

Chapter 1: Introduction

2010 Plan Update: Chapter 1 Introduction was substantially rewritten for the 2010 Plan update. It describes the focus of the 2010 update on non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails. For information regarding recreational trails refer to the 2002 Plan.

1.1 Non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails

While some non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails may be similar in form, they perform different functions. This has implications for their planning and funding.

Non-motorized transportation facilities provide and enhance alternatives to vehicular travel between destinations. On-road bicycle routes, sidewalks, and multi-purpose trails that link neighborhoods, communities, and other destinations are common examples of non-motorized transportation facilities. Recently the term “active transportation” has been used to describe these travel modes. While these facilities perform a transportation function, they are quite often also used for recreational activities, such as walking or bicycling for exercise.

While recreational trails may be similar in form to some non-motorized transportation facilities, they do not provide a travel mode between destinations. Recreational trails include park and back country trails, BMX and mountain bike trails, and water access sites for hand-launched boats.

In 2001 when Jefferson County began work on its non-motorized transportation plan, it was also revising its Comprehensive Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan. In the past, planning for recreational trails had been conducted through the Parks Plan. But considering the similarities between non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails, the decision was made to incorporate planning for both in the 2002 Non-motorized Transportation and Recreational Trails (NMT) Plan.

The 2010 Non-motorized Transportation and Recreational Trails Plan only updates the sections of the 2002 Plan regarding non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails. It does not update the sections regarding recreational trails.

1.2 2010 Non-motorized Transportation and Recreational Trails Plan

The 2010 Plan update follows essentially the same format as the 2002 Plan with one significant change. The Plan:

- **Defines Jefferson County’s setting**, including its climate, transportation system, and demographic characteristics.
- **Provides an inventory** of existing non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails that have been developed by the County, City of Port Townsend, State and Federal governments, and other agencies.

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- **Describes destinations** – residential, commercial, employment, educational, governmental, and recreational centers that could be connected with a system of non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails.
- **Assesses demand** for non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails that could be provided by the County and other agencies.
- **Assesses revenue sources** to fund non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails.
- **Assigns appropriate roles and responsibilities for Jefferson County and other agencies** to developing non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails.
- **Adopts goals and objectives** to guide the development of non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails.
- **Describes the elements of a connected system** of non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails.

There is one significant change to this format. The 2002 Plan proposed to *“Define an implementation program – outlining the actions necessary to realize the plan’s development...”* The 2010 Plan update:

- **Presents a Six-Year Capital Improvement Program** that provides estimated development costs, funding sources, and project schedules for proposed non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trail projects.

1.3 2010 Non-motorized transportation and multi-purpose trails update

The 2010 Non-motorized Transportation and Recreational Trails Plan only updates the sections of the 2002 NMT Plan that relate to non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails. It does not update the sections relating to recreational trails.

The 2002 Plan contains valuable background information related to planning and funding for non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails. This information has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

Following is a brief description of each chapter of the 2010 Non-motorized Transportation and Recreational Trails Plan update.

Chapter 1 Introduction has been completely rewritten to describe the 2010 update and summarize the revisions to the 2002 Plan.

Chapter 2 Community Setting has only been revised to provide an updated County population and population projections. This chapter has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

Chapter 3 Existing Facilities provides an inventory of non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails. A 2010 Plan update discusses the extension of the Larry Scott Trail and its projected completion in 2011. This chapter has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

Chapter 4 Destinations provides a broad picture of Jefferson County: where people live, work, go to school, shop, and recreate and the locations of tourist facilities and significant public facilities. This information is intended to inform decisions about connecting these destinations with non-motorized transportation facilities. It is not intended as an up-to-date guide. While Chapter 4 has not been updated, it still performs its intended function. This chapter has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

Chapter 5 Land and Facility Demand in the 2002 Plan discusses methodologies for determining demand for non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails. This background information has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

The 2010 update describes the extensive public outreach and involvement process conducted for the 2002 Plan. It discusses how Jefferson County's development of non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails has implemented the goals, objectives, and priorities of the 2002 Plan. It describes the County's public outreach and involvement process for the 2010 Plan update.

Chapter 6 Finance of the 2002 Plan presented an analysis of Jefferson County's financial condition and alternatives for funding non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails. This background information has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

The 2010 update discusses Jefferson County's strategy of using County Road Fund revenue to match State and Federal grants to fund non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails. It provides an analysis of Road Fund revenue trends and the County's capacity to fund these facilities in the future.

Chapter 7 Strategies presents strategies for developing non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails. This chapter has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

Chapter 8 Goals and Objectives in the 2002 Plan presented goals and objectives for developing specific types of non-motorized transportation facilities and recreational trails. These goals and objectives have been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

The 2010 update presents principles, goals, and objectives supporting the development of non-motorized transportation facilities as an alternative to vehicular travel.

Chapter 9 Development Plan Elements describes the existing non-motorized transportation and recreational trail systems in Jefferson County and additional facilities could be provided. This chapter has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format. Maps of the Larry Scott Trail, Rick Tollefson Trail, and the Olympic Discovery Trail have been added.

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Chapter 10 Opinion is a summary of the findings from the public opinion survey conducted for the 2002 Plan and the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Plan. This chapter has been retained in the original 2002 Plan format.

Chapter 11 Capital improvement Program (previously titled **Implementation**) has been completely rewritten. It presents Jefferson County's Six-Year Non-motorized Transportation and Multi-purpose Trails Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for 2010 – 2015. It also discusses additional non-motorized transportation facilities and multi-purpose trails that could be developed in a longer time frame than the Six-Year CIP.