

# City Transportation Funding

Washington State Good Roads and Transportation Association

December 11, 2024



# City conditions

- Cities and towns own 740 bridges, over 25,000 lane miles
- Nearly 2/3 state population
- Infrastructure is cities' biggest funding need
- Cascading impact of inflation on bids and cost of materials
- Maintenance and preservation funding for transpo.
  - \$1+ billion annual funding gap



**50%** of cities have annual transportation budgets under \$500,000.

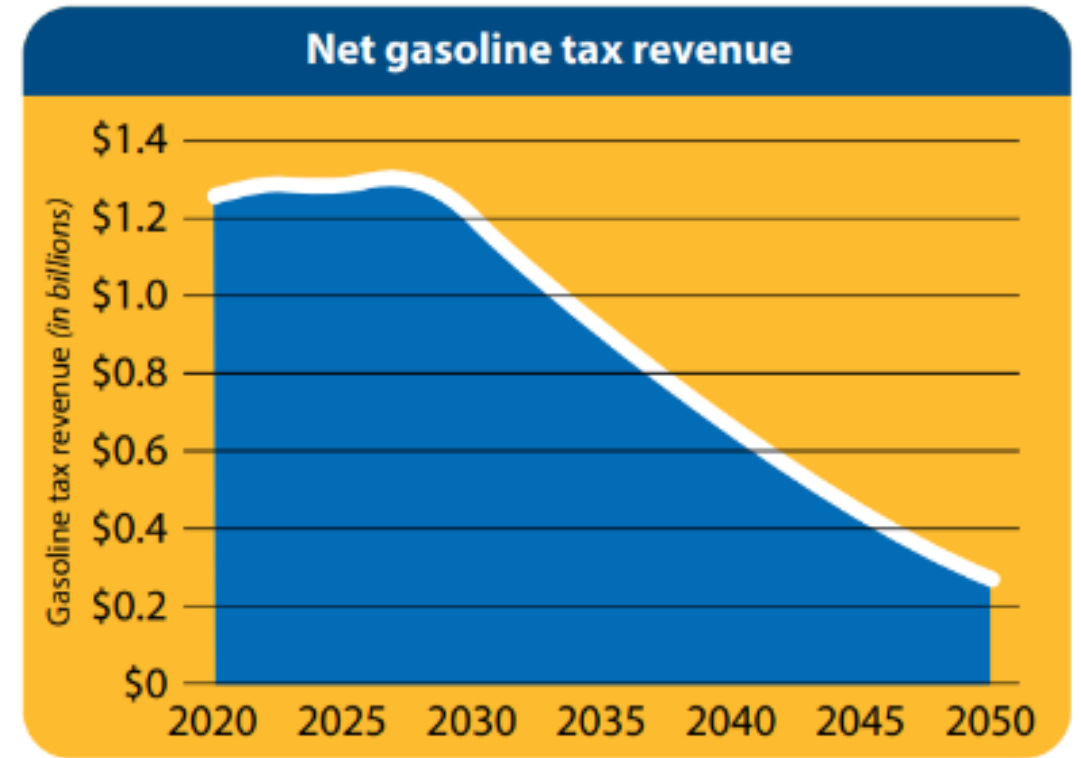
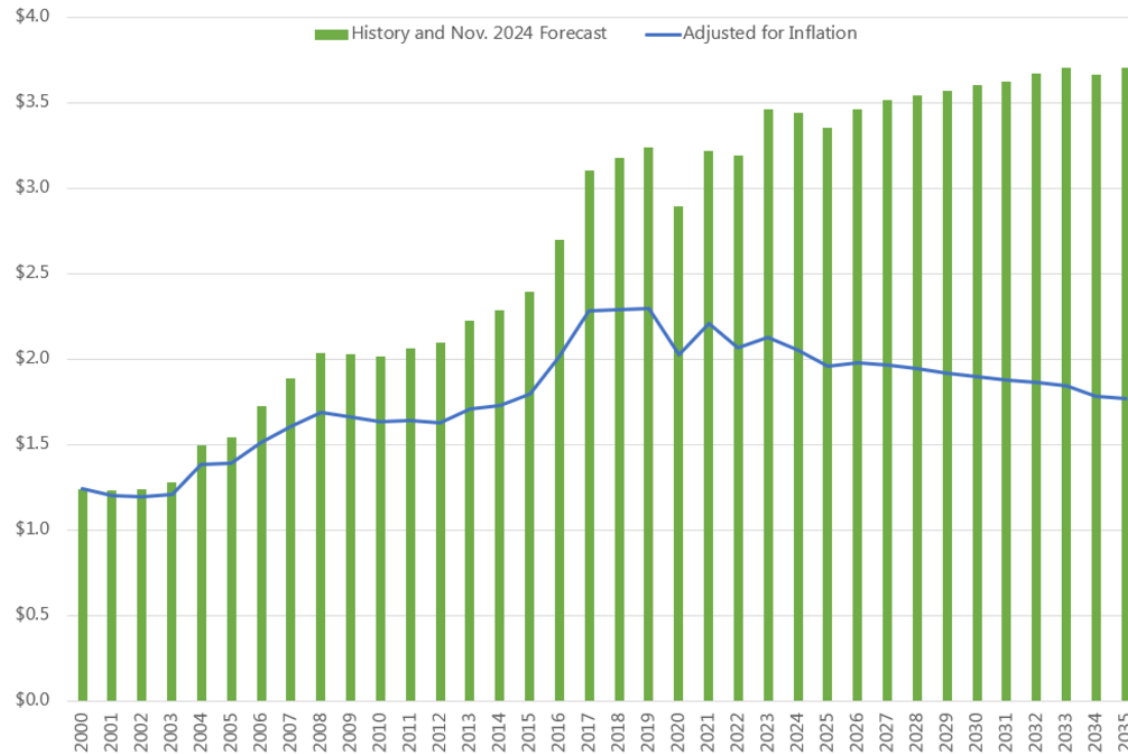
**40%** of cities have annual transportation budgets under \$250,000.

**Even with the help of state and federal grants, these dollars do not stretch far enough.**



# State transportation revenues

Chart 1: Total Forecasted Transportation Revenues  
(Dollars in Billions)



Source: Forward Drive RUC Research and Pilot Testing: Final Report, 2024

# Alternative and expanded funding options

- Reliable revenue source for city transportation funding
  - Road Usage Charge
  - Retail Delivery Fee
  - Tire Tax
- Redirect vehicle sales tax revenue to transportation budget
- Climate Commitment Act
  - Amend to provide direct distribution to cities
  - Focus on programs that support city decarbonization and climate resiliency such as multi-modal connectivity
- Facilitate adoption of transportation benefit districts



# Procurement and project delivery

- Local project delivery streamlining workgroup
- Prompt payment
- Change orders
- Apprenticeship utilization
- Responsible bidder requirement
- Prevailing wage at the time work is performed



# 2025 City Legislative Priorities

- Fiscal sustainability
- Behavioral health treatment capacity
- Housing supply
- Public safety
- Infrastructure investment



# 2025 Agenda

## Local infrastructure investment

- Protect and expand direct investments in traditional local infrastructure
- Expanded and reliable funding for the Public Works Assistance Account
- Sustainable state transportation revenue, including for local preservation, maintenance, and operations
- New fiscal tools to build infrastructure to support housing development and growth
- Increased funding for the Connecting Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP)
- Expanded ability and flexibility to use the real estate excise tax (REET) for additional capital needs, including maintenance and to support affordable housing





# Contact Information

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