



Appendix E

Stakeholder and Public Feedback Process

PLAN DEVELOPMENT METHODOLOGY

Research, personal and professional expertise, and feedback processes shaped the development of this plan.

A broad group of stakeholders – people that impact or are impacted by the plan – were integrated into the planning development. Figures E.1 and E.2 depicts the plan development, decision making structure, and feedback processes.

Figure E.1 Planning and Decision Making Structure

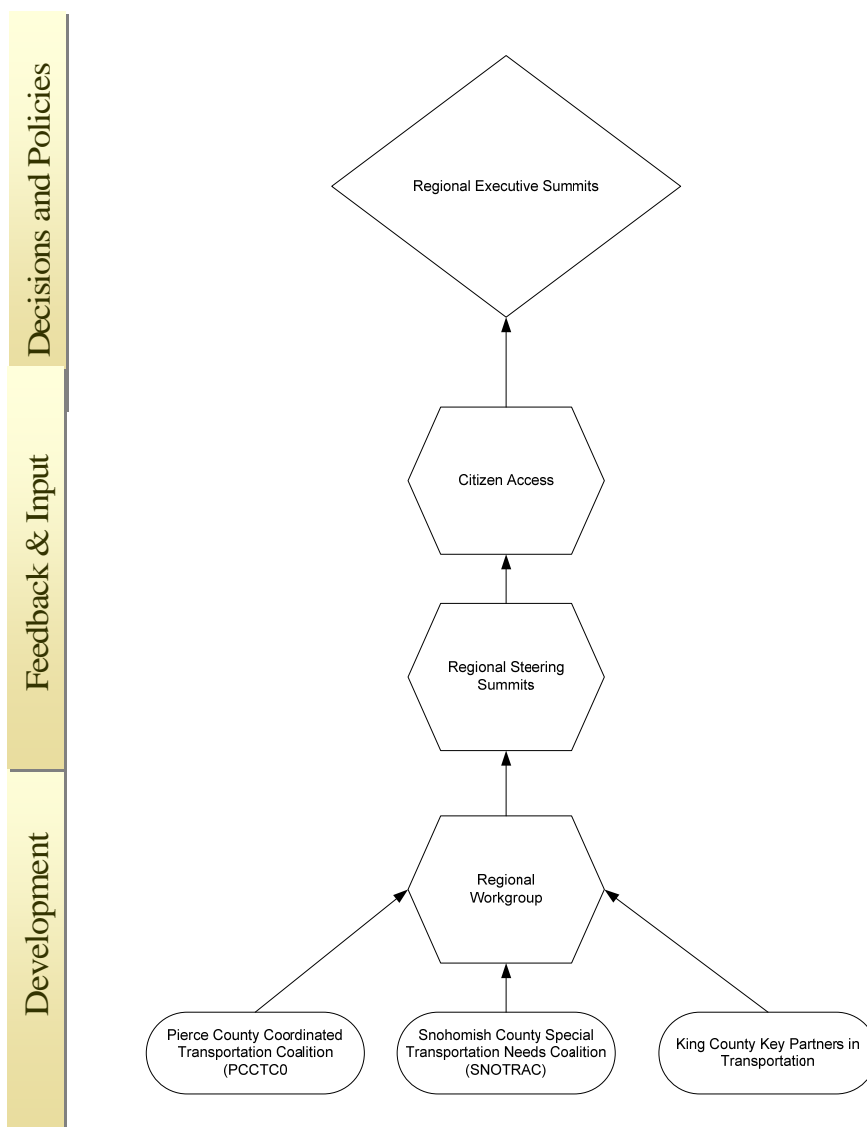
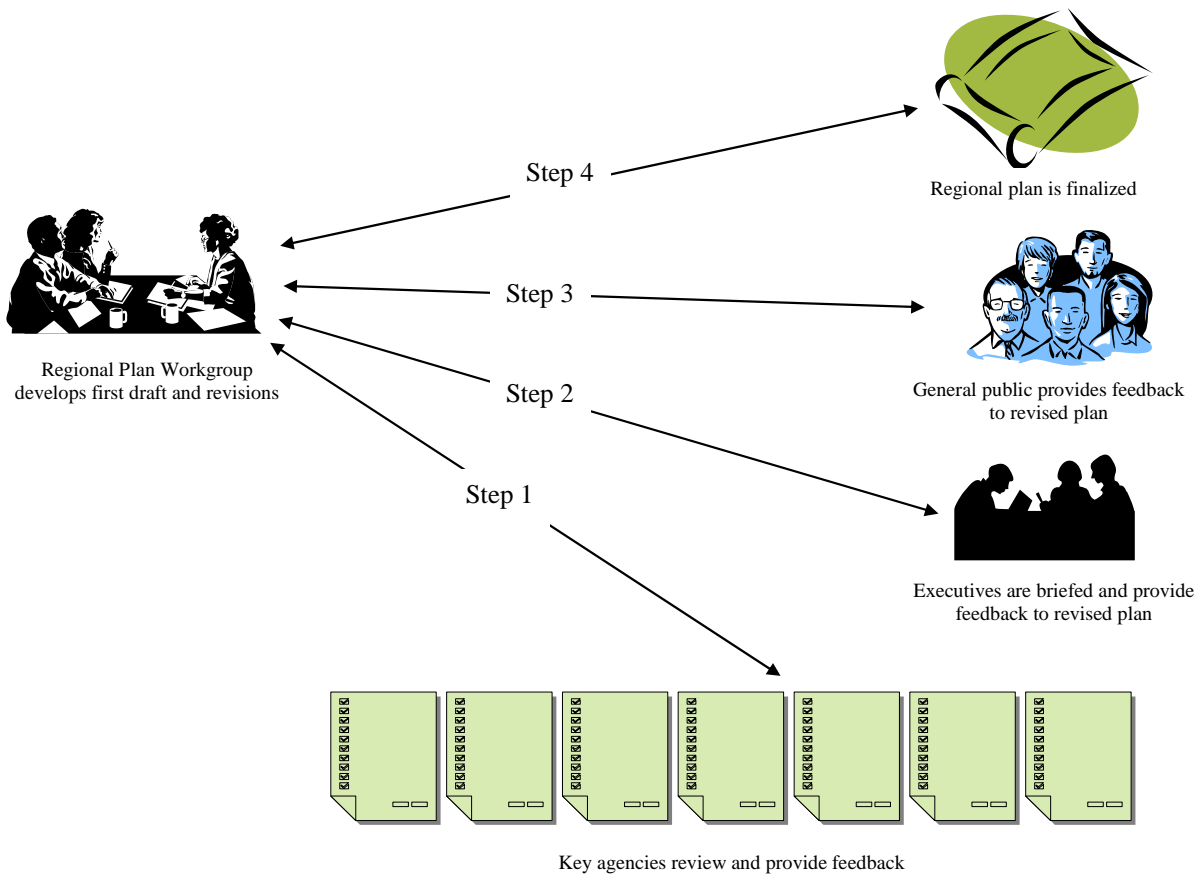


