

Designation Packet Discussion Items

Defining local government:

Previous ITPO Policy Board discussion considered whether Island Transit could be identified as an “RTPO member local government” agency. The following items are provided to help clarify what is meant by local government in Washington State:

- Washington State defines Local Government under 43.52 RCW:
 - (2) "Local government" means any governmental entity other than the state, federal agencies, or an operating system established under chapter **43.52** RCW. It includes, but is not limited to cities, counties, school districts, and **special purpose districts**.
- Washington State defines **special purpose districts** as including, but not limited to:
 - Public Transportation Benefit Area 1975 Ch. 36.57A RCW
 - Port Districts 1911 Title 53 RCW

ITPO versus RTPO establishment language (ILA):

The language describing our current organization, under the Interlocal Cooperation Act is more general to interagency cooperation. The Regional Transportation Planning Organization language defines the regional transportation focus and requirements for interagency efforts.

- ITPO RCW 39.34.010 Declaration of purpose summary:
 - Enabling governments to cooperate with local communities for mutual benefit.
- RTPO RCW 47.80.020 Legislative Intent summary:
 - Integrate transportation and comprehensive planning
 - Integrate with state and local transportation programs
 - Manage demand on the transportation system.
 - Manage the efficiency with which the transportation system operates.
 - Coordinate funding with other agencies
 - Address community transportation needs
 - Coordinate transportation and land use strategies
 - Promote all transportation modes (bike, walk, transit, automobile, etc.)

Membership and Voting:

- WSDOT is a member of RTPOs by statute (RCW 47.80.040) and is generally a voting member on RTPO Policy Boards.
- As defined “local government” could include a variety of municipal corporations.
- RCW 47.80.040 “the regional transportation planning organization shall allow representatives of **major employers** within the region, the department of transportation, transit districts, port districts, and member cities, towns, and counties within the region to participate in policy making”
 - RTPO examples examined frequently had employers as participants but did not identify them as voting members.