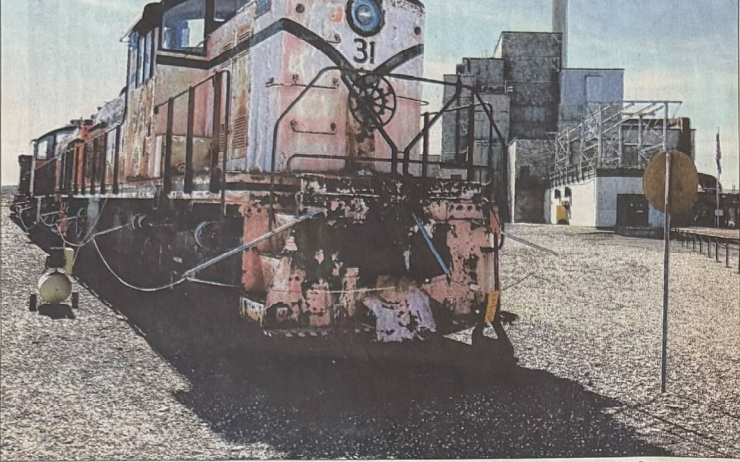
1968: The five "nuclear club" nations agree not to transfer nuclear weapons technology to non-nuclear nations. Passing along nuclear energy technology is another matter, permitted with inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

May 1998: India and Pakistan conduct nuclear weapons tests.

2016: The U.S., Russia, Britain, France, China, India, Pakistan and Israel have nuclear bombs, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute. (The organization says North Korea has nuclear capabilities but may not have a warhead that a ballistic missile can carry.)

—CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS

Sources: Historic American Engineering Record, Hanford Cultural and Historical Resources Program, U.S. Department of Energy, www.llnl.gov, www.wa.gov, Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, www.thebulletin.org, www.atomicarchive.com, International Atomic Energy Agency, www.iaea.org, Council on Foreign Relations, www.cfr.org, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, www.sipri.org



THE TRAIN that once hauled radioactive material sits next to the decommissioned B Reactor at the new Manhattan Project National Historical Park in Washington state. The reactor made plutonium for the nuclear bomb dropped on Nagasaki, Japan, in 1945.

HISTORY LESSONS

By CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS >>> On our last family road trip to the Pacific Northwest, my wife and I drove a big loop with our daughter, then 6. We hit Seattle and the Canadian provinces of British Columbia and Alberta. On the way south toward Portland, we stopped at Walla Walla in southeastern Washington. Nice people, pleasant wineries. ¶ At no point did I think, "Wait! We're only two hours from the cradle of the atomic bomb!" ¶ But now that I've spent a few days nosing around the Hanford Site of the new Manhattan Project National Historical Park — and now that my daughter is nearly 12 — I think differently.

I'd like to do that drive again and add the Hanford B Reactor (100 miles west of Walla Walla) to the itinerary. This is the reactor that made the plutonium that powered the bomb the U.S. dropped in 1945 on Nagasaki, Japan. The National Park Service and Department of Energy are working together now to reinvent the site as a sort of classroom, a place that will get families talking about World War II, the Cold War, physics, teamwork, politics, morality and perspective.

Wait, some readers may be tempted to say. If this is a national park unit, shouldn't there be a waterfall somewhere?

Actually, no. Alongside its dozens of vast beauty spots, the National Park Service operates a growing number of parks and monuments that are more about education than recreation.

Every one of the agency's Civil War battlefields raises questions just as grave as those found at Hanford. Then there's the national monument at Pearl Harbor, where Japan's attack forced this country into World War II, and Manzanar National Historic Site, where the U.S. confined Japanese Americans for the duration of that war.

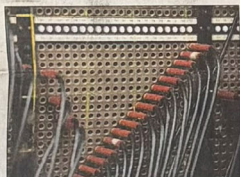
To help us understand troubles of more recent vintage, there's Pennsylvania's Flight 93 National Memorial, where the park service opened a visitor center in September.

It's no easy job, teaching American history. But it's a responsibility the park service claimed decades ago, with backing from Congress and several presidents. And for parents whose kids are ready to start confronting the world's complexities, these historical parks are a chance to do that together.

Which brings me back to southern Washington. I wouldn't make it the centerpiece of a vacation. But as a side trip? Yes.

It's a pleasure to race the tumbleweeds across the wide plains near Richland, Pasco and Kennewick, Wash., to scan the vineyards on the rolling hills and see the sun glinting off the Columbia River. And if I had the whole family along, I'd be sure to remind them that just a few miles away, cleanup workers deal with the byproduct of Hanford's atomic era.

As author Blaine Harden writes in "A River Lost," this stretch of the Columbia is "a fine



A PANEL at the B Reactor at the Hanford Site is part of atomic bomb history.

MORE ON PARKS

As the National Park Service celebrates its 100th anniversary, the Travel section is exploring some of its 411 units in a yearlong series of stories. Readers have shared memories too. You can watch videos, see photos and more at tntimes.com/nationalparks.

place to see an eagle hunt, deer graze, or fish spawn. But best not to drink the groundwater for a quarter million years."

On the floor of the B Reactor, a docent would tell us about physics, logistics and the vast power of the atomic weapon. And I would throw some grown-up questions at my daughter.

Would you drop a bomb that could kill 50,000 people? What if it might save 300,000 others? How about 5 million others?

What if you learned after the fact that you had helped build the first atomic weapons? What if you built deadly weapons that led to a delicate global balance that has lasted decades? Would that make them instruments of peace?

Up to now at Hanford, tough questions about casualties and ethics haven't been encouraged by the Department of Energy, which

owns the site and will continue to share responsibilities. On my visit in March, I heard park service interpretive specialists nudging Hanford's docents (many of them retired Hanford scientists and engineers) to reach beyond the protons and neutrons — and still avoid personal opinions.

It was fascinating to hear. Then within days of my return from Washington, Shigeo Sasamori gave me her perspective on Hanford — a ground-zero perspective.

Sasamori was a 13-year-old in Hiroshima, Japan, on Aug. 8, 1945. As she recalls it, she spotted the American bomber in the morning sky and was pointing it out to a friend when the bomb called "Little Boy" detonated.

Her friend was killed — one of an estimated 40,000 people who died in the short term. Sasamori suffered burns on more than 25% of her body. She endured dozens of skin grafts, some paid for by charity campaigns in the U.S.

She eventually became a nurse, mother, grandmother and peace activist in the U.S.

Now 83, she lives in Marina del Rey. She told me that she likes the idea of a Manhattan Project historical park — "if they make people understand how dangerous radiation is." But if the tours focus only on physics and American teamwork, she said, "that's a horrible thing."

The message Sasamori would deliver? "Evil weapons made here. So don't make any more."

"This got me thinking. What if guides in the U.S., Hiroshima and Nagasaki teamed up to tell stories together, or to build electronic links between Hanford and Pearl Harbor?"

I'll hope for programming that provocative. Although I know the Manhattan Project park will never match the attendance at the parks with epic mountains and charismatic beasts, it's a great American opportunity to visit a place like this, stretch beyond our usual horizons and perhaps even learn what it's like to stand at both ends of an atomic bombing mission.

If a family can fit a day like that into a week of sixth-grade vacation, why not? On the way back south, Yosemite will still be there.

christopher.reynolds@latimes.com
Twitter: @mcreynolds

MANHATTAN PROJECT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK has the delicate task of detailing the country's atomic bomb history.

By CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS

MANHATTAN PROJECT NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, Wash. — On a spring morning in high, dry southern Washington, a bright yellow bus rumbled to a stop in a lot at the Hanford Site near the Columbia River. The fourth-graders of Orchard Elementary School in nearby Richland, Wash., were about to see one of this nation's newest historical parks, surrounded by a valley filled with sagebrush, eagles and elk.

When the bus door opened, the kids rushed straight into a metal-and-concrete box of a building, nearly 100 feet tall, neighbored by a 200-foot exhaust stack topped by a wind-whipped American flag. Inside, looming like a Borg ship in "Star Trek," stood a massive cube of graphite bricks and aluminum tubes.

