WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND MEETING OBJECTIVE
What we Need to Accomplish Today

- Comments and discussion of Report 3
  - Description of the Feasibility Assessment
  - Proposed work plan and associated budget
- Discuss work plan from January through June 2013
- Discuss how to finalize the report and communicate to the Legislature
- Discuss ongoing role of Steering Committee after June 2013
PUBLIC COMMENT
DRAFT FEASIBILITY ASSESSMENT
Steering Committee unanimously concludes that a road usage charge is feasible in Washington

Steering Committee recommends that relevant issue areas be further studied

The consultant team will draft the report that the Steering Committee will send to the WSTC, for ultimate transmittal to the Legislature

» Feasibility assessment

» Work plan and budget
Feasibility Assessment

What’s in the report

- A high-level summary to demonstrate how the Steering Committee came to its recommendation
  - Process
  - Rationale
  - Recommendation
The Steering Committee unanimously concludes that a road usage charge is feasible in Washington and recommends further study …

The Steering Committee recognizes that the gas tax is not a sustainable revenue source for transportation in Washington, as demonstrated by prior studies. Successful international examples of road usage charge systems in practice and successful demonstrations in the U.S. show that there are numerous viable operational concepts and technologies for road usage charging in Washington.

However implemented, road usage charging will not be perfect, but no tax mechanism is perfect, including the current gas tax.

- All taxing polices involve tradeoffs between ideal policy objectives and how these objectives can be implemented in the real world.
- This feasibility assessment demonstrates that offering choices to users may solve many of the issues related to road usage charging and other associated issues such as privacy and acceptance.
Feasibility Assessment
Steering Committee Discussion

- Have we correctly interpreted the Steering Committee’s
  - Process?
  - Rationale?
  - Recommendation?
DRAFT WORK PLAN AND BUDGET
What is “Feasible”? 
*(From Committee Meeting #1)*

Desirable?

Feasible?

Possible?
Work Plan Context

Phase 1
- Tackle deferred policy issues
- Desirable?
- What would the operational concept look like?
- Be ready for 2015 Legislative session

Phase 2
- Shifts from broad policy concepts to operational details
- Develops a system that is ready to implement
- Timeline on the order of “a few years”

Actual implementation of a road usage charge program is beyond this work plan
Work Plan Process

**Phase I**
- January 2013 to June 2015
- Engaging the Public
- Policy Framework
- Operational Concepts
- Business Analysis
- System Design
- Pilot Test or Demonstrations

**Phase II**
- Begins July 2015
- Engaging the Public
- Policy Framework
- Operational Concepts
- Business Analysis
- System Design
- Pilot Test or Demonstrations

Road Usage Charging
- “Feasible”
- “Desirable”
- “Ready to Implement”
Specific Tasks

Engaging the Public
- 1. Measure Public Attitudes and Acceptance
- 2. Communications and Public Engagement

Policy Framework
- 3. Define Policy Objectives
- 4. Policy Research

Operational Concepts
- 5. Define Operational Concepts

System Design
- 6. Administrative Design
- 7. System Architecture and Technical Requirements

Business Analysis
- 8. Business Case
- 10. Interoperability with Other Systems
- 11. Transition Strategy
- 12. Risk Analysis

Pilot Tests
Phase I Process

Road Usage Charge “Feasibility”

Policy Framework

Operational Concepts

System and Administrative Design

Business Decisions

Engaging the Public Including Legislature and Governor’s Office

Revised Policy Framework

Road Usage Charge “Desirability”
Policy Objectives to be Addressed

Identified so Far

- Relationship to the gas tax
  - Replace, supplement, transition

- Social objectives
  - Energy, greenhouse gases, congestion, encourage transit

- Use of revenues
  - Strictly roadways, or broader?

- Equity among user groups
  - Urban/rural, economic groups

- Rate setting
  - Cost responsibility
  - Direct relationship to miles
  - Technology and privacy tradeoffs

- Out-of-state issues
  - Capture revenue from out-of-state drivers
  - Out-of-state miles
## Proposed Work Plan Tasks and Budget

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<th>Phase 1</th>
<th>Phase 2</th>
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Note: Excludes pilot tests or demonstrations, which could range from $1 million to $5 million
Work Plan and Budget
Steering Committee Discussion

- Does this cover the issues?
- Does the process, timeline and budget work?
  - Process
  - Rationale
  - Recommendation?
LUNCH
FINALIZING REPORT AND COMMUNICATING FINDINGS TO THE LEGISLATURE
Path to finalize report

Steering Committee comments and direction
• Today

Transportation Commission Briefing and response to Steering Committee
• December 12, 2012

Create check-final Steering Committee report
• January 4, 2013

Approve Steering Committee report
• January 11, 2013 (Committee meeting in Olympia)

Transportation Commission review and approval to send to Legislature
• January 23 or 24 at Commission meeting in Olympia
Briefing the Legislature
*(Schedule to be Determined)*

- Individual briefings with legislators
- Presentation to Joint Transportation Committee
WORK PLAN FOR JANUARY – JUNE 2013
Proposed Work Plan after Final Report
January-June 2013 (1 of 2)

- Report to legislature (January/February?)
  » JTC meeting
  » Individual legislator briefings

- Public Relations
  » Editorial boards?
  » Meet with media?

- Begin Task 3 of Work Plan – Define Policy Objectives
  » One or two topics from work plan
  » Discuss at March Steering Committee Meeting (Meeting #5)
Proposed Work Plan
January-June 2013 (2 of 2)

- Background Policy Research (begin Task 4 of Work Plan)
  - Preliminary research into:
    - Fleet and vehicle miles of travel composition trends, forecasts and scenarios;
    - Quantification of out-of-state travel by Washington residents;
    - Quantification of travel in Washington by out-of-state travelers;
  - Preliminary rate options report
    - Initial research and analysis of rate-setting options based on experiences in other contexts and the Washington State context;

- Voice of Washington Survey
  - Small, special purpose survey

- Report out at May Steering Committee Meeting
Proposed Schedule for January-June 2013

Steering Committee Meeting #5 (March)
- Report to Legislature (Committees + Briefings)
- Define Policy Objectives (Begin)
- Background Policy Research
- Voice of Washington Survey
- Documentation of Progress

Legislative Session

Discuss research and survey findings and finalize report

Steering Committee Meeting #6 (May)
- Finalize Documentation
SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS AND NEXT STEPS