

# Project Purpose and Need

The Purpose and Need Statement of a project identifies the needs for the proposed improvement and provides the reasoning for how the project addresses the identified problems, issues, and concerns. This Purpose and Need Statement serves as the foundation for the proposed project, establishing the rationale for pursuing the project.

The Complete 540 project is needed because many of the project area's existing major roadways operate above capacity and traffic volumes are anticipated to increase together with the rapid area population growth predicted between now and 2035. Transportation options through the project area are limited to congested highspeed roadways and lower-speed local roads.

These factors will contribute to increasing traffic congestion, which will reduce mobility for the traveling public.

There are two primary elements of the Complete 540 project purpose:

1. Improve transportation mobility for trips within, or traveling through, the project study area during the peak travel period.
2. Reduce forecast congestion on the existing roadway network within the project study area.

In addition, a desirable outcome of the project will be to improve system linkage in the roadway network in the project study area.