"Welcome to the B Reactor," said docent David Marsh. Then he explained how in this room American scientists made "the nuclear weapon" that was used to end World War II.

"Fat Man," the atomic bomb that detonated on Aug. 9, 1945, over Nagasaki, Japan, originated here. The National Park Service, best known for its stewardship of peaks and valleys, is taking on the job of explaining how and why the U.S. built and used the deadliest weapons ever turned against mankind.

The Manhattan Project National Historical Park, established in November, is a joint effort by the park service and the U.S. Department of Energy. Besides the Hanford Site, it includes Oak Ridge, Tenn., where the enriched uranium that fueled the Hiroshima bomb was produced, and Los Alamos, N.M. (where bombs and components were designed and assembled).

Congress voted in 2014 to create this park, and park service leaders describe it as a chance to explore history that not only shaped the end of World War II but also the advance of science and at least half a century of geopolitics.

"It changed the world," said Anne Vargas, an Energy Department docent whose father worked at Hanford.

The B Reactor is the park's focal point in Hanford and the only structure most visitors will enter. The building had stood idle since 1968 and was slated for closure until the B-Reactor Museum Assn., led by retired Hanford scientists and engineers, launched a preservation campaign. The association also built models on display at the reactor and made videos detailing the science and history behind the structure.

To see, you reserve a seat on an official tour bus and meet at the Hanford visitor center in Richland. The bus ride into the restricted site takes about an hour; visitors typically spend about two hours at the reactor with a docent. Another tour focuses on remnants of communities that the secret project quietly displaced. This year, for the first time, all ages are welcome.

"OMG," said one boy, facing the heart of the reactor, which is known as the "Isle."

So, Marsh asked the fourth-graders, "what does a reactor do?"

"It makes plutonium to make atomic bombs," said one boy.

"What would you use to make the plutonium?" asked student Gloria Curidad.

"Uranium," another docent answered.

So eager to learn

The reactor tours, often led by docents retired from jobs at the Hanford Site, have a hot ticket among local families since the Energy Department started offering them in 2009. This year's four-season continues until Nov. 19.

"Does that red light always flash?" asked a mom, Colleen Lane, eyeing the equipment. (The answer was yes. The reactor is monitored 24 hours a day to make sure radiation remains at "background levels.")

"Do you know what nuclear fission is?" asked docent Marty Zizzi.

Another boy raised his hand, then froze.

"I forget," he said. "We just learned it yesterday."

"We've been talking about it for a



FOURTH-GRADERS from a Richland, Wash., school tour the B Reactor at the Manhattan Project National Historical Park.

ONE PARK, THREE SITES

Besides the Hanford Site, the Manhattan Project National Historical Park (www.nps.gov/mapr) includes two locations that are owned and operated by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The Los Alamos, N.M., site (www.nps.gov/mapr/losalamos.htm), which sits on a plateau 33 miles northwest of Santa Fe, includes three main areas within Los Alamos National Laboratory. At the Gun Site several buildings are associated with the design of the "Little Boy" bomb dropped in August 1945 on Hiroshima, Japan. At the Y-12 site two buildings were used in assembly of the Trinity Test bomb detonated in New Mexico in July 1945. The Palisades Site was used for plutonium chemistry research during World War II, then weapon assembly in postwar years. No tours are offered, and there's no public access to Energy Department facilities. The neighboring town of Los Alamos includes the Bradbury Science Museum (www.llnl.gov/museum), which tells the history of the laboratory and the Manhattan Project. Atomic history also is a dominant feature of Los Alamos walking tours (www.llnl.gov/museum/historic-walking-tour). Also in New Mexico but not included in the Manhattan Project park are the Army-controlled White Sands Missile Range (which includes the Trinity Test

site, open to the public twice yearly; www.llnl.ms/MDY/P2), and the adjacent White Sands National Monument, www.llnl.ms/1WqJXkX.

The Oak Ridge, Tenn., site (www.nps.gov/mapr/oakridge.htm), a city and industrial complex 25 miles west of Knoxville, was home to more than 75,000 people. Locations there include Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the X-10 Graphite Reactor (which produced small amounts of plutonium), the Y-12 Complex (home to the electromagnetic separate process for uranium enrichment) and the site of the K-25 Building (where gaseous diffusion uranium enrichment technology was pioneered). Uranium for the Hiroshima bomb was enriched in the Y-12 Complex and K-25 Building. Those sites are included on a DOE bus tour (open to U.S. citizens only) that's offered March through November, two to five days a week. The tour is included in the \$5-per-adult entrance fee to Oak Ridge's American Museum of Science & Energy (amse.org). Since early this year park's service rangers have been answering questions at the museum.

—CHRISTOPHER REYNOLDS

national Park Complex. "I had goose bumps all over."

Just down the hall from the pile is the control room, with a central seat for the reactor operator, surrounded by dials, monitors and wiring.

"You guys know 'The Simpsons' on TV?" asked Marsh. "You know how Homer Simpson operates his nuclear reactor from his seat? This is the seat he would be in."

Later, somebody pulled the kids together for a group picture and hollered, "Smile and say, 'B Reactor!'"

Having conversations

Nobody asked about the atomic bombs' effects in Japan. Nor were death or injury statistics offered. In fact, the 28-page document that docents use as their main source doesn't include information on deaths and destruction.

But now, said Kirk Christensen, manager of B Reactor preservation for Energy Department contractor Mission Support Alliance, "we're going to have these conversations."

With about 12,500 visitors expected this year, the Energy Department is footing the costs of the Hanford tour program while the park service waits to see how much funding the next federal budget will include. Tracy Atkins, interim superintendent of the Manhattan Project park, said she would make her first hire soon.

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TIPS FOR VISITORS

How to get to the Hanford Site: The interim visitor center for the Manhattan Project National Historical Park at the Hanford Site — where bus tours to the B Reactor begin — is at 2000 Logston Blvd., Richland, Wash., 15 miles west of Pasco. Tri-Cities Airport in Pasco, Wash.



are no unusual radiation levels on the tour route, but the Department of Energy requires parents of minors to sign a liability release acknowledging that the B Reactor is "a radiologically controlled area."

Sleep: Marriott Courtyard Richland Columbia Point, 480 Columbia Point Drive, Richland; (609) 942-9400; www.marriott.com. Pleasant location. Rooms for two typically \$160-\$175.

Best time to visit: Late spring and early fall, when afternoon highs are usually below 90°.



CITY OF KENNEWICK TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS PLAN UPDATE

April 2026



AGENDA

1. Project Overview & Key Updates
2. Multimodal System Plans
3. Levels of Service
4. Travel Forecasts
5. Project Needs
6. Next Steps & Questions

