



The Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC) is a nonprofit organization that helps local governments across Washington State better serve their communities by providing legal and policy guidance on any topic.

Municipal Resource and Service Center (MRSC)

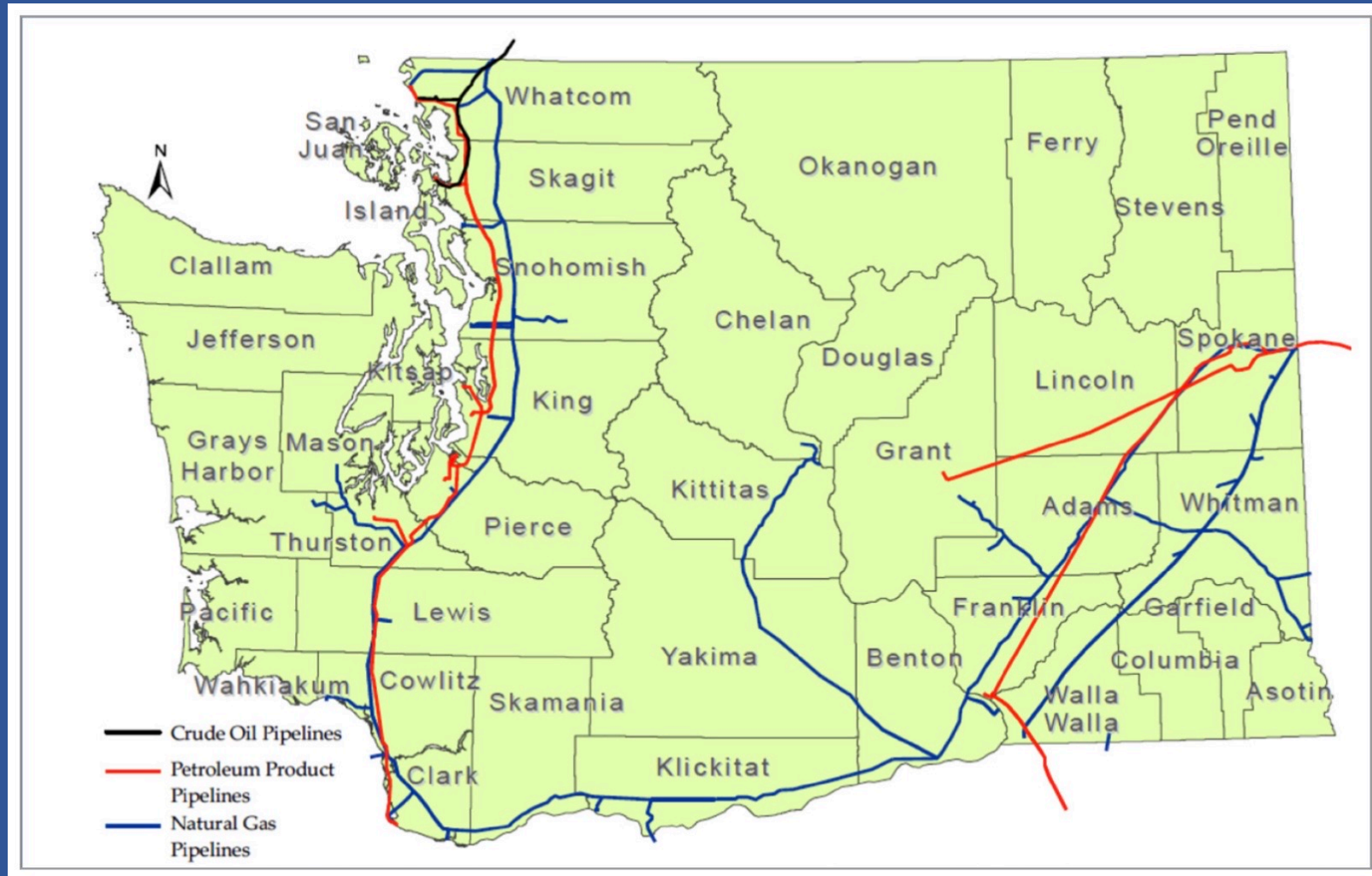
<https://mrsc.org/explore-topics/public-safety/special-topics/pipeline-safety>



- What are Transmission Pipelines?
- Federal, State, and Local Government Roles
- Where Are Transmission Pipelines Located?
- PIPA Recommended Practices and Hazard Mitigation Planning Reports
- Washington Model Pipeline Ordinances
- Examples of Local Pipeline Ordinances
- Federal and State Agencies Involved in Pipeline Operation Safety
- Recommended Resources

What are Transmission Pipelines?

