

# TRANSPORTATION ELEMENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

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### INTRODUCTION

Portland has spent the last several years working with Metro and other agencies, citizens, and community and business groups to develop the City's first Transportation System Plan (TSP). The TSP is the 20-year plan for transportation improvements in Portland. The goal of the TSP is to provide transportation choices for residents, employees, visitors, and firms doing business in Portland.

The Transportation Element (TE) of the City of Portland Comprehensive Plan consists of two Comprehensive Plan goals – Goal 6, Transportation, and Goal 11 B, Public Rights-of-Way – and the Central City Transportation Management (CCTMP) Goal, along with their associated policies and objectives. Within Goal 6 and the CCTMP are sets of street classification maps, which guide the use of the transportation system.



Goals are the broadest expressions of a community's desires. Goals give direction and are concerned with the long term, and often describe ideal situations. Policies are broad statements that set preferred courses of action. Policies are choices made to carry out the goals in the foreseeable future. Policies should be specific enough to help determine whether or not a proposed project, program, or course of action will advance community values expressed in the goals. Objectives are specific statements that carry out a plan in the short term. Objectives help assess incremental progress toward achieving the broader purposes expressed in goals and policies.

The street classification maps and the street plan maps in the TSP are adopted as part of the Comprehensive Plan, as are the policies. Comprehensive Plan policies are used to review changes to the Comprehensive Plan; to Title 33, Planning and Zoning; or for a goal exception. In reading the policies, care should be taken to note that language may be aspirational (such as 'should' or 'encourage') or mandatory (such as 'shall' or 'will'). Most Comprehensive Plan policies are 'balancing' policies that should be looked at together to determine whether an activity achieves the optimal balance.

Goal 6, Transportation, provides the overall guidance on how Portland's transportation system should function over the life of the Comprehensive Plan. It describes what the system should look like and what purposes it fulfills. Within Goal 6 are policies that address the following areas:

- Coordination and Involvement
- Street Classification and Description

- Transportation Function
- Land Use and Transportation
- Pedestrian and Bicycle
- Public Transportation
- Parking and Demand Management
- Freight, Terminals, and Truck
- Regional Transportation
- Transportation Districts

The goal, policies, and objectives of the CCTMP were first adopted in 1995. They have not been changed as part of the TSP development, except for the street classification maps, which have been revised to be consistent with the 2000 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP).

The glossary is adopted policy language that explains terms used in transportation and land use planning. By being adopted in the glossary, the terms can help explain legislative intent.