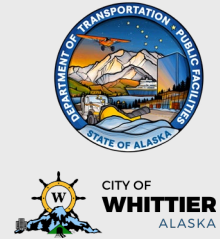


# Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan Frequently Asked Questions

State / Federal Project No.: HFHWY00314/2000047  
FAQ Last Updated June 2026



## Q: What is the Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan?

**A:** The Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan (Whittier Moves) identifies future transportation investments that support land use and movement patterns by coordinating transportation planning and project development within and around the City of Whittier. The plan has been developed in coordination with stakeholders and the public to foster collaboration, creating a cohesive and agile transportation planning document. Whittier Moves will serve as a tool for securing discretionary grant funding, supporting other project development opportunities, and assisting the City of Whittier in the update of their Comprehensive Master Plan.

## Q: What groups, agencies, and corporations are involved in the planning process?

**A:** The plan has been developed by the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) in close coordination with the City of Whittier. Input has been gathered from a wide range of interested parties, including residents, visitors, local businesses, corporations, and agencies operating in Whittier.

## Q: What is Transportation Master Planning?

**A:** Transportation Master Planning is about setting a long-term vision for how a community's transportation system should grow and improve. It looks at community needs, gathers input, and helps guide decisions for the future.

| Transportation Master Planning is...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Transportation Master Planning is not...                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A <b>long-term vision</b> for how a community's transportation system should grow and improve.</li><li>• A process that <b>gathers input</b> from residents, businesses, and stakeholders.</li><li>• A way to <b>identify priorities</b> (safety, access, connectivity, economic growth, environmental concerns).</li><li>• A <b>coordinated framework</b> that guides future funding, design, and policy decisions.</li><li>• A tool to <b>balance needs</b> for all users: drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, transit, freight.</li><li>• A plan that can <b>be updated</b> based on community input and needs.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A <b>construction plan</b> with specific projects ready to build right away.</li><li>• A plan created <b>behind closed doors</b> without community involvement.</li><li>• A guarantee that <b>every idea or project</b> will be funded and built.</li><li>• A <b>short-term "to-do list"</b> for maintenance or quick fixes.</li><li>• A plan focused only on <b>one mode</b> of travel.</li></ul> |



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## Q: What is the planning area?

**A:** The planning area is the City of Whittier, but the plan looks beyond city limits to consider everyone who relies on Whittier's transportation system. This includes residents, commuting workers, business owners, freight operators, visitors, and tourists. It also accounts for seasonal users such as cruise ship passengers, ferry users, and recreational travelers, as well as the needs of emergency services and regional connections.



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## Q: What are the objectives of Whittier Moves?

A: The objectives of this Master Plan are:

- **Establish a transportation vision:** Define a clear and compelling vision for Whittier's future transportation system that aligns with the City's strategic goals and future land use.
- **Identify incremental improvements:** Outline specific improvement projects that support future usage needs and improve movement to and between the various activities within the City of Whittier.
- **Incorporate stakeholder input:** Incorporate a plan that actively gathers and uses feedback from a broad range of stakeholders and the public.
- **Explore funding options:** Identify and evaluate innovative funding opportunities to support the realization of transportation improvements.
- **Practical implementation:** Provide an actionable plan that remains relevant and usable, with the use of short-term (1-2 years), medium-term (3-5 years), and long-term (5 years and beyond) timescales.
- **Promote multimodal transportation and intermodal connectivity:** Create a plan that identifies and improves multimodal transportation and intermodal connectivity for the wide range of users.

## Q: What is the anticipated schedule?

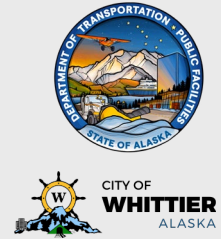
A: Whittier Moves was developed over the course of 2025 and 2026. The timeline below shows the major tasks and anticipated completion dates.

| Task Name                                                                            | Anticipated Completion |                                  |                                                   |         |         |                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|------------------------------|
|                                                                                      | Q1 2025                | Q2 2025                          | Q3 2025                                           | Q4 2025 | Q1 2026 | Q2 2026                      |
| Public Involvement                                                                   |                        |                                  |                                                   |         |         | We Are Here                  |
| Data Collection and Analysis                                                         |                        | Pop-up Booths:<br>Introduce Plan | Open House:<br>Issues, Needs, Potential Solutions |         |         | Pop-up Booths:<br>Draft Plan |
| Existing Conditions                                                                  |                        |                                  |                                                   |         |         |                              |
| Needs Analysis<br>- Traffic Analysis and Project Prioritization                      |                        |                                  |                                                   |         |         |                              |
| Project Recommendations and Implementation<br>- Cost Estimates and Final Master Plan |                        |                                  |                                                   |         |         |                              |