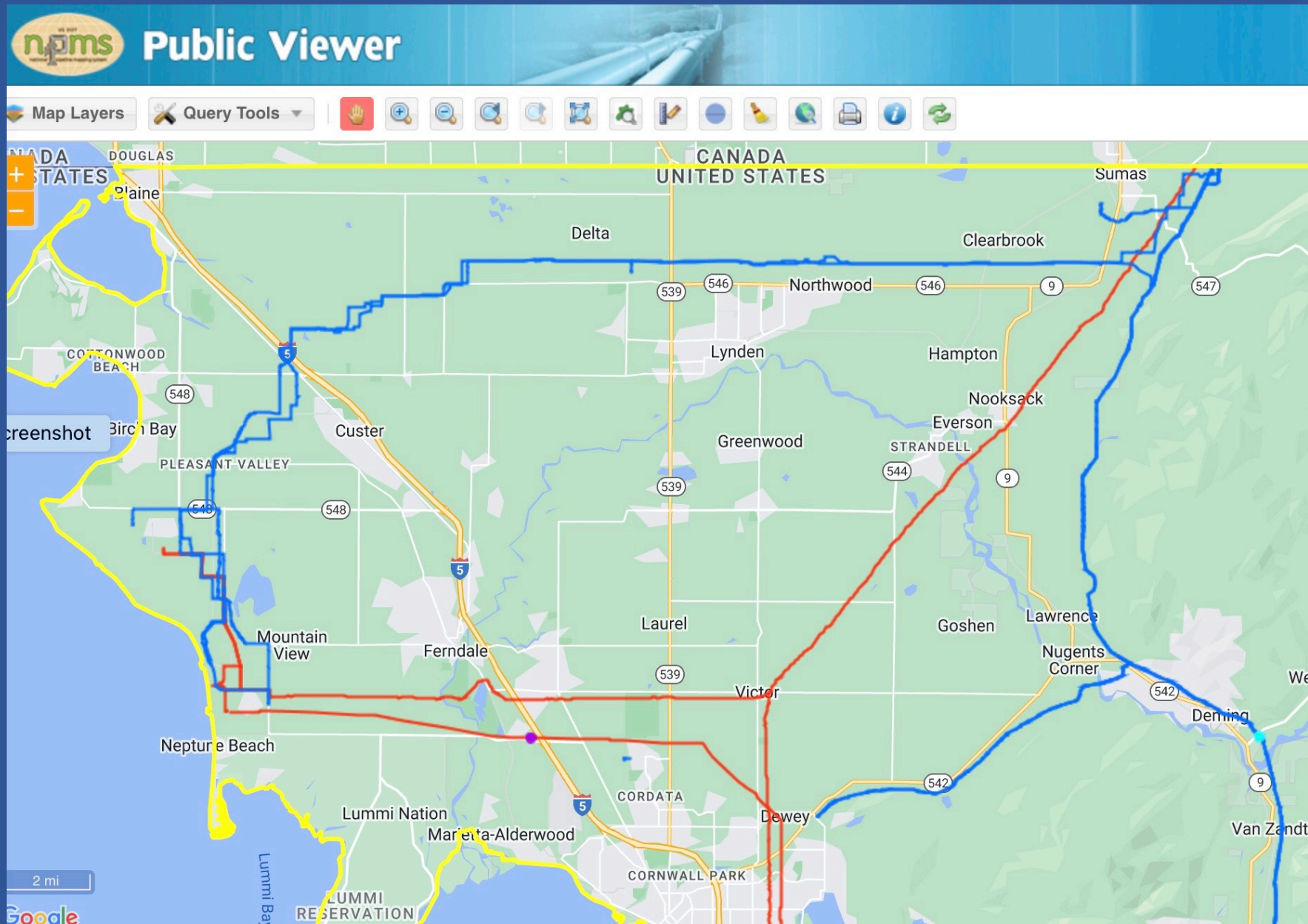
MRSC pipeline pages only include information about transmission pipelines



