Prospectus: Concept Plan and Alternatives Analysis

Decades of economic growth, isolated land-use decisions, and underinvestment in our transportation system have led to gridlock on our regional highways and local roads. This gridlock impacts everyone, from the commuter spending hours a day in their car, to the resident who notices more and more automobiles cutting through their quiet neighborhood. Local policymakers and companies have recognized the significance of this issue and have prioritized solutions. Unfortunately, the regional nature of our transportation system and land-use patterns make solving local traffic problems extremely frustrating when done in isolation. It is within this context that we develop the Manzanita Concept Plan and Alternatives Analysis.

The Manzanita Concept Plan and Alternatives Analysis will be broken down into three sections. The first section will include a comprehensive list of problems and issues. This "problem list" will include specific problems such as east-west connections, and overarching problems, such as the difficulty of solving issues that cross jurisdictions and sectors. The second section will examine the transportation-related solutions that local cities, companies, and TMAs are currently providing. This section will also include several case studies from other regions facing similar issues. Finally, the third chapter will examine organizational alternatives and how each type of organization could address the problems we face. The draft document will not be a final recommendation, but a document that furthers our group discussion regarding where we are now, and how to best work together as a sub-region.