

Appendix A: Purpose and Limitations of W/T/C Planning Studies

Purpose & Limitations of WVTC Planning Studies

WVTC transportation studies and plans are *advisory* in nature and do not impose a requirement for implementation or a commitment of funds by a WVTC member jurisdiction. The role of WVTC transportation plans and the specific transportation improvements identified in those plans is characterized by the following:

- Recommended transportation system improvements are identified at “planning level” detail, meaning that they are conceptual and subject to further public/stakeholder review and refinement by the implementing agency in order to balance potentially competing transportation, community development and economic objectives.
- Inclusion of recommended projects from adopted WVTC transportation plans in a city or county *6-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)* or the *WSDOT Highway Systems Plan* assures an automatic finding of consistency by WVTC for inclusion in the Regional TIP and therefore the Statewide TIP.
- When ranking candidate projects for federal funding and inclusion in the Regional TIP, the WVTC policy board may choose to give additional weight to submittals that propose to implement recommended projects in the Regional Transportation Plan or another adopted and current transportation plan adopted by WVTC.