

# Collaborative Roadmap, Phase IV

IACC Conference

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Washington State  
Department of  
**Commerce**

# Presentation overview

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- Project background – how did we get here?
- Project goals and issues project is addressing
- Process to develop solutions and recommendations
- Project schedule
- Feedback/ideas/questions

# Collaborative Roadmap, Phase IV

Project background



# Project background

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- History of regulatory reform efforts focused on our growth policy framework.
- Legislative success.
- Recent recommendations focused on capital facility and utility coordination.

# Roadmap IV background

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- **A Road Map to Washington's Future (2019)**
  - Integrate water and sewer districts, school districts, and port district planning into the GMA.
- **Collaborative Roadmap Phase III (2023)**
  - **Task force recommendation**
    - Focus on increasing planning between jurisdictions and special districts to better implement utility and capital facility planning requirements under the Growth Management Act.
    - Focus on methods to help ensure that special districts can more fully incorporate local comprehensive plans as they plan for the utilities and capital facilities necessary to accommodate growth.

# Legislative direction (Senate Bill 5950)

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- Convene a task force to make recommendations on integrating water, sewer, school, and port districts into the growth management act planning process.
- The task force shall build upon the findings, concepts, and recommendations in recent reports.
- The task force must involve diverse perspectives from organizations that have experience with local or special purpose district planning processes.

