



Linking Our Communities • Advancing Our Region

# 2010-2035

# Regional Long-Range

# Transportation Plan

**PACTS**  
Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System



# Destination Tomorrow 2010

Linking our Communities – Advancing our Region  
2035 Long Range Transportation Plan

By **PACTS**

The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)  
for the urbanized area of Portland, Maine

Adopted by the Policy Committee of the  
Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation System

April 2011

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## **Introduction to the Plan**

### The 2010 PACTS *Destination Tomorrow* Transportation Plan

Early in the update process the Long Range Plan Update Committee discussed and deliberated over the scope of the task before them: To update the *Destination Tomorrow* long range regional transportation plan. It was understood from the beginning that the process would be quite different from the major multi-year effort for the 2003 plan, or the 2006 effort through which the original plan was updated taking into account the addition of 8 municipalities and 3 transit providers after the 2000 Census.

As a first step, the Committee reviewed the Federal requirements which require long -range plan update adoption every four years, meaning sometime in 2010.

Review of the 2006 plan led the Committee to agree that much of the planning and work outlined in the 2006 plan was still relevant and useful. Recognizing this fact, the Committee agreed that many factors had changed especially in the funding areas, and through the experience of the 2008 energy cost escalation. These and other changes needed to be identified, clearly articulated, and strategies for managing incorporated into the Plan update. The Committee's work would center on the implications of these changes for transportation planning and investments looking forward 25 years, and then making adjustments in the near term (next 4-6 years) that would prepare the PACTS' region for the transportation future we foresee and desire.

Most of the initial work of the Committee centered on eliminating and combining the layers established in the earlier plans around Vision-Goals-Guiding Policies-Objectives-Strategies layering. The Committee worked to simplify this layering, and focused on the following:

- ***Create a simplified, more usable planning document for PACTS members to use as a regular resource***
- ***Review and update acknowledging socio-economic-environment and funding changes, not a rewrite***
- ***Highlight and emphasize new and continuing strategies to focus on based on looking forward 20 years.***
- ***Create an action plan for the next four years.***

This update effort therefore is not intended to be a complete re-write of the 2006 *Destination Tomorrow* PACTS long range plan. Instead it is a document that identifies the major changes that have occurred – social, economic, and environmental – among others and an updates the regional plan for managing the changes and challenges we have identified.

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