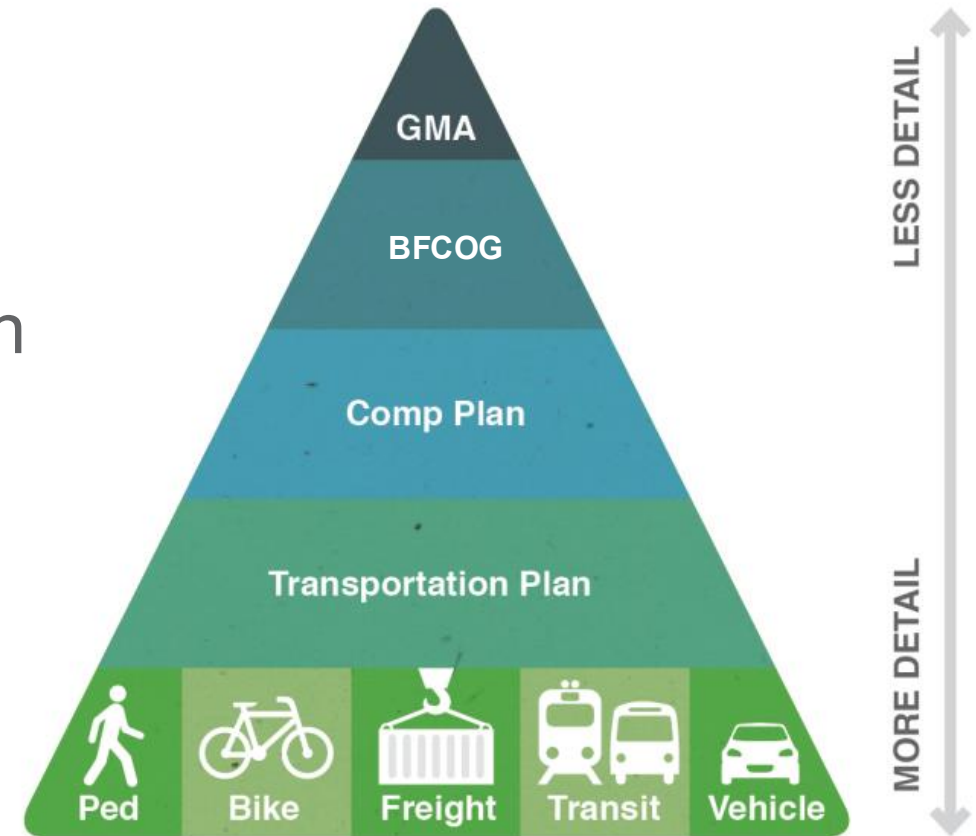


PROJECT OVERVIEW

One of the key objectives of the TSP update is to align with the updated Comprehensive Plan

Key Touchpoints between the Comp Plan and TSP

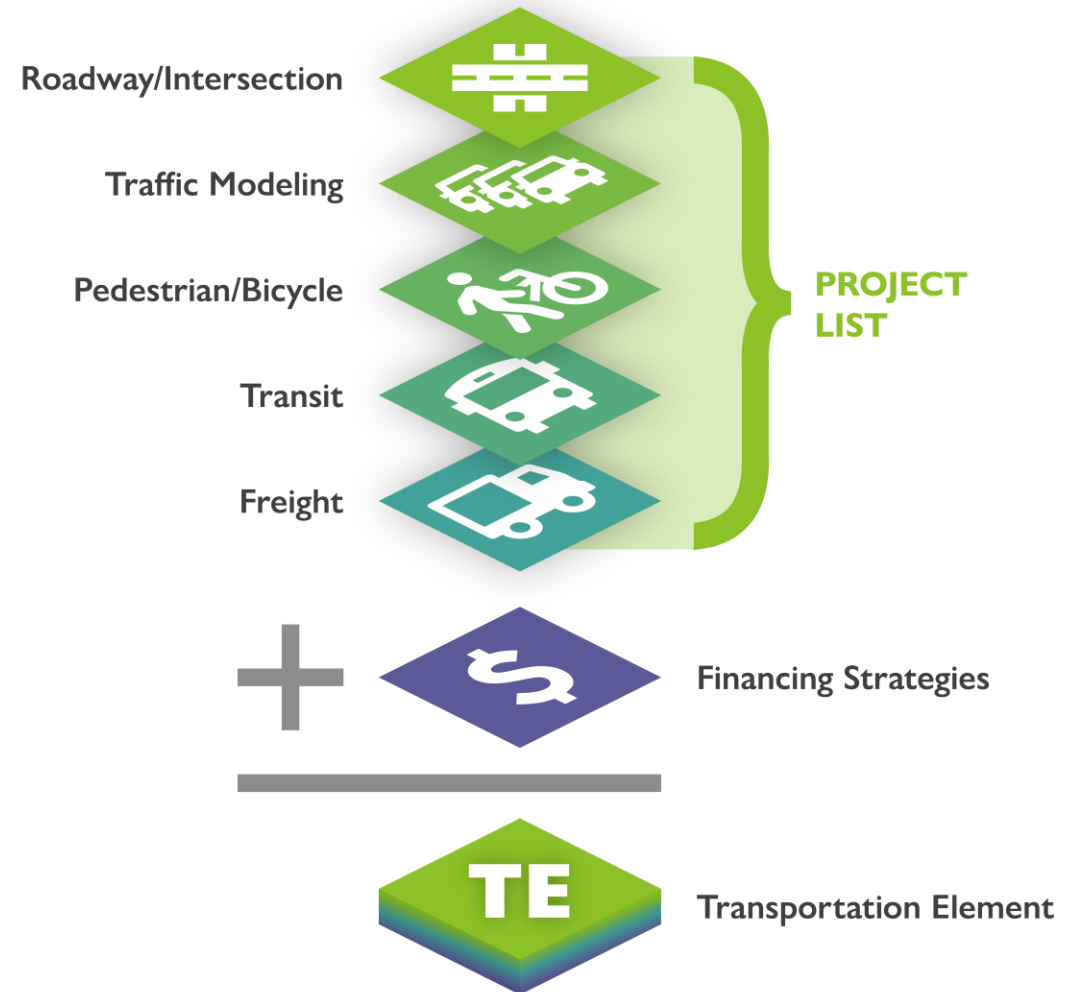
- Land Use
- Outreach & Public Engagement
- Goals & Policies
- Plan Adoption



KEY PLAN UPDATES

What's Different from the Existing Plan?

- Last updated in 2018
- Land use projections to 2046
- New multimodal LOS standards
- Updated
 - Goals & policies
 - System maps
 - Project list and costs
 - Funding strategies



BALANCING THE PLAN

MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENTS

- Improve corridors
- Improve intersections
- Pedestrian, bicycle, transit
- Maintenance & preservation

LEVELS OF SERVICE / CONCURRENCY

- Maintain LOS standards
- Measures adequacy of facilities/services
- Timing of facilities/services



FINANCE

- Existing/historical transportation revenues
- Grants
- Impact fees

SCHEDULE/PUBLIC OUTREACH

Spring 2025

- Project Kick-off

April 2026

- Planning Commission (TSP) April 20
- City Council (TSP) April 28
- Release Drafts of Comprehensive Plan & TSP
By end of April

May 2026

- Public Open House on Comprehensive Plan & TSP
Goal: Share draft plans and gather feedback