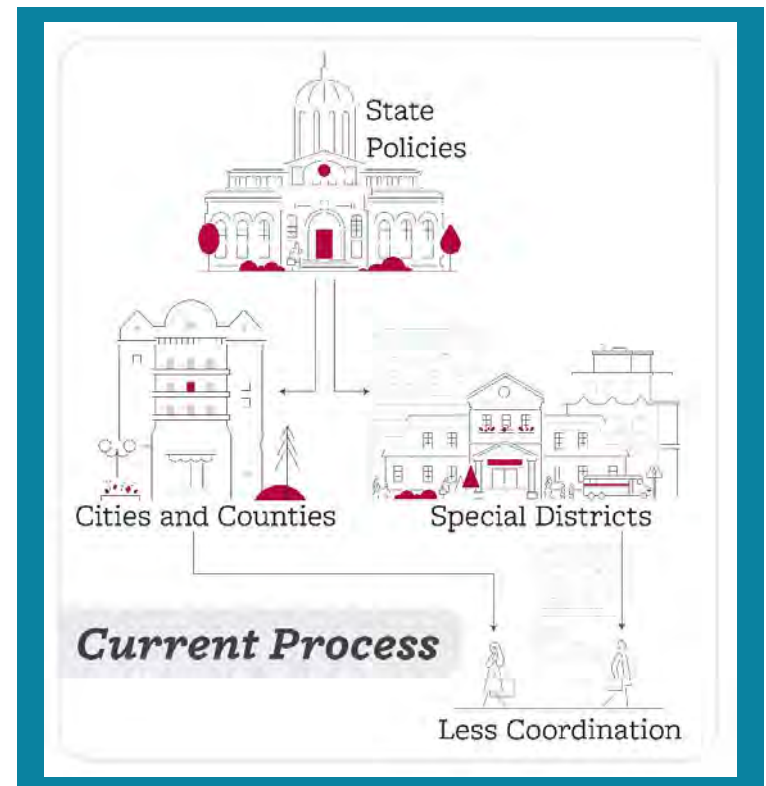
# Collaborative Roadmap, Phase IV

Project goals and issues project is addressing



# Current conditions

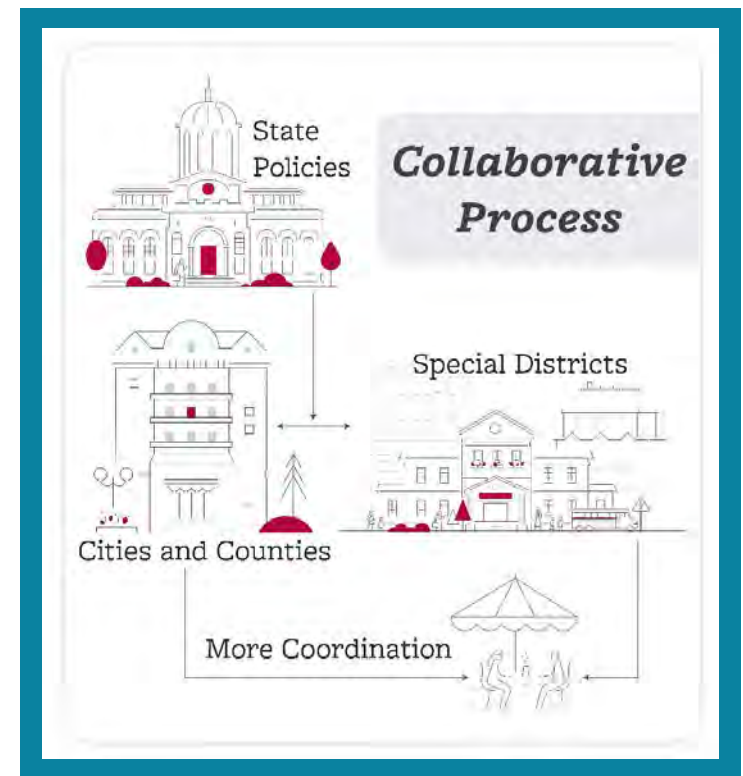
- Many services necessary to implement jurisdictions growth plans.
- Laws and processes often not synced.
- Challenges to increasing coordination and planning.
  - Staffing/time.
  - Number of special districts or jurisdictions to coordinate with.
  - Not all jurisdictions/special districts have the same needs to coordinate.





# High level goals and outcomes

- Look for right sized opportunities to sync statutes, rules, and processes.
  - Planning and permitting
- More coordination, where feasible, may:
  - Result in better overall planning.
  - Increase understanding between jurisdictions and service providers.
  - Provide opportunities to link resources and provide support to each other - focus on better outcomes.



# Possible topics, ideas, and concepts

## Assistance

- Commerce developed templates for capital facility planning (existing conditions and financial planning)
- Commerce developed guidance and best practices for capital facility planning.
- Incentives for coordination on neighborhood infill development.
- Ongoing assistance to better time road and infrastructure improvements based on planned growth and necessary infrastructure improvements.

# Possible topics, ideas, and concepts

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## Policy and process

- Modify current Capital Facility Planning requirements (right size and or better integrate outside service providers).
- Consider options to better integrate outside service providers on permitting decisions.
- Modify buildable lands or land capacity analysis planning.
- State law changes to better link Growth Management Act (GMA) and planning by outside service providers.
- Ensure timing of plans is well synced.