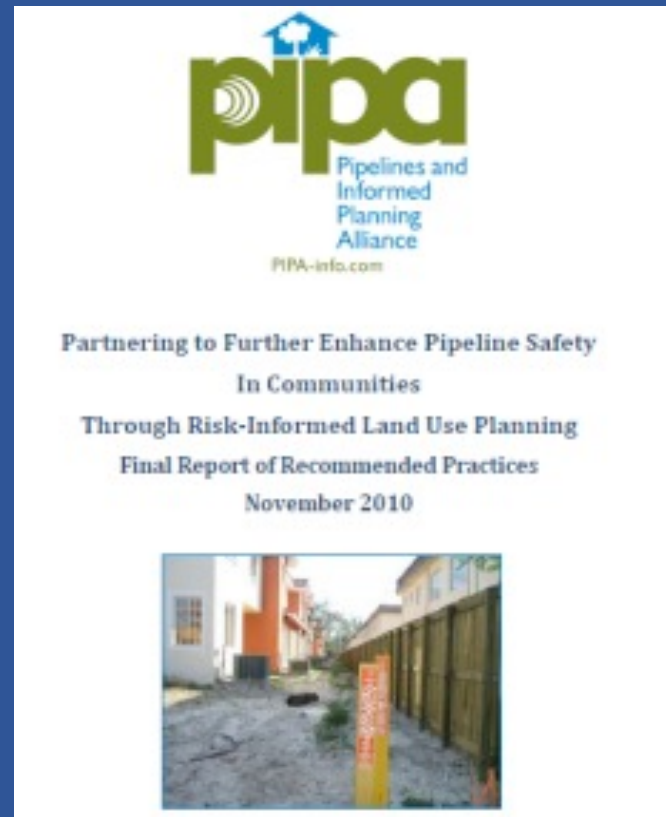
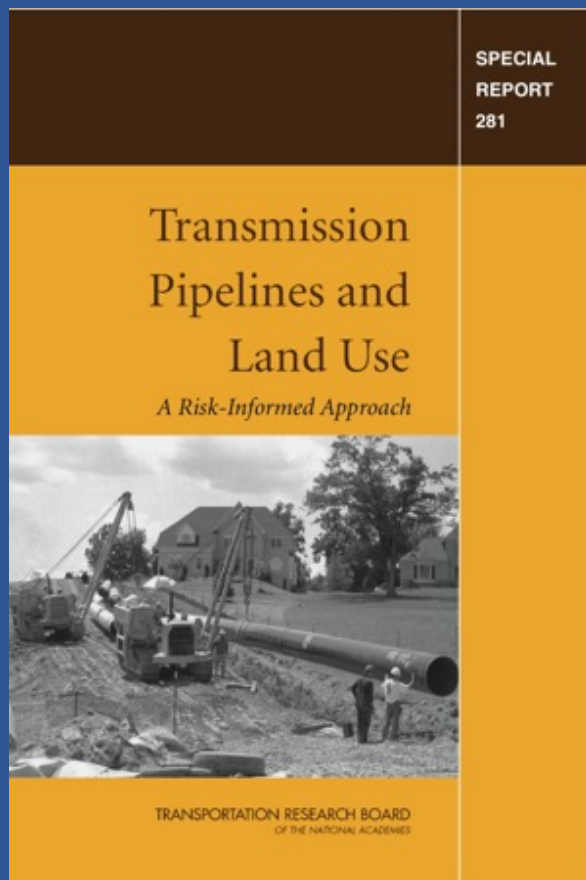
Federal, State, and Local Government Roles

“Unfortunately, even after the 1999 Olympic pipeline explosion in Bellingham, many cities and counties still have not established land use development procedures and regulations that take into account the risks presented by transmission pipelines. As urban uses and development expand into areas where existing transmission pipelines are situated, or where new pipelines are being proposed, local government officials need to acknowledge, discuss and address the risks that transmission pipelines pose to our communities, as well as the risks that increased human activities pose to the integrity of these pipelines.”

Where Are Transmission Pipelines?



PIPA Recommended Practices and Hazard Mitigation Planning Reports



Washington Model Pipeline Ordinances

Model Consultation Zone Ordinance (2006) - Model ordinance establishing a consultation zone for permits for designated activities within 660 feet of hazardous liquid or natural gas transmission pipelines.

Model Setback Ordinance for Transmission Pipelines (2000) – Establishes setback requirements for new hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines to be at a minimum of 50 feet from general residential, commercial, and industrial buildings.

Model Franchise Ordinance for Hazardous Liquid Pipelines (2000 reviewed 2018)

Model Franchise Ordinance for Natural Gas Pipelines (2000 reviewed 2018)

Examples of Local Pipeