

12/18/2023 (Date of First Reading)
01/08/2024 (Date of Public Hearing)

ORDINANCE NO. M- [Ordinance Number]

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Vancouver, Washington relating to the mandatory transportation element of comprehensive planning in compliance with the Washington Growth Management Act, as identified in RCW 36.70A.020, adopting the 2024 – 2044 Transportation System Plan for the City of Vancouver, Washington; providing for severability and an effective date.

WHEREAS, the State of Washington’s Growth Management Act (Chapter 36.70A RCW)(GMA) requires the establishment of a Comprehensive Plan, which includes a mandatory transportation element as specifically required by RCW 36.70A.070, and the 2024 – 2044 Transportation System Plan (TSP) fulfills that requirement with the inclusion of multimodal transportation improvements and strategies to accommodate the impacts of development as authorized under RCW 36.70A.070(6)(b); and

WHEREAS, the TSP supports the City’s compliance with the GMA planning goals identified in RCW 36.70A.020(3), (12) and (14), specifically: “Transportation. Encourage efficient multimodal transportation systems that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled, and are based on regional priorities and coordinated with county and city comprehensive plans.” (RCW 36.70A.020(3)); “Public facilities and services. Ensure that those public facilities and services necessary to support development shall be adequate to serve the development at the time the development is available for occupancy and use without decreasing

current service levels below locally established minimum standards.” (RCW 36.70A.020(12)); and “Climate change and resiliency. Ensure that comprehensive plans, development regulations, and regional policies, plans, and strategies under RCW 36.70A.210 and chapter 47.80 RCW adapt to and mitigate the effects of a changing climate; support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and per capita vehicle miles traveled; prepare for climate impact scenarios; foster resiliency to climate impacts and natural hazards; protect and enhance environmental, economic, and human health and safety; and advance environmental justice.” (RCW 36.70A.020(14)); and

WHEREAS, the policies, programs and projects identified in the TSP advance the City of Vancouver’s commitment to meet Washington’s Statewide Transportation Goals as defined in the Washington State Transportation Commission’s “Washington Transportation Plan: 2040 and Beyond,” based on the Legislature’s six statewide goals established in RCW 47.04.280 of: economic vitality; preservation; safety; mobility; environment and health; and stewardship; and

WHEREAS, the City adopted its Climate Action Framework in 2022 as a blueprint to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resiliency to climate change impacts and this Framework supports a just and equitable transition to community-wide carbon neutrality by 2040, of which transportation emissions are the largest current contributor, and it focuses on supporting low-income residents and communities of color that are most affected by those impacts; and

WHEREAS, Livability and Sustainability and Resilience are two of the core values of the City of Vancouver’s 2023-2029 Strategic Plan, with Livability defined to include “public spaces that feel welcoming to people of all ages and abilities” and “abundant opportunity to access and engage in core community resources including natural resources, transportation, health care, education, cultural experiences and art;” and Sustainability and Resilience defined to include

“protecting water, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, maintaining tree canopies, ecosystem services, and biodiversity;” and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the City adopted a Complete Streets Policy with the vision and intent of providing safe, accessible streets for all users, ages, and abilities, regardless of their preferred mode of travel, and the 2024-2044 Transportation System Plan directs continued Complete Streets investments that make non-vehicular trips easier, safer, and more comfortable for community members; and

WHEREAS, the City Council identified safety, equity, and climate action as guiding priorities in developing the 2023-24 biennial budget and when setting goals for the update to the City’s TSP; and

WHEREAS, the TSP Project Team conducted ongoing community engagement throughout the TSP planning process, including two online open houses, in-person engagement at community events throughout the planning process, small focus groups, and four online community surveys at different project phases; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation and Mobility Commission participated in eleven workshops on the Transportation System Plan update over 2 ½ years, and voted unanimously to affirmatively endorse City Council adoption of the TSP at its December 5, 2023 Public Hearing; and

WHEREAS, the City Council participated in ten workshops over 3 ½ years, and approved resolutions ResM-4161 Resolution on TSP Chartering Process, ResM-4191 Resolution for TSP Goals and Prioritization Framework, and ResM-4209 Resolution for TSP Big Ideas, in support of the TSP; and

WHEREAS, the City Council held a duly advertised first reading of this Ordinance on December 18, 2023 followed by a duly advertised second reading and public hearing of this Ordinance on January 8, 2024 to consider the Transportation and Mobility Commission recommendations of approval and public testimony; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to adoption of this Ordinance, the Vancouver City Council adopts the 2024 - 2044 Transportation System Plan in the form attached to this Ordinance as Exhibit A.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF VANCOUVER:

Section 1. The 2024-2044 Transportation System Plan, attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein, will advance the policies, programs, and projects therein to support Vancouver's vision of "City streets [that] are safe and comfortable for people walking, rolling, using small mobility devices, and taking transit" and the goals of safety, equity, climate, transportation choice, regional connectivity and maintaining City assets.

Section 2. The 2024-2044 Transportation System Plan will be implemented through timely amendments to Title 9 and Title 11 of the Vancouver Municipal Code necessary to update existing standards and codes in conformance with the policies adopted through this Ordinance.

Section 3. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or part of this Ordinance, the 2024-2044 Transportation System Plan, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall be ordered by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such order or judgment will be confined in its operation to the controversy in which it was rendered and will not affect or invalidate the remainder of any parts thereof to any other person or circumstances, and to this end

the provisions of each clause, sentence paragraph, section or part of this Ordinance and the 2024-2044 Transportation System Plan are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 4. This Ordinance becomes effective 14 days after the date of final passage.

DATE OF FINAL PASSAGE by the Vancouver City Council: _____.

SIGNED this 9th day of January, 2024.

Anne McEnery-Ogle, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Ramras, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Jonathan Young, City Attorney

SUMMARY

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Vancouver, Washington relating to the mandatory transportation element of comprehensive planning in compliance with the Washington Growth Management Act, as identified in RCW 36.70A.020, adopting the 2024 – 2044 Transportation System Plan for the City of Vancouver, Washington; providing for severability and an effective date.

The full text of this ordinance will be mailed upon request. Contact Raelyn McJilton, Records Officer at 487-8711, or via www.cityofvancouver.us (Go to City Government and Public Records).

ORDINANCE M-_____

**EXHIBIT A
2024 – 2044 TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PLAN**

[ATTACH COPY OF TSP AND/OR INSERT LINK TO FILE WITH DATE OF TSP]