# Opportunities and challenges

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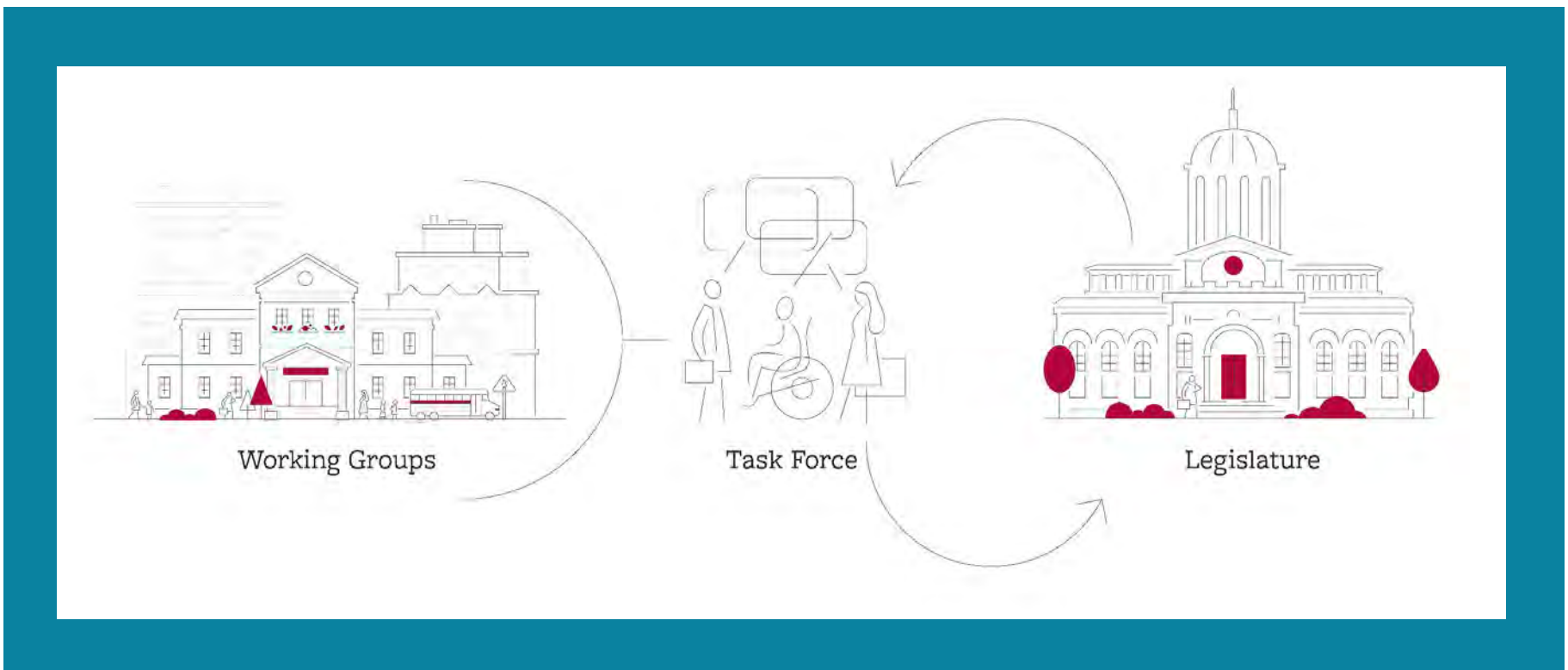
- What are the opportunities to increase planning and coordination between jurisdictions and special districts as we plan for growth?
- What are some of the opportunities and challenges of increased planning and coordination?
- What ideas and concepts should we focus on?

# Collaborative Roadmap, Phase IV

Process to develop solutions and recommendations

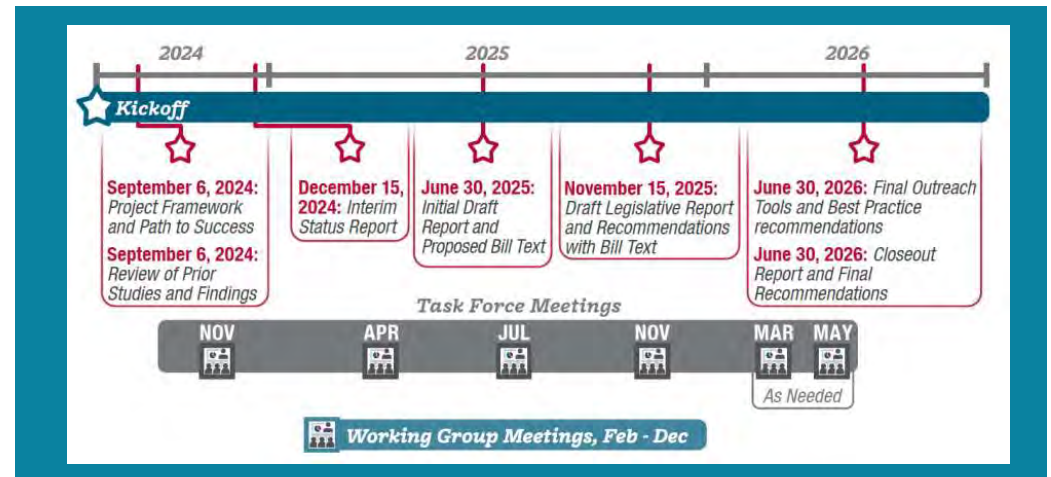


# Decision making process



# High level project schedule

- Water/sewer/PUD working group will be formed.
- 3-5 virtual meetings February – December 2025.
- Recommendations forwarded to Task Force.
- Task Force recommendations to legislature.



# Next steps

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- Questions?
- Comments?
- Want to get involved?

Sign up

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# Thank you!



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