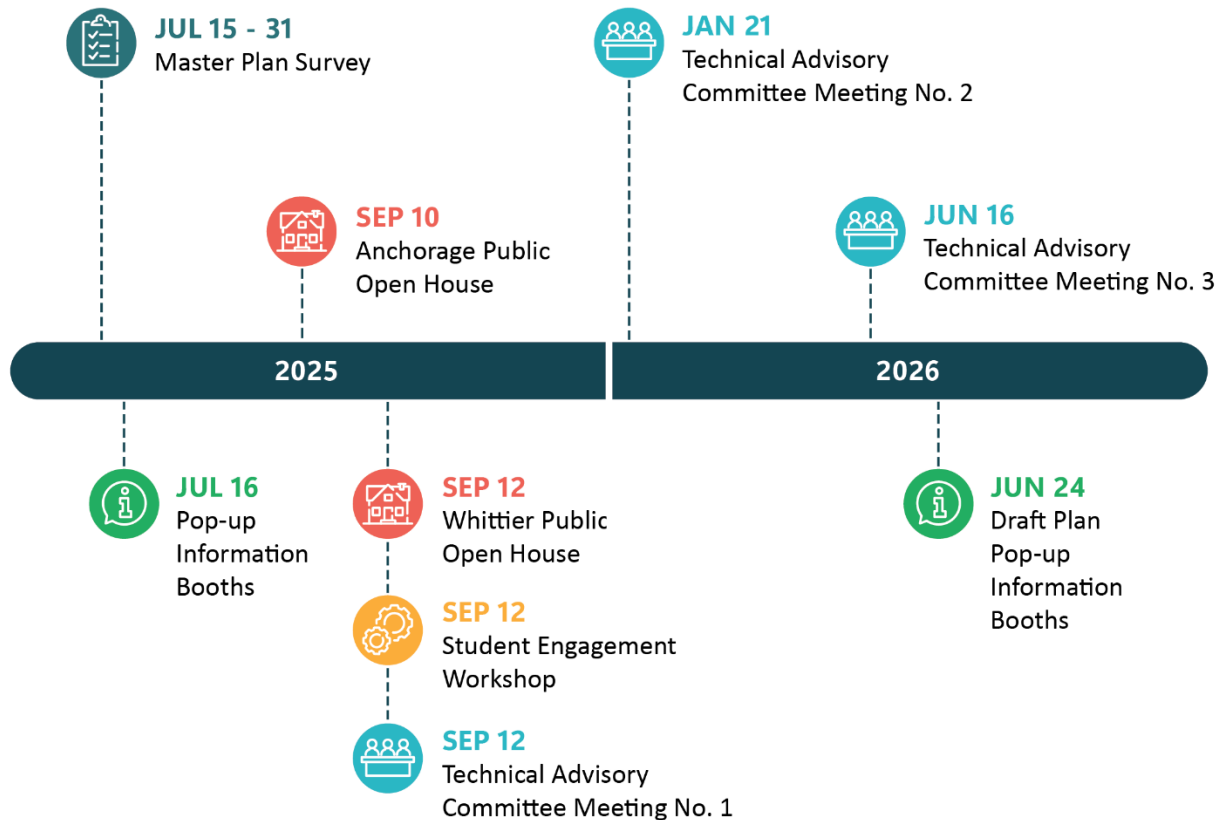
# Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan Frequently Asked Questions

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## Q: How has the planning team engaged with the community so far?

A: Engagement efforts have included:



Summaries of engagement events can be found on the website at [www.WhittierMoves.com](http://www.WhittierMoves.com)

## Q: Will Whittier Moves address the airstrip and aviation access?

A: Aviation access is an important consideration in the Whittier Moves planning process. Because multimodal transportation and intermodal connectivity are core objectives of the plan, feedback about the airstrip helps highlight its role in Whittier's overall transportation system and may help position it for future funding and improvements. That said, this plan is not focused specifically on relocating or redesigning the airstrip. A more detailed review of the Whittier airport will be conducted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the DOT&PF as part of the upcoming Prince William Sound Area Plan update, which will examine how to keep the airport operational and identify potential improvements.



# Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan Frequently Asked Questions

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## **Q: Will tunnel schedules and fares be changed?**

**A:** The Anton Anderson Memorial Tunnel is Whittier's only road connection, making it uniquely important to residents, workers, and visitors. The tunnel is owned by the Alaska Railroad and operated by DOT&PF, who is responsible for setting schedules and fares, not the Whittier Moves plan directly. While this plan cannot directly change tunnel operations, it can document community feedback and highlight how tunnel access affects Whittier's transportation system. That input may help inform future discussions with DOT&PF about schedules, fares, and their impacts.

## **Q: Will Whittier Moves address land ownership challenges?**

**A:** Land ownership is a significant factor in Whittier's growth and development, since much of the land is held by the Alaska Railroad and other entities. While the Whittier Moves plan cannot directly change who owns the land, it can document these challenges and highlight how land ownership affects transportation, access, and community development. The City of Whittier is actively working to pursue opportunities for acquiring land from the Alaska Railroad to support local priorities. Feedback gathered through this planning process has helped demonstrate how land ownership influences future transportation projects and community needs.