Figure E.2 Public Comment Process



Step 1: The regional workgroup presented and solicited feedback from agencies impacted by the plan in April-May 2006. They were provided the draft mission, principles, and goals and objectives. The information was posted on the Sound Transit website with an on-line feedback survey. The first working draft of the plan was presented to the Regional Steering Summit. In addition, presentations were made to the Transit Integration Group, the King County Job Access Reverse Commute Committee, the Program for Agency Coordinated Transportation (PACT), individual special needs transportation coalitions, transportation manager meetings in all three counties, and superintendents in Pierce and King County.

Step 2: In June-July 2006, the regional workgroup revised the plan and began developing a list of potential projects to address the goals and objectives of the plan. They also began developing the criteria by which projects would be ranked. Workgroup members met with the various executives to brief them on the plan, list of projects, and draft ranking criteria. The second draft of the plan was also posted on the Sound Transit Website for comment.

Step 3: Based on executive feedback, the regional workgroup produced a third draft of the plan. In September 2006, the **Citizen Access** public comment process was initiated (described below). People with special transportation needs ranked and prioritized the goals and strategies. The Puget Sound Regional Council also hosted 4 public meetings in each of the counties.

Step 4: The regional workgroup went back to the table and produced a final draft of the plan for executive support.

Regional Workgroup and Regional Steering Summits

The actual work of identifying gaps and needs, writing the plan, and engaging feedback was conducted by a regional workgroup of individuals representing the local transportation coalitions from the three counties: the Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition, the Snohomish County Special Needs Transportation Coalition, and King County Key Partners in Transportation.

Three members of each coalition participated on the workgroup. Two times per year the entire local coalitions met together for a Regional Steering Summit to provide feedback on the progress of the workgroup. Members of the workgroup are listed on the following pages.

Updates were also provided to the Transit Integration Group (TIG) and its advisory group. The TIG consists of operations and planning directors from the partner transit agencies. TIG's mandate is to move toward integration of the regional transit system.

Public Feedback – Citizen Access

When developing public plans to address special transportation needs, a persistent challenge has been to engage the participation of people with special transportation needs. This is due to the nature of the very problem being addressed – they are unable to transport themselves to the meetings.

Consequently, Sound Transit sponsored “Citizen Access” - an innovative public input project to gather feedback from people with special transportation needs on the United We Ride in Puget Sound regional plan. Using electronic polling and interactive voice response, a town hall meeting was televised in which this regional plan was discussed. Approximately 45 people participated in the television studio, and about 35 people participated in the meeting from their home by using their phones. An on-line and phone survey was also provided throughout the remainder of the week. The participants were asked to rank and prioritize the goals and strategies.

In addition to Citizen Access, three traditional public meetings were held in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties in August 2006. Public comments and meeting results are provided under Appendix Q.

Regional Executive Summits

Executives representing the three local special needs transportation coalitions met once per year during the plan development to provide guidance and feedback. Executives were asked to sign a statement of support in October 2006.

Regional Special Needs Transportation Planning Workgroup

Social Services

Margaret Casey, Aging and Disability Services in King County/Seattle

Cindy Gorgas, Pierce County Community Services

Cheryl Jones, Volunteers of America in Western Washington

Ann Kennedy, Paratransit Services (serving Pierce and Snohomish counties)

Jackie Montgomery, Pierce County Community Services

Lynn Moody, Hopelink (Serving King County)

Meg Strong, Snohomish County Human Services

Stuart Torgeson, Snohomish County Human Services

Janis Webb, Hopelink

Linda Wells, King County Department of Community and Human Services

Doug Whalen, United Way of King County

Cindy Zwart, Senior Services of King County

Transit Agencies

Bob Brown, Community Transit

Bob Flor, King County Metro

Melony Greene, King County Metro

Michael Miller, Sound Transit

Tim Payne, Pierce Transit

Bob Sahm, King County Metro

Gretchen Weber, Community Transit

Park Woodworth, King County Metro

Schools

Anna Esquibel, Snohomish County Educational Service District

Jacque Mann, Puget Sound Educational Service District

Advocates

Sean Barrett, disAbility Resource Center

Leo Finnegan, Retired Citizen

Alexandra O'Reilly, City of Bellevue

Federal, Regional and State Agencies

Don Chartock, Washington State Department of Transportation

Ned Conroy, Puget Sound Regional Council

Paul Meury, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services, Medical Assistance Administration

Marcy Jaffe, Washington State Department of Transportation

Karl Otterstrom, Federal Transit Administration

Robin Phillips, Washington State Department of Transportation

Jennifer Ryan, Puget Sound Regional Council