July 2026

- Release 2nd Drafts of Comprehensive Plan & TSP
Mid-July

August/September 2026

- Planning Commission & City Council Work
Sessions



KEY PLAN COMPONENTS

Modal Systems



Street System



Pedestrian System



Bicycle System



Transit System



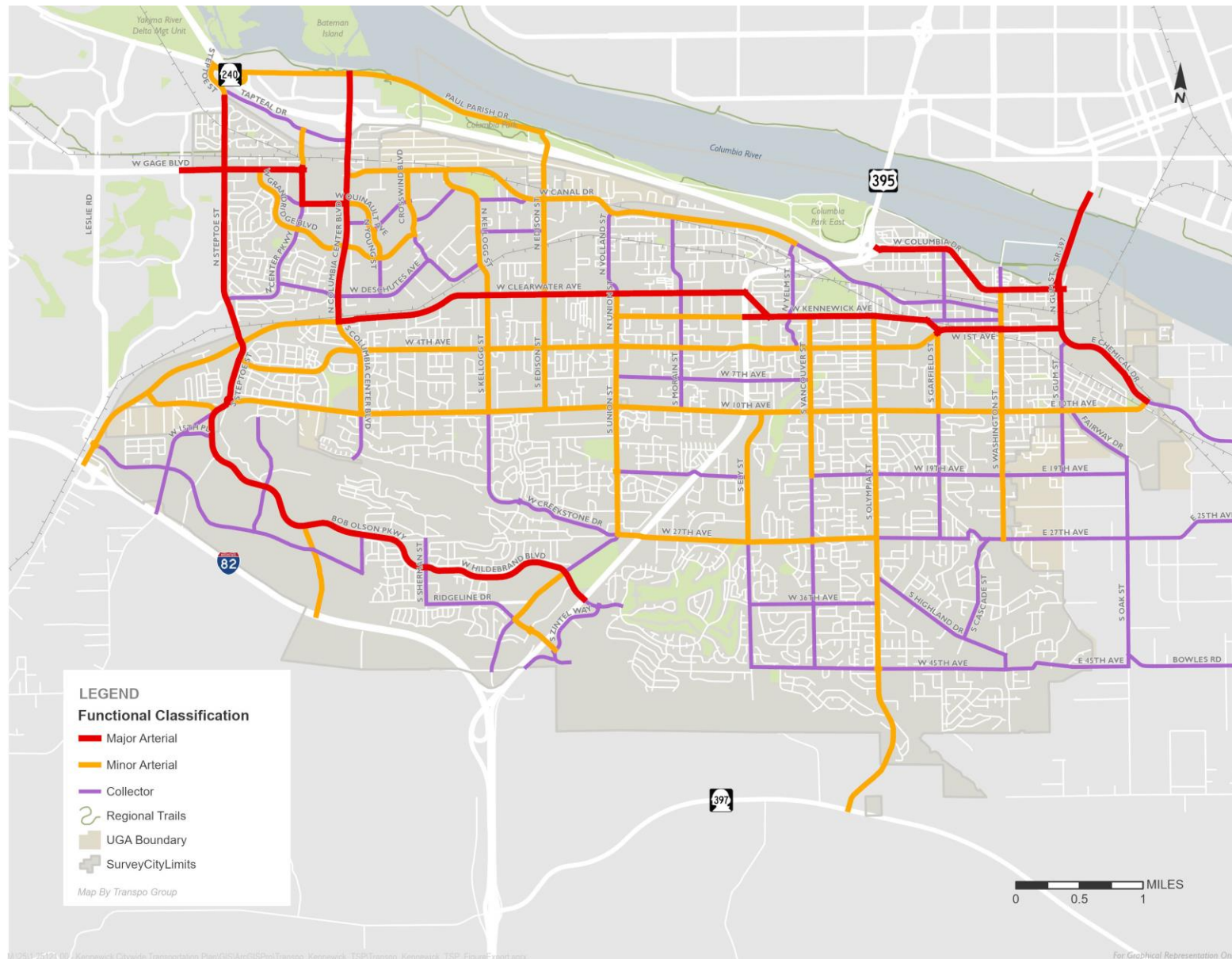
**Freight, Air,
& Water**

System maps illustrate the “vision” for each mode



FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION

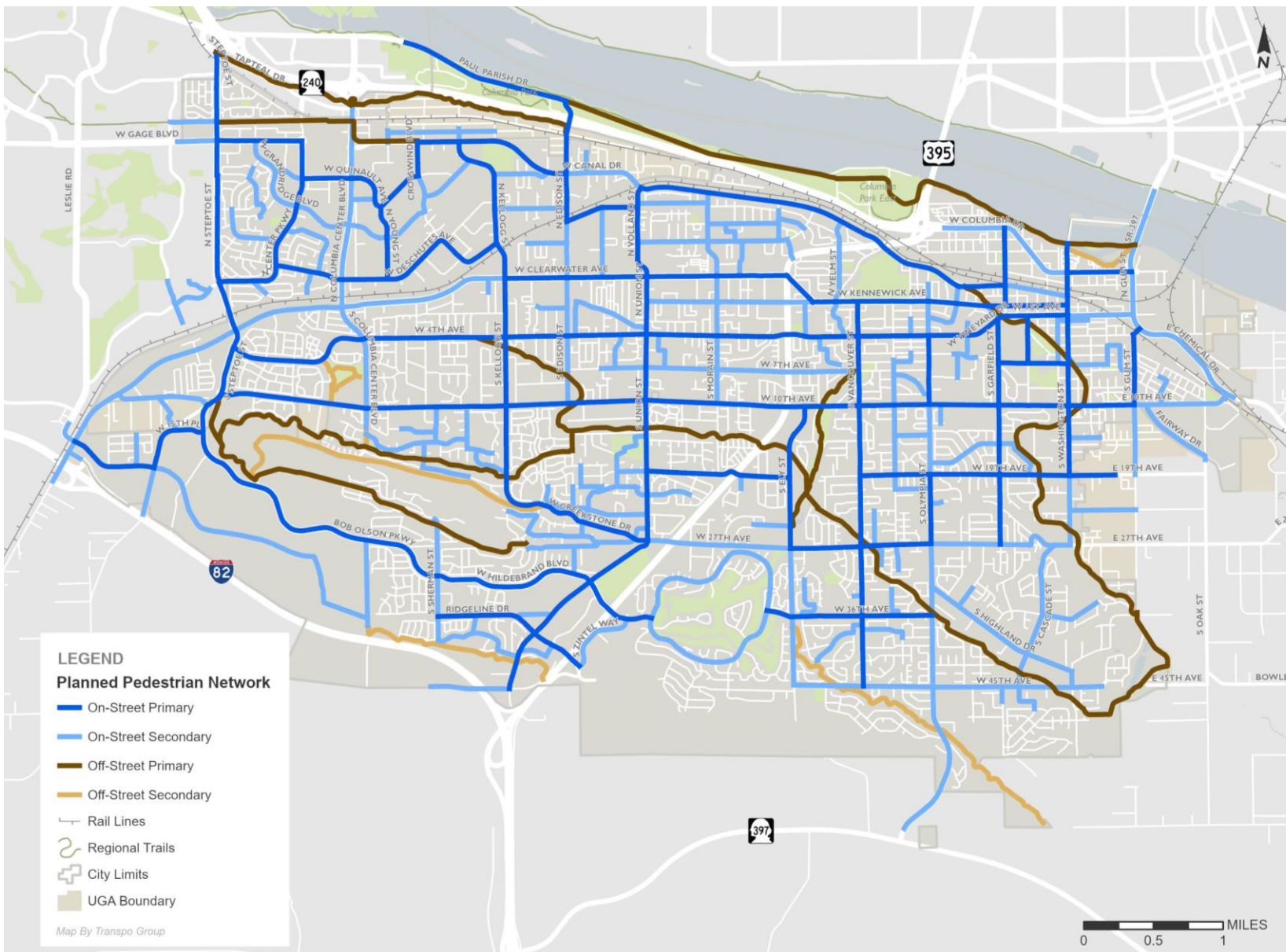
- Identifies the hierarchy of streets
- Balances mobility versus local access
- Ensures roadways are built and maintained based on their desired function





PEDESTRIAN SYSTEM

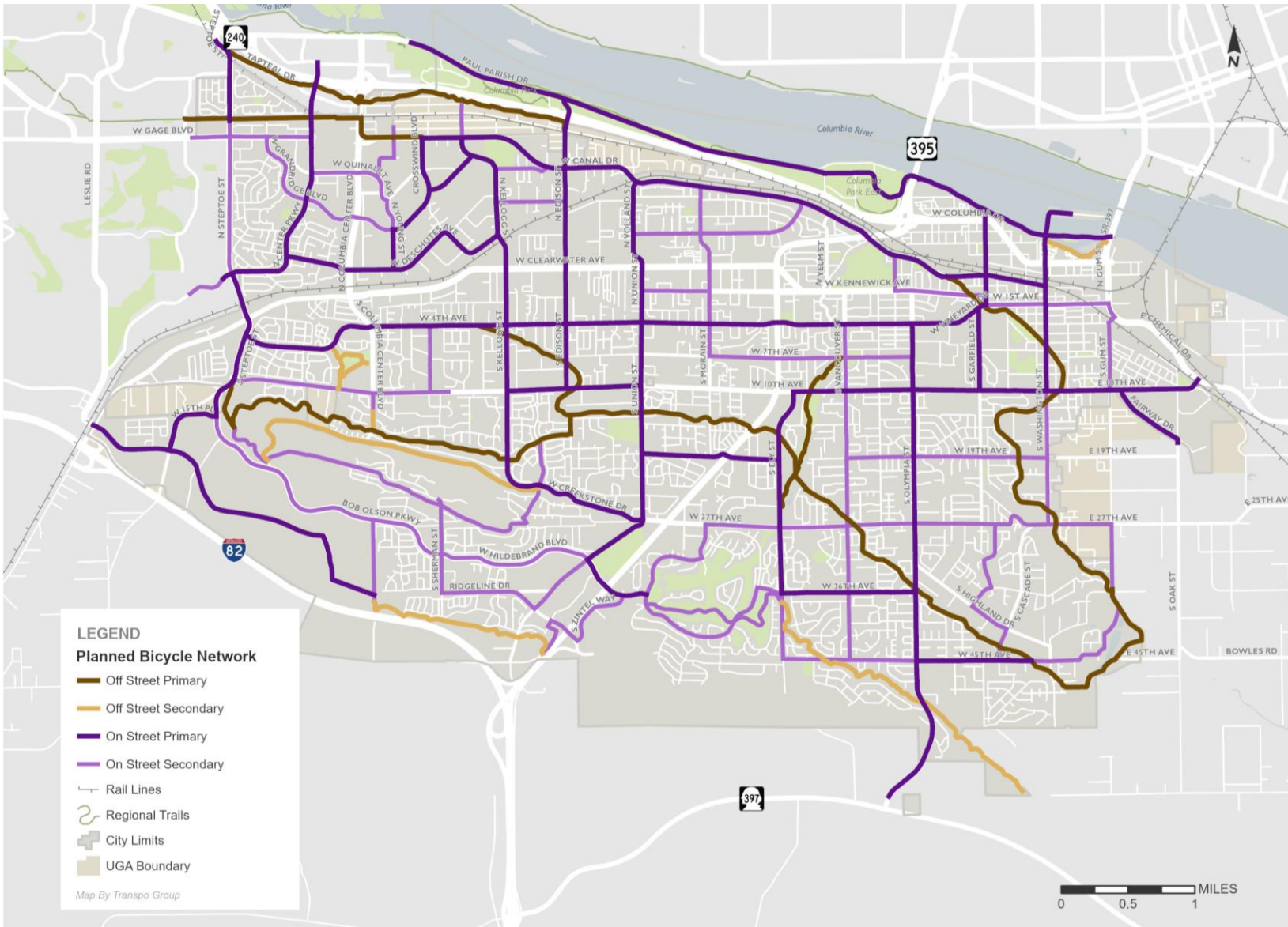
- Indicates routes to build and maintain safe and comfortable pedestrian facilities
- Key input into the multimodal LOS standards
- Primary: highest priority for a connected sidewalk and trail network
- Secondary: other key routes that should have basic facilities