## **Q: Will issues like road and sidewalk maintenance, parking areas, or snow removal be addressed by Whittier Moves?**

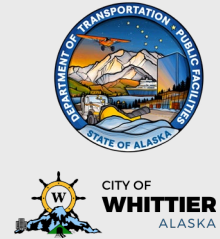
**A:** Yes. These and similar concerns have been raised through public input and considered in the Master Plan. The plan includes recommendations related to transportation issues such as maintenance, parking, and snow removal. While these recommendations are not guarantees or a short-term "to-do" list, they will help reflect community needs and guide future decisions.



# Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan

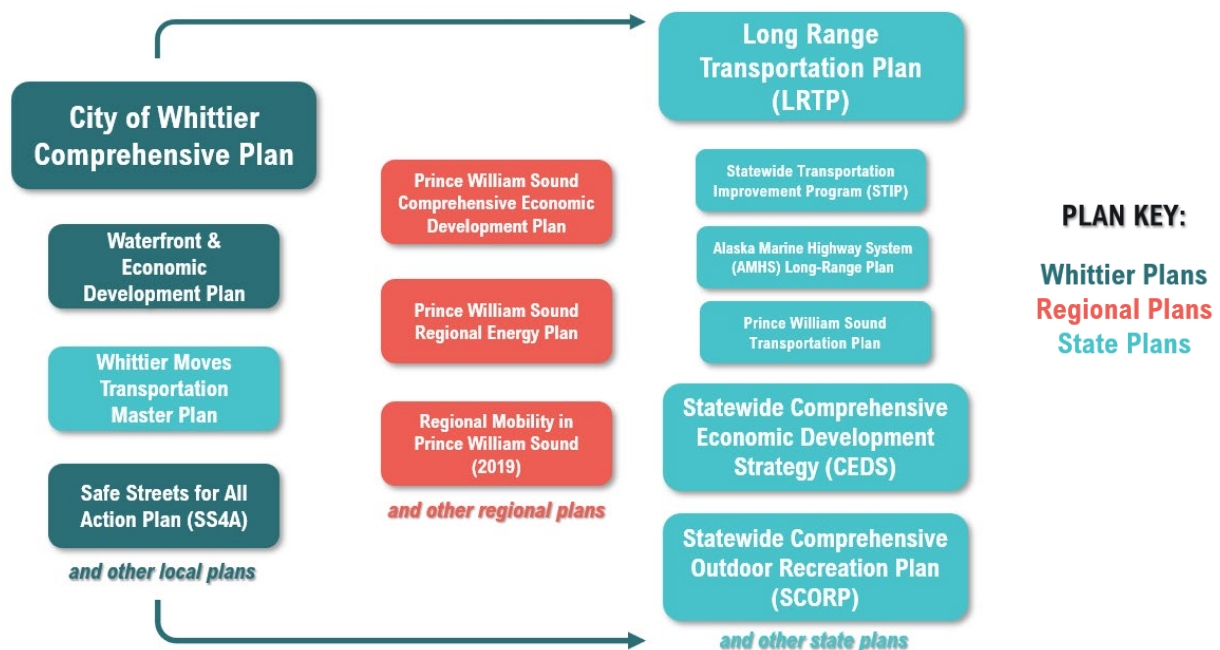
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### Q: How does Whittier Moves interact with other local, regional, and state plans?

**A:** Whittier Moves is part of a larger family of plans that work together at the local, regional, and state levels. This Transportation Master Plan both informs and is informed by these efforts, helping to coordinate priorities and guide future decisions. Because planning efforts shape funding decisions, aligning Whittier Moves with other plans is an important step toward positioning projects for funding and eventual implementation. Additionally, Whittier Moves has been developed alongside the Safety Action Plan, with some shared data analyses and public engagement efforts.



### Q: Will Whittier Moves propose any projects?

**A:** The plan identifies and recommends potential projects, but each will undergo a comprehensive evaluation process before moving forward. Public input is central to shaping these recommendations, so they reflect the community's priorities and needs. Proposed projects must also align with broader planning documents. In addition, factors such as safety, user experience, environmental considerations, funding eligibility, maintenance needs, project readiness, and community support will all play an important role in determining which projects are included.



# Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan Frequently Asked Questions

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## **Q: Where can I find the draft plan?**

**A:** Both the Draft Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan and the Draft Whittier Safety Action Plan are available at [www.WhittierMoves.com](http://www.WhittierMoves.com).

## **Q: What is the public comment period for the draft plans?**

**A:** Feedback on the Draft Whittier Moves Transportation Master Plan or the Draft Whittier Safety Action Plan is welcomed through **Friday, July 24, 2026**. You may share your thoughts with the planning team by:

- Completing the survey by scanning the QR code below.
- Sending an email to [WhittierMoves@dowl.com](mailto:WhittierMoves@dowl.com)
- Calling DOWL Public Involvement at (907) 562-2000

