

City of
Bellevue



Transportation Commission Staff Report

DATE: May 7, 2026
TO: Chair Stash and Members of the Transportation Commission
FROM: Kevin McDonald, AICP, Principal Planner
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SUBJECT: 2026 Transportation Comprehensive Plan Amendments

DIRECTION REQUESTED

Action (Transportation Element recommendation and transmittal to Planning Commission)
 Discussion/Direction
 Information

INTRODUCTION

On March 10, 2026, the City Council initiated work on the 2026 Comprehensive Plan amendments. Council direction incorporates policy and narrative amendments to the Transportation Element that will ensure conformance between the Comprehensive Plan and the recently adopted Mobility Implementation Plan and the Transportation Facilities Plan. Staff reviewed the recommended policy and narrative amendments to the Transportation Element with the Transportation Commission on March 14, 2026

BACKGROUND AND INFORMATION

The Comprehensive Plan may be amended no more frequently than once every year under the Growth Management Act (GMA). Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan may be initiated by the City or by a private individual.

The City Council may initiate a Comprehensive Plan Amendment at any time, pursuant to the Bellevue Land Use Code at Part 20.30I LUC. When initiated, staff brings proposed Transportation policy amendments to the Transportation Commission which will review the proposal and will then transmit a recommendation to the Planning Commission for consideration together with other proposed annual amendments. Council will consider the final recommendation of the Planning Commission and will take action on the recommended amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

The 2026 City-initiated amendments to the Transportation Element will ensure conformance between the Comprehensive Plan and the Mobility Implementation Plan and Transportation Facilities Plan. These amendments reflect recent updates to those plans. The Transportation

Commission reviewed the recommended amendments to the Transportation Element on March 12. On May 14 the Commission will be asked to take action on the amendments and approve a transmittal to the Planning Commission.

Mobility Implementation Plan

On November 25, 2025, the City Council adopted the Mobility Implementation Plan 2025 Update that incorporated and superseded the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan. As previously discussed with the Transportation Commission and as noted in the November 25, 2025 Council agenda materials, the Transportation Department staff would recommend a conformance amendment to the Comprehensive Plan in 2026. As the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan is now fully incorporated into the Mobility Implementation Plan (MIP), the staff recommendation would amend policy TR-96 and delete non-policy narrative references to the Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan. The MIP is already fully incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan.

Transportation Facilities Plan

On November 25, 2025, City Council adopted the 2026-2045 Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP), an action that extended its timespan from 12 years to 20 years. The TFP is the City's intermediate-range, transportation capital facility planning document and functions as a bridge between the MIP, long-range facility plans, modal plans, and the funded projects in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Plan. The staff recommendation would amend non-policy narrative references in the Transportation Element to reflect the 20-year TFP timespan.

See **Attachment A** for a strike-draft of the recommended Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element amendments.

NEXT STEPS

On May 14, staff will seek a recommendation from the Transportation Commission for the Transportation Element Comprehensive Plan Amendments and approval of a transmittal memo to the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission study session is currently scheduled for June 10, 2026.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Strike-draft of recommended Comprehensive Plan Transportation Element Amendments

Attachment B – Transmittal to Planning Commission