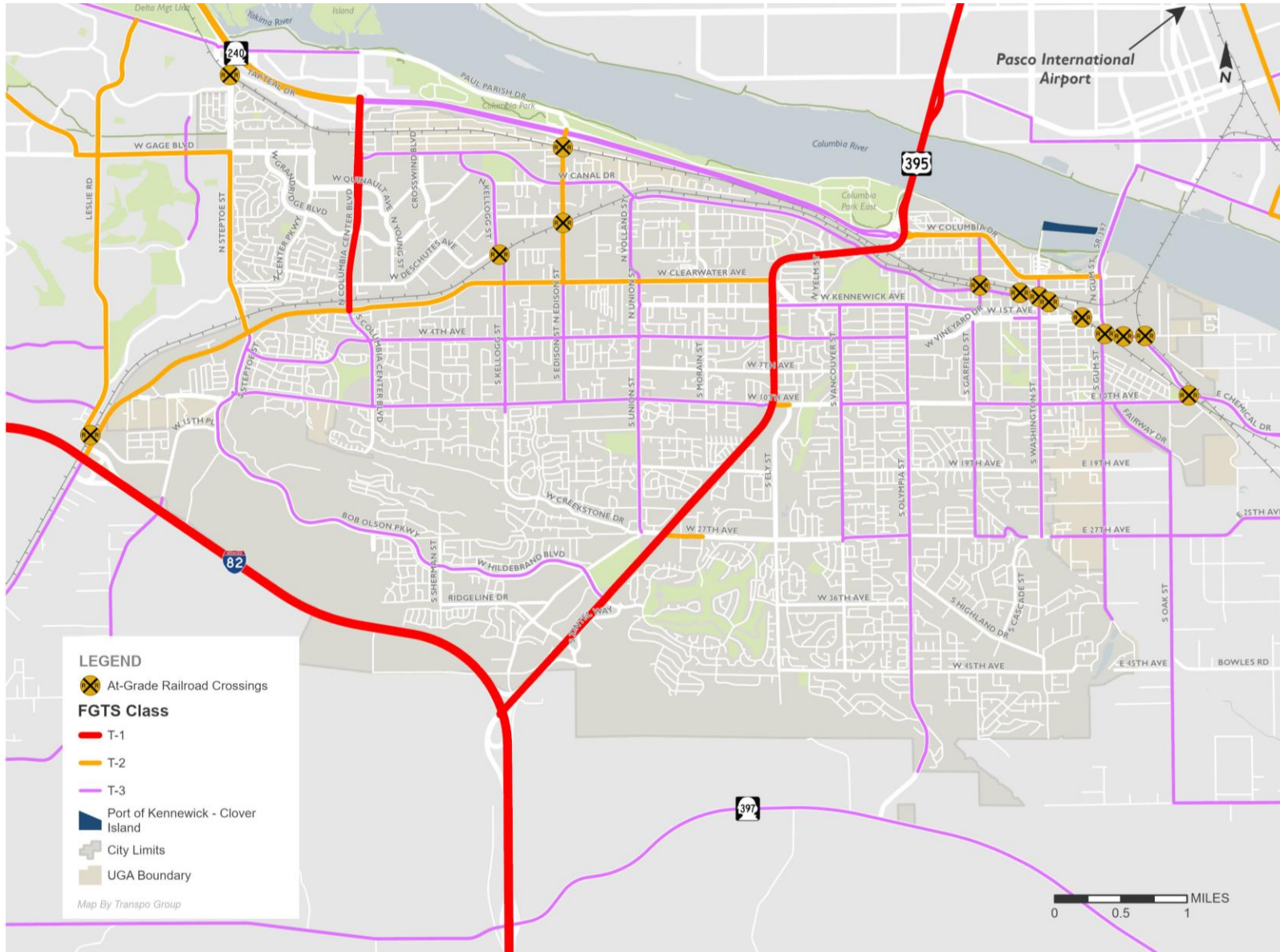
BICYCLE SYSTEM

- Indicates routes to build and maintain safe and comfortable bicycle facilities
- Key input into the multimodal LOS standards
- Primary: highest priority for a connected bicycle facility network
- Secondary: other key routes that should have basic facilities





