

# Going places



REGIONAL HIGH CAPACITY TRANSIT SYSTEM PLAN

High capacity transit operates separately from traffic and with fewer stops than regular bus service. High capacity transit can include:

- light rail
- commuter rail
- bus rapid transit
- rapid streetcar.

## Concepts identified for detailed evaluation

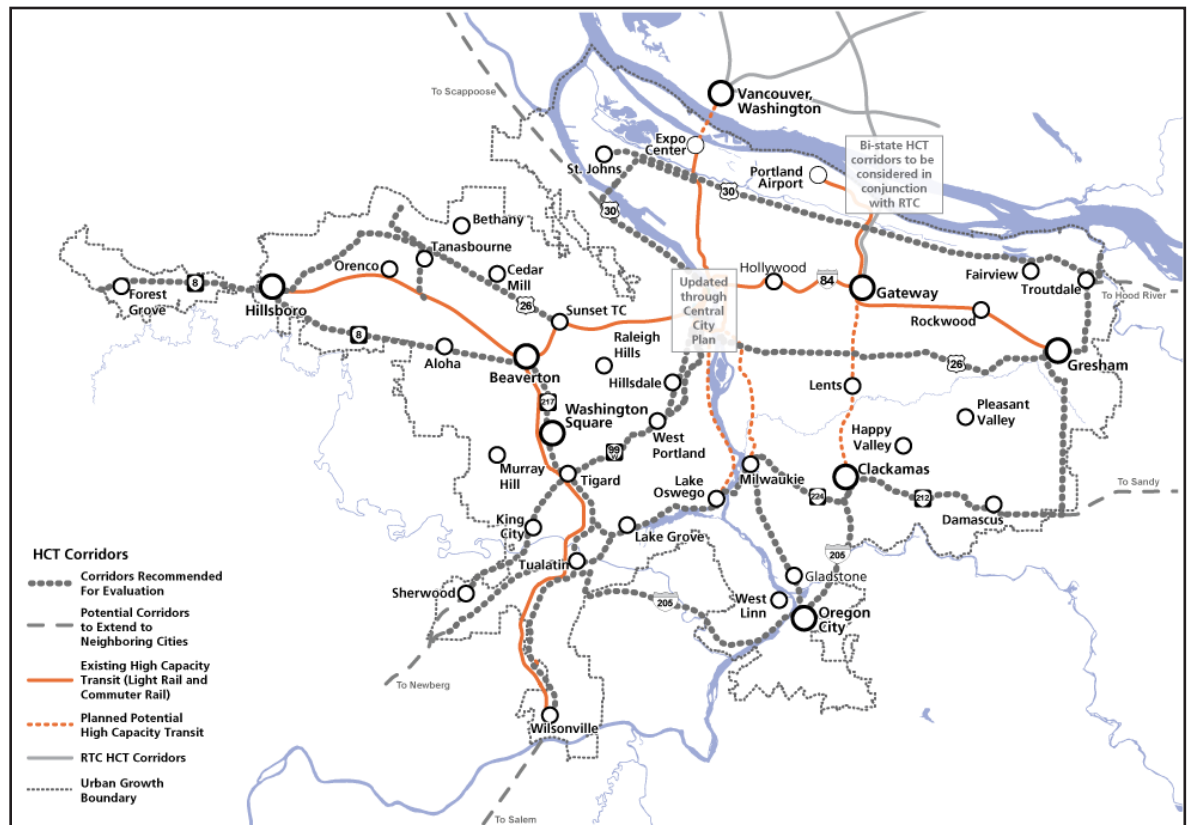
Since July, Metro has worked with local jurisdictions and community members to identify corridors and other high capacity transit improvements to study. The next phase of the plan is to prioritize the set of corridors and other improvements.

This identification and screening process was the first step in developing the High Capacity Transit System Plan that will compare and prioritize regional high capacity transit improvements to be constructed over the next 30 years. The plan, to be complete in spring 2009, will include a prioritized set of new high capacity transit corridors or improvements to the existing system.

