

**WAC 468-105-030 Determination of initial affected project area.**

The department shall define an initial affected project area for proposed projects selected before September 1, 1994, or after June 30, 1997. In order to define the initial affected project area, and pursuant to the requirements of RCW 47.46.030(4), the department shall conduct a comprehensive analysis of traffic patterns and economic impacts to define the geographic area that is affected by the imposition of tolls or user fees.

(1) **Traffic and economic analysis.** Such analysis shall result in a map depicting the initial affected project area, and shall include, at a minimum:

(a) A comparison of the estimated percentage of residents of communities in the vicinity of the project and in other communities impacted by the project who could be subject to tolls or user fees and the estimated percentage of other users and transient traffic that could be subject to tolls or user fees;

(b) An analysis of the anticipated traffic diversion patterns on local streets, highways and to other transportation services or facilities;

(c) An analysis of the potential economic impact resulting from proposed toll rates or user fee rates imposed on residents, commercial traffic, and commercial entities in communities in the vicinity of and impacted by the project;

(d) An analysis of the economic impact of tolls or user fees on the price of goods and services generally; and

(e) An analysis of the relationship of the project to state transportation needs and benefits.

(2) **Public notification and consultation.** The department shall notify and consult with jurisdictions and interested persons and organizations regarding the studies to be conducted, including the methodology that is developed to collect data and the criteria that is established to recommend the initial affected project area boundary.

(3) **Studies available to public.** The department shall make the studies available to the public including the methodology and criteria used to develop the study recommendations, published reports, raw data, analysis, maps and other information generated by the studies.

(4) **Precinct boundaries.** At the request of the department, the county auditor in any county which is within an initial affected project area shall provide current precinct maps or boundary descriptions to the department. The department shall use the most current precinct maps or boundary descriptions in defining each initial affected project area.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 47.46.030 (3)-(11). WSR 96-03-107, § 468-105-030, filed 1/23/96, effective 2/23/96.]