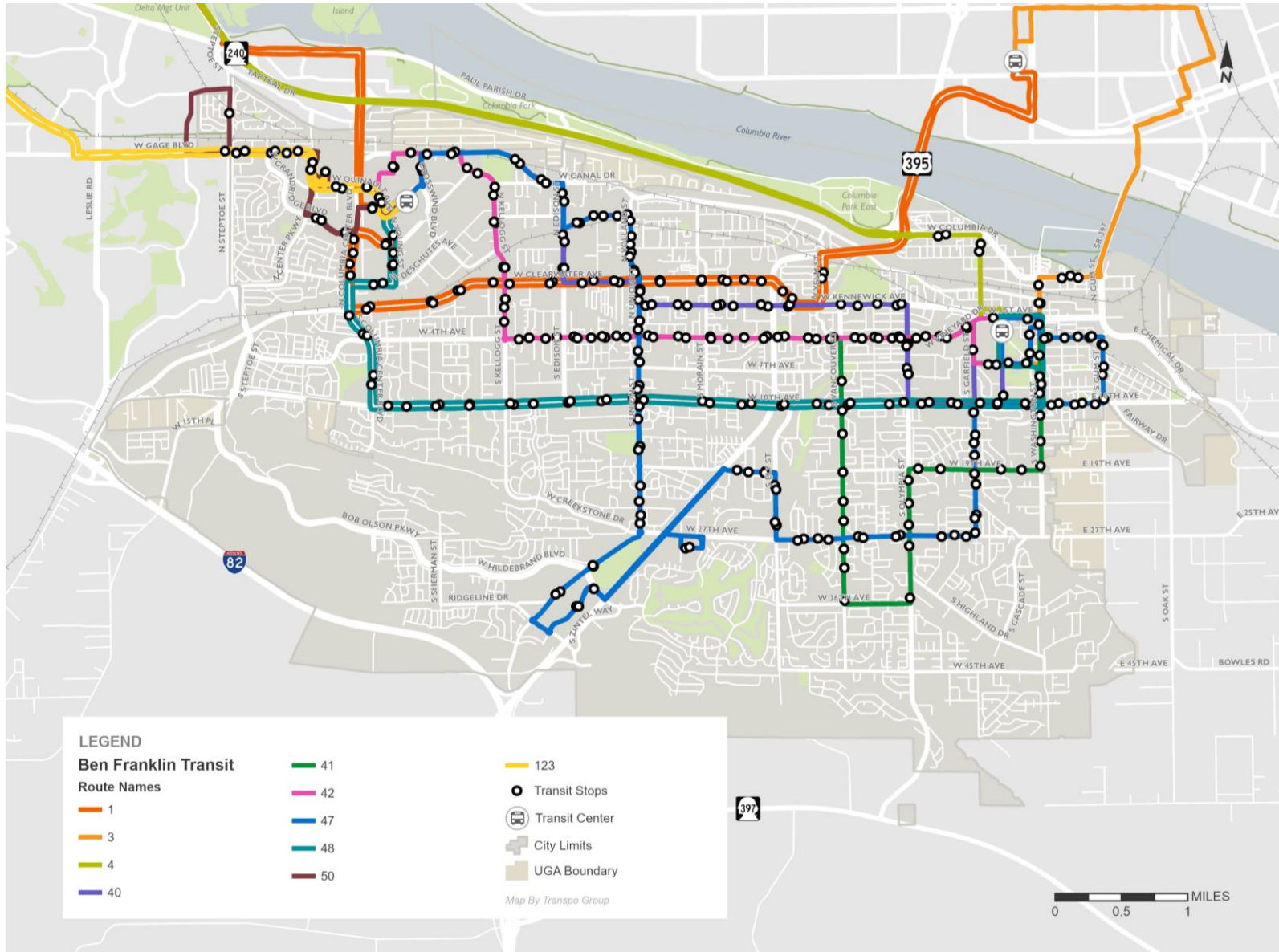
FREIGHT, AIR & WATER SYSTEM



- Indicates major roadways serving trucks
- Identifies railroads and at-grade crossings
- Notes other intermodal facilities



Transit System

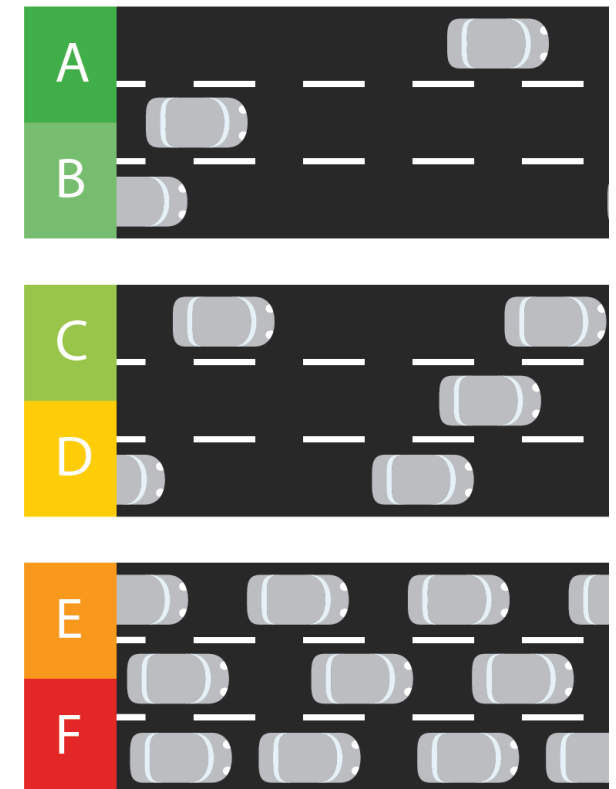


- Indicates bus stops and bus routes
- Identifies major transit centers
- Shows connections outside of Kennewick

LEVELS OF SERVICE

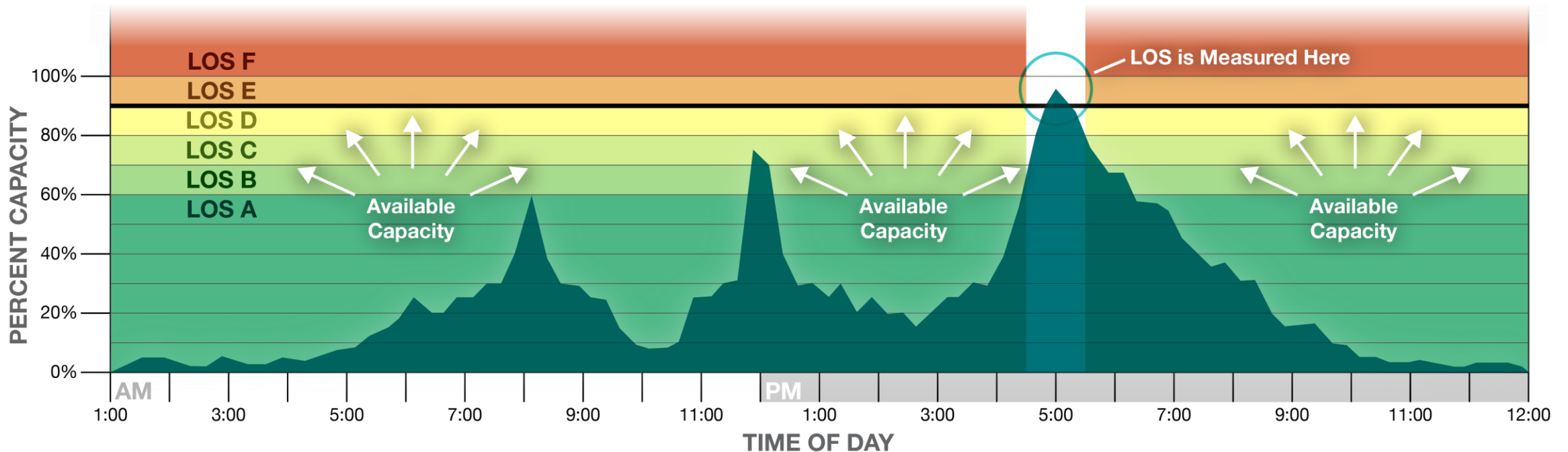
- What are Levels of Service?
 - Level of Service (LOS) measures the performance of the transportation system
 - Could be measured by level of congestion, travel speeds, and/or comfort and convenience
 - LOS standards for City roads and trails are set by the City
 - WSDOT sets LOS standards for state highways