The system plan will ultimately be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). The RTP is the region's blueprint to guide projects, programs and policies related to all transportation modes – bikes and pedestrians, roadways, freight mobility and transit. The RTP update is scheduled for adoption by the end of 2009. Visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/rtp](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/rtp) for more information about Metro's ongoing process to update the RTP.

## Build your system online

Consider new transit connections between activity centers using the new build-a-system tool, then complete a short questionnaire to tell Metro what you think. The tool and questionnaire are available from March 23 to April 24, 2009 at [www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces).



Set of corridors approved for evaluation

2035

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN



Metro | People places. Open spaces.

## For more information

To learn more about the project, visit [www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces). To get on the mailing list, call 503-797-1756 or send e-mail to [trans@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:trans@oregonmetro.gov).

### Your Metro representatives

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## INITIAL CORRIDOR SCREENING

Fifty-five corridors were identified for initial screening. The potential corridors and improvements to the existing MAX system were identified through past planning work and an extensive public involvement process. This public process, which began in July 2008, included an online survey, workshops, community group meetings, and area farmers' markets and festivals. Through this process, more than 700 people provided input about corridors or other improvements for consideration.

Seven screening criteria were used to compare these corridors. The screening criteria considered the following:

- ridership potential based on existing and future conditions
- cost and availability of right of way
- environmental constraints
- compatibility with regional land use goals based on the region's 2040 Growth Concept
- service to low-income, minority, elderly and disabled residents
- ability to serve corridors with congested roadways
- connectivity and benefits to the existing transit system.

The initial screening process narrowed the 55 corridors to 15. The set of corridors could still change as the screening analysis is reviewed by regional partners and the Metro Council.

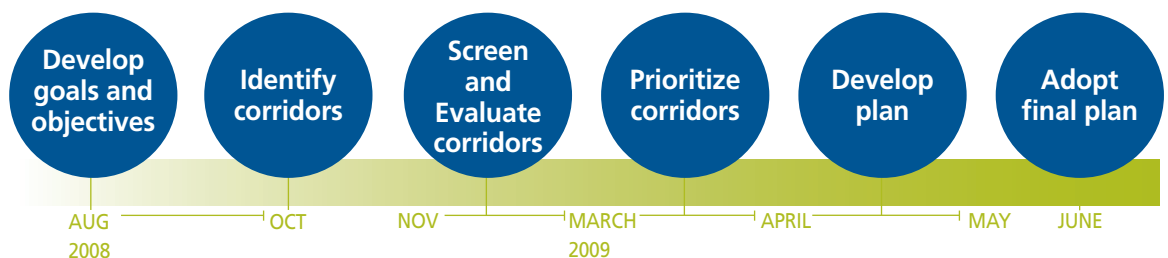
## NEXT STEPS

Metro will assess these 15 screened corridors along with several system improvements, such as increasing the speed of light rail through downtown Portland, according to agreed-upon evaluation criteria. The evaluation criteria fall into four categories: community, environment, economy and deliverability. This evaluation will be used to prioritize the projects in the final High Capacity Transit System Plan. A full set of evaluation criteria is available on the web site at [www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces). Corridors extending to areas outside the Metro jurisdictional boundary will be evaluated based on travel demand.

## GET INVOLVED

When the evaluation is complete in spring 2009, community members will be invited to review the evaluation findings, discuss trade-offs and suggest which corridors and improvements to the existing system should be the region's highest priorities. Community members will be able to provide input using an online "build a system" tool or at an open house. Watch the web site [www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces) for information about these opportunities.

Send e-mail to [trans@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:trans@oregonmetro.gov) or call 503-797-1756 to request a speaker for your group. Visit the web site for regular project updates including more information about the evaluation process.



[www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces](http://www.oregonmetro.gov/goingplaces)