

**From:** Gary D. Ballew  
**To:** [Nicole Stickney](#); [Nicole Stickney](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Franklin County Mapping and Transportation Element  
**Date:** Saturday, April 14, 2018 1:08:43 PM

---

Nicole,

I'm sorry I didn't get comments back to you on the transportation element. Did Randy or Buck look at that?

Here are the comments I provided at the meeting.

- 2018 Ag Census – what we know - The National Agricultural Statistics Service (Division of USDA) is continuing to collect census responses. The first official deadline for responses occurred in mid-February. Based on the press release link below, the agency will continue to collect responses through the spring months. They sent out 3 million questionnaires with a 40% rate of return at this point.  
[https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Newsroom/2018/02\\_27\\_2018.php](https://www.agcensus.usda.gov/Newsroom/2018/02_27_2018.php) We still don't have a date when it will be released. I might just copy a table from the Census and state the source. They should have it broken down by County and over time.
- In the Agricultural Demand section, add some language regarding the flexibility of supply. Maybe something along the lines of *Irrigated agriculture in Franklin County is flexible in meeting market demand for a different product mixes. The ability of the soil to grow a wide range of agricultural products, combined with consistent water supply, means Franklin County agriculture should perform better than other agricultural regions across the country.*
- In the Agricultural Business section add, ...within the county. *Decreasing labor has led to increased automation in both the agricultural and agricultural processing sectors. Increased productivity drives the need for fewer, higher skilled employees that earn a better wage. Continued educational opportunities and workforce training are necessary for continued success of the industry.* Prospects look bright...
- In the Expansion section add to the end, *Franklin County is one of the youngest counties in the State. If these young people can be retained and given the skills necessary to succeed, the County could see a labor pool that will provide a competitive advantage as it seeks to expand.*
- In the table Section Education and Training consider adding *changing skill sets demanded by industry mean continuing education and STEM will be critical for future success.*

These are of course all suggestions. Good idea to use the Counties Overall Economic Development Plan.

Thanks,  
Gary

---

**From:** Nicole Stickney [mailto:[NStickney@AHBL.com](mailto:NStickney@AHBL.com)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 21, 2018 1:51 PM  
**To:** Randy E. Hayden <[rhayden@portofpasco.org](mailto:rhayden@portofpasco.org)>; Gary D. Ballew <[gballew@portofpasco.org](mailto:gballew@portofpasco.org)>  
**Cc:** Nicole Stickney <[planning@co.franklin.wa.us](mailto:planning@co.franklin.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Franklin County Mapping and Transportation Element

Hi Randy and Gary,

Please find attached several maps as discussed. I hope these are helpful.

I'm also attaching the draft Transportation Element draft for Gary's input - We would appreciate any feedback you have for the "Aviation Facilities" and "Rail System" sections, page T-20.

Thank you,

**Nicole Stickney, AICP | Planner**

**AHBL, Inc.** | TACOMA • SEATTLE • SPOKANE • **TRI-CITIES**

509.380.5883 **TEL** | 509.316.7131 **DIRECT** | [nstickney@ahbl.com](mailto:nstickney@ahbl.com) **EMAIL**

**We've moved! Our new address is 5804 Road 90, Suite H, Pasco, WA 99301.**

*Civil Engineers • Structural Engineers • Landscape Architects • Community Planners • Land Surveyors*

Visit us at [www.ahbl.com](http://www.ahbl.com). | Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#). | Send us a [file](#).