Example Vehicle LOS Illustration



VEHICLE LEVELS OF SERVICE

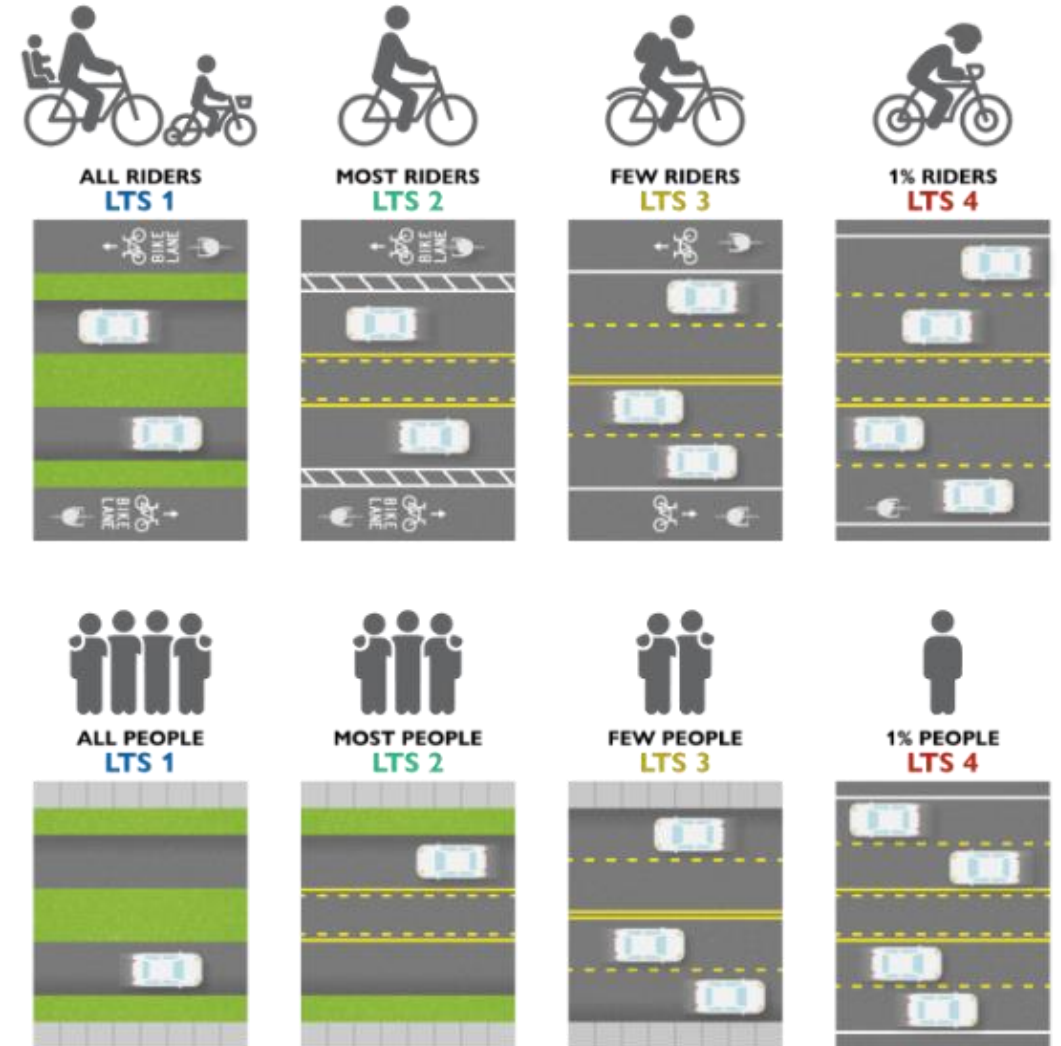
- How does Kennewick measure vehicle LOS?
 - Based on the PM peak hour – worst hour of the day



PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLE LOS

Level of Traffic Stress

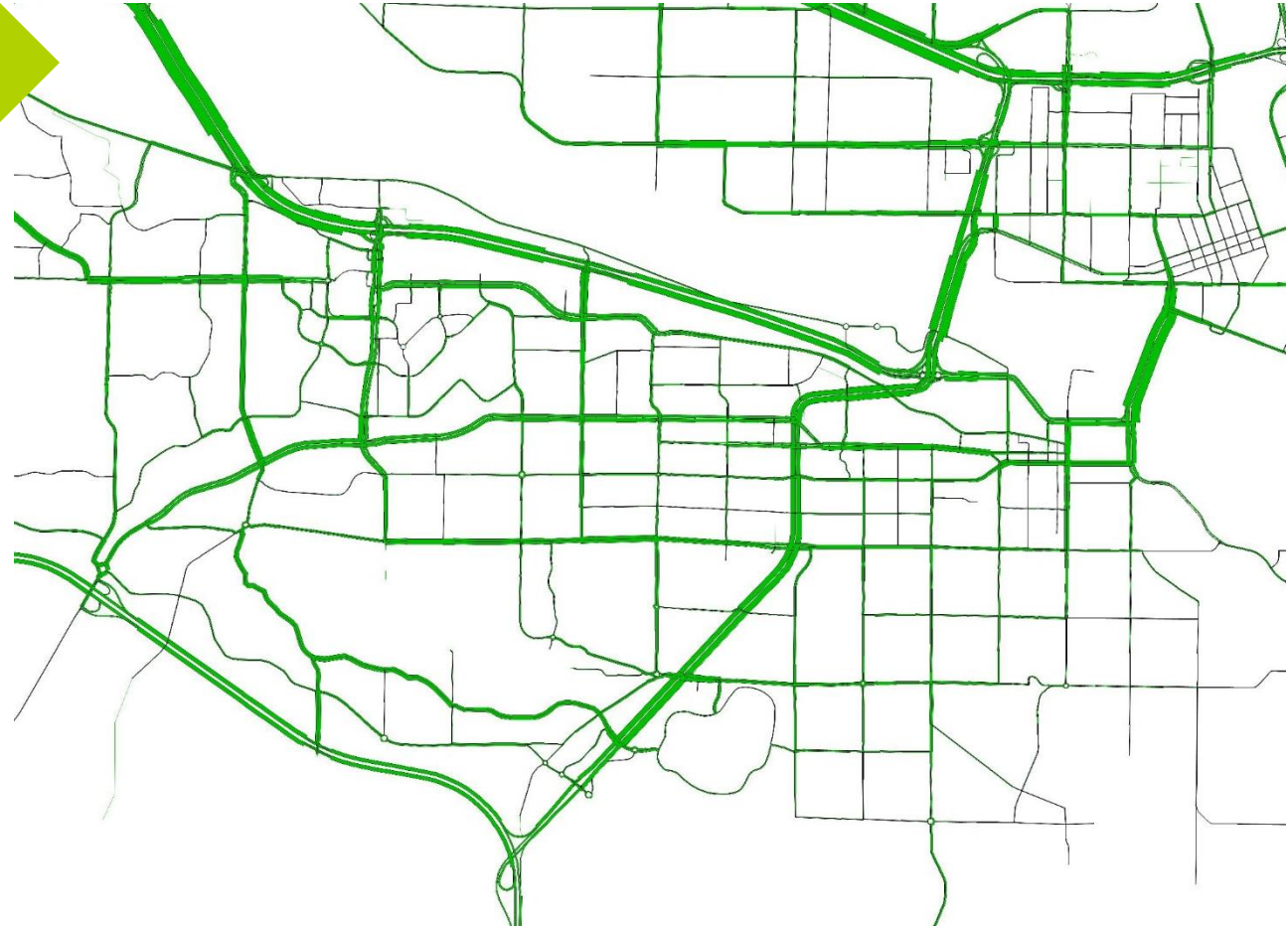
- Measures the comfort level of a pedestrian or bicycle facility
- Rated on a scale similar to LOS
 - **LTS 1** (suitable for low confidence users)
 - **LTS 2** (accommodates most users)
 - **LTS 3** (suitable for confident users)
 - **LTS 4** (not suitable for most users)



TRAVEL FORECASTS

Development of 2046 Traffic Volumes

- Based on BFCOG Regional Travel Demand Model
 - Includes regional and local land use
 - Includes planned transportation improvement projects

