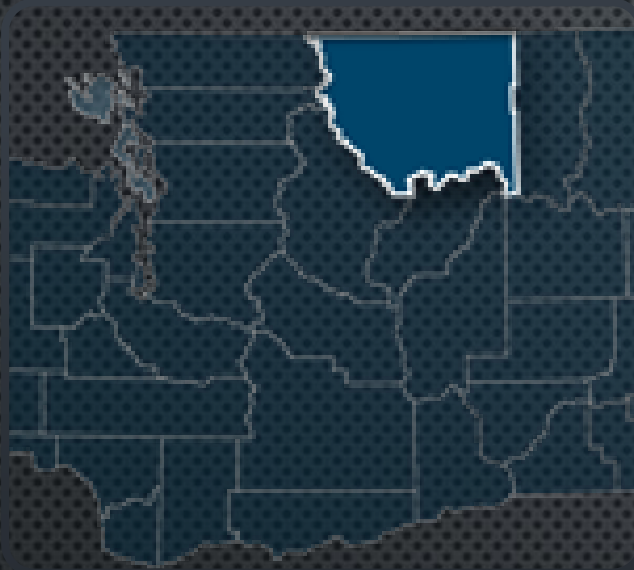


RURAL EQUITY PERSPECTIVES

SOO ING-MOODY
TOWN OF TWISP

TWISP

OKANOGAN COUNTY



POPULATION

- TWISP 1,035
- OKANOGAN COUNTY 42,398

GEOGRAPHY

- LARGEST COUNTY IN THE STATE 5,267.9 SQ. MILES (12.62% OF WA'S TOTAL AREA)
- 5TH FEWEST RESIDENTS PER SQUARE MILE (7.8 / SQ. M.)

DEMOGRAPHICS

- MHI: TWISP \$40,000; Ok. Co. \$57,422; WA \$86,343
- RACE/ETHNICITY:

AM. INDIAN -13.2% (OK. CO.), 1.9% (WA); 20.7%
HISPANIC / LATINO -20.7%, 3.0% (WA);

- AGE 65+: 22% (OK. CO.) TO 15.9% (WA)

RURAL / DISADVANTAGED CYCLE OF TRANSPORTATION CHALLENGES

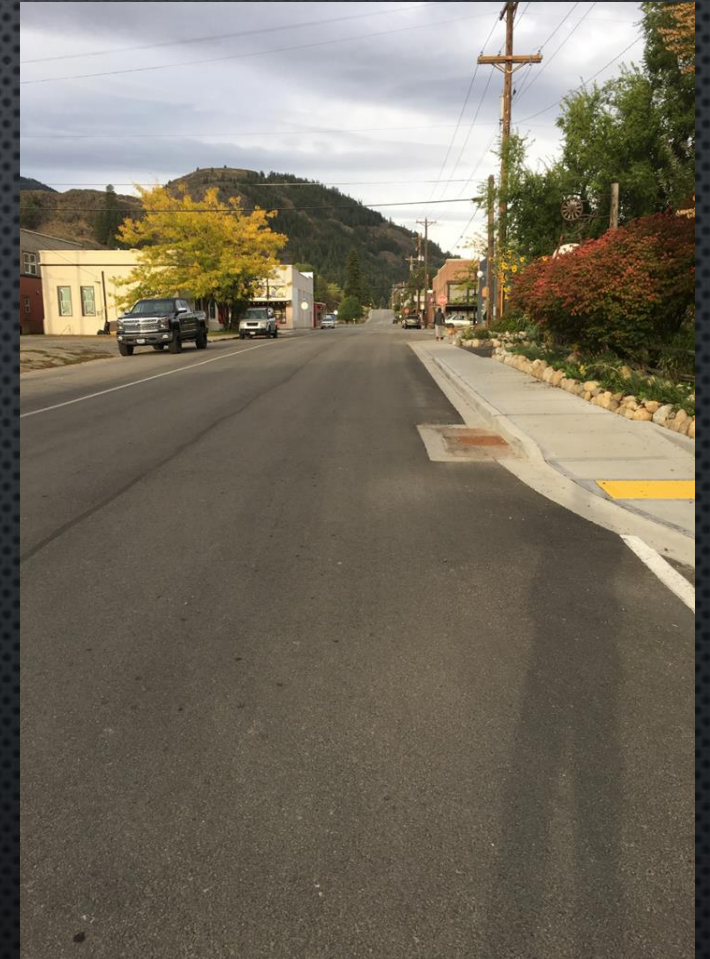
- **COST OF CONSTRUCTION THE SAME OR GREATER FOR SMALL TOWNS AND REMOTE RURAL AREAS**
- **LIMITED BUDGET (TWISP \$ 60,000/YR) TOO SMALL FOR MOST PROJECTS**
- **FALLING BEHIND ON MAINTENANCE ISSUES: LEAD TO INCREASED COSTS AND POTHOLES LIKE NEVER SEEN BEFORE**
- **OPERATIONAL COST BURDENS A CONCERN FOR LARGELY DISADVANTAGED SMALL TOWNS WITH STATE ROUTES**
- **LACK OF CAPACITY (STAFFING AND EXPERTISE)**
- **LACK OF EQUITABLE RTPO FUNDING**



TWISP CHALLENGES TO SUCCESSES



- ✓ LOWEST PCR RATING OF 63 IN THE COUNTY IN 2015 TO RATING OF 85 IN 2022
- ✓ FROM 'NO PLAN FOR PRESERVATION' TO COMPLETE REHABILITATION OF ALL STREETS BY 2027
- ✓ 2015 ANNUAL STREET FUND OF \$60,000 TO \$149,000 WITH TBD IN 2022
- ✓ SINCE 2015, NEARLY \$6.4M IN TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS COMPLETED (INCLUDING TRAILS, 1.4 MILES OF SIDEWALK, SURFACE TREATMENT OF 5.7 MILES OF ROADWAY) - THANKS TO A COMBINATION OF STATE/FEDERAL GRANTS AND LOCAL PARTNERSHIPS!



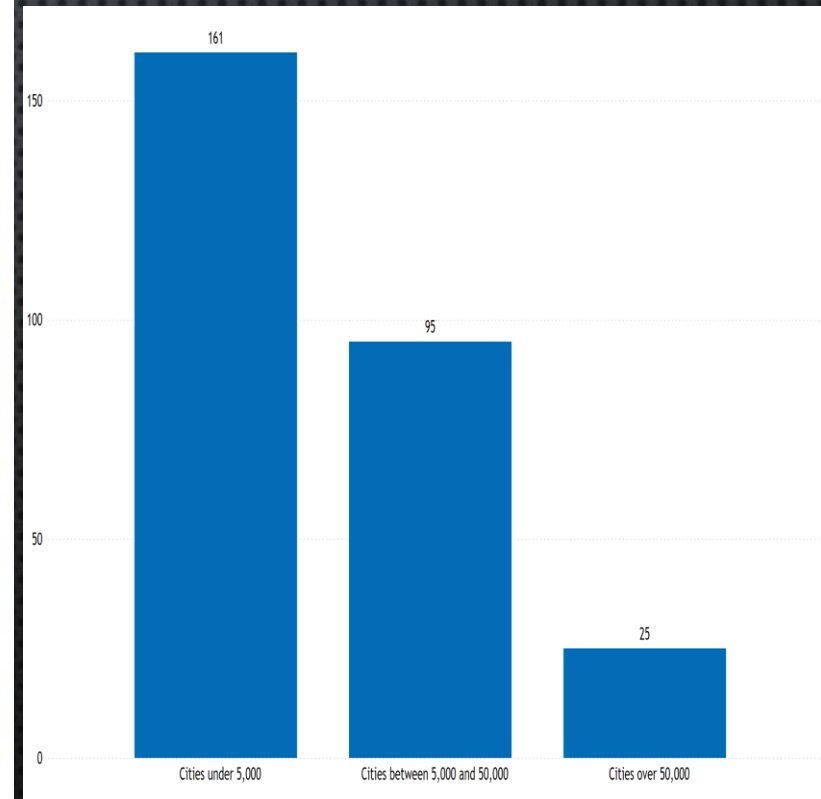
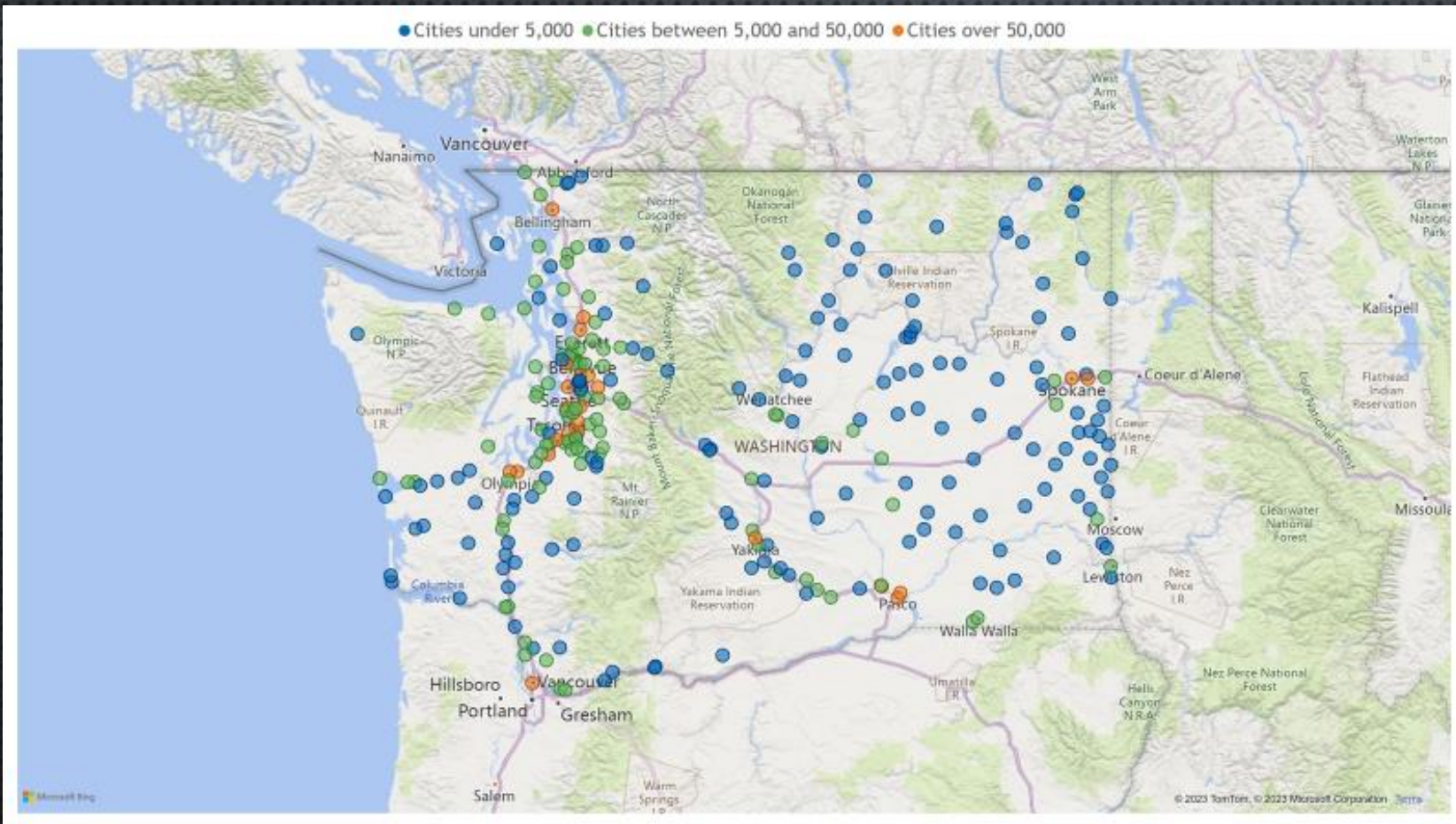


OKANOGAN REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION

- OCOG FORMED 2015 IN RESPONSE TO LOSS OF STATUS IN TRI-COUNTY RTPO WITH CHELAN/DOUGLAS (POP. GROWTH > 100K)
- OCOG GRANTED RTPO DESIGNATION 2017
- ORTPO WASHINGTON STATE'S NEWEST RTPO; SECOND SINGLE-COUNTY RTPO

WHY DOES RURAL EQUITY MATTER?

BECAUSE SMALL CITIES / TOWNS ARE THE MAJORITY IN WASHINGTON STATE





EQUITY LESSONS LEARNED FROM LIVED RURAL EXPERIENCE

- RTPOs NEED ADEQUATE AND EQUITABLE FUNDING
- INCLUSIVE COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES NEEDED FOR INNOVATIVE PROBLEM-SOLVING
- REMOVAL OF BARRIERS AND ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS THAT HISTORICALLY DISADVANTAGE UNDER- AND UNSERVED RURAL AREAS WILL ENABLE PARTICIPATION
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING GRANTS NEEDED
- WE NEED YOUR HELP!

THANK YOU!

