

# TRANSPORTATION

## NOVEMBER 2005

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

The transportation network of Fidalgo Island is comprised of rural two-lane roads, and off road trails. According to Skagit County Public Works, all county roads are functioning properly and are expected to handle projected growth. The State Highway is undergoing safety improvements and may receive capacity improvements in the future. New roads will be determined and constructed as part of new development.

### ISSUES IDENTIFIED TO DATE

#### Traffic Operations & Safety

- Limited access exists both to & from the Island
- Additional density may bring more traffic
- Seasonal traffic on Fidalgo Island creates congestion
- Single-occupancy vehicles are the most used travel mode
- The aging population of Fidalgo will require more transportation services over time, such as SKAT

### SUBAREA PLAN FEATURES

- Roads inventory and level of service (LOS)
- Consistency with Skagit County Transportation Plan

### Non-Motorized Transportation

- Lack of roadway shoulders to accommodate bicyclists
- Unsafe walking conditions in neighborhoods
- Gaps in the “on-road” bike lanes should be addressed by improving shoulders on Havekost Road, Marine Drive and Rosario Road to create a bicycle connection from Anacortes to Deception Pass State Park
- County Public Works and Parks Departments should cooperate with State Parks to plan on-and off-road trail connections throughout the Island.

### Potential tools and trade-offs:

#### Sidewalks

- + Would create a safe walking area for neighborhoods
- Would require easements on sides of roads

#### Bike lanes on County roads

- + Would provide non-motorized access and recreation on the island
- Would require shoulder easement for bike lanes



# PARKS & OPEN SPACE

## NOVEMBER 2005

### EXISTING CONDITIONS

Fidalgo Island is home to several county parks and one state park. The area is also adjacent to the Anacortes Community Forest. Approximately 17% of the subarea is devoted to public parks and open space.

#### Existing Parks

- Deception Pass State Park (with substantial expansion planned)
- Sharpe Park
- Montgomery-Duban Headlands Park
- Two Public Boat Launches

### ISSUES IDENTIFIED TO DATE

#### Conservation

- Potential to create conservation easements through Conservation & Reserve Developments (CaRD)
- Methods to preserve working landscapes

#### SUBAREA PLAN FEATURES

Relationship to Skagit County Comprehensive Park & Recreation Plan

Parks inventory and level of service (LOS)

### Potential tools and trade-offs:

#### Land Trusts

- + Permanent
- No funding

#### Conservation and Reserve Development (CaRDs)

- + CaRDs can be used to preserve open space on private property
- This open space is not permanent, and could potentially be filled in at a future date

#### Trail Corridors

- + Create connections between existing parks
- Require easements through private lands
- Continued development of Deception Pass State Park, including trails, trailheads, parking lots, campgrounds of all kinds, and/or other uses which require public access, will place an unwarranted burden on existing County roads and on land owners adjoining those roads, and create public safety hazards. The County should conduct public hearings and environmental review, and county roads providing access should be improved with adequate shoulders, paving and drainage at the state's expense.