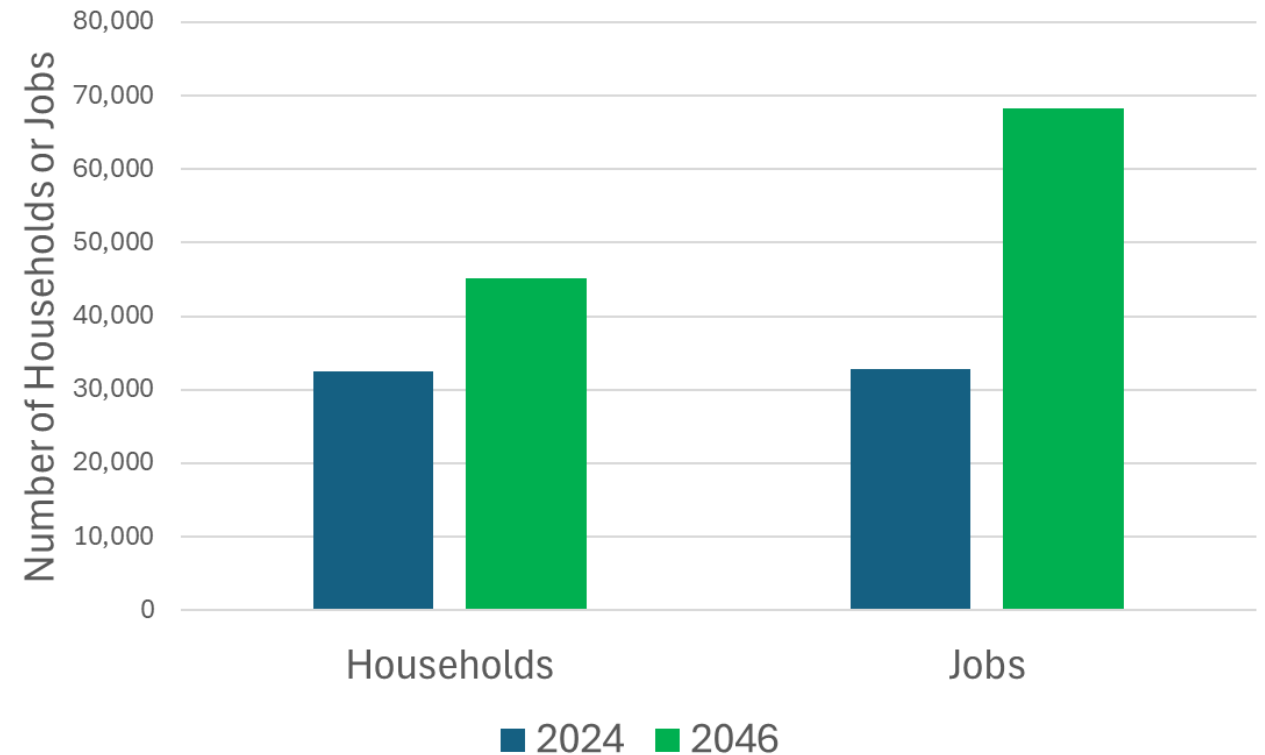


Example: BFCOG Regional Travel Model with Improvements

TRAVEL FORECASTS

Land Use Forecasts

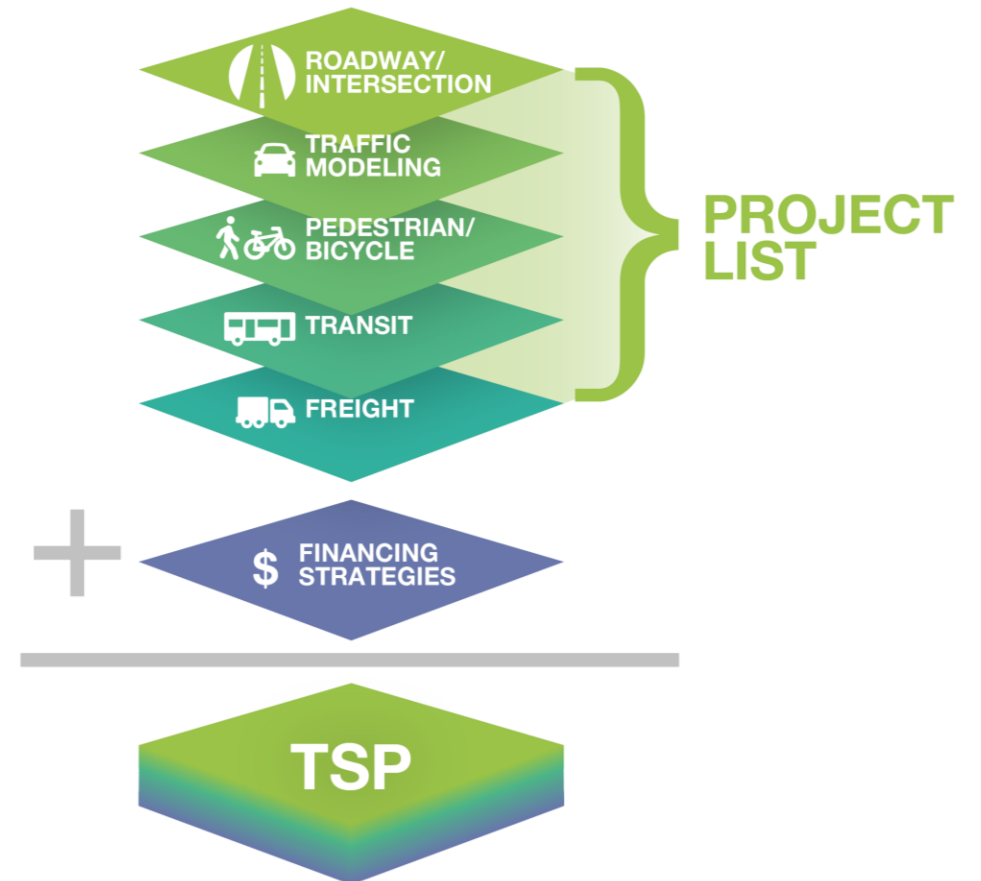
- Estimated Household Growth
 - 2024 to 2046
 - 1.5% Annual Rate
- Estimated Job Growth
 - 2024 to 2046
 - 3.4% Annual Rate
- Utilized to Prepare Travel Forecasts



PROJECT LIST

Categorized by Project Type

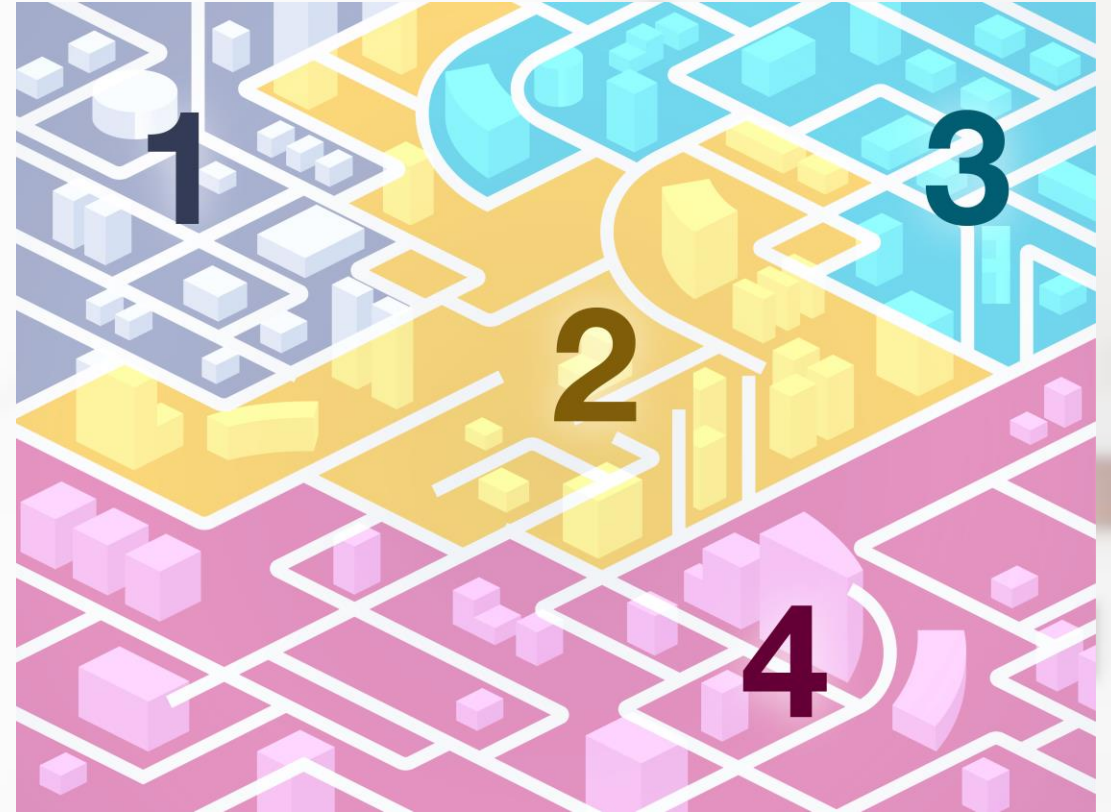
- New Street Construction
- Reconstruction/Widening
- Intersection
- Pedestrian/Bicycle
- Annual Program
- Study
- Monitoring/Operations
- Other Agency



NEXT STEPS

Draft TSP Document

- Develop Project Cost Estimates
- Complete Financing Strategy
- Address and Incorporate Commission, Council and Public Comments
- Prepare Final TSP Document



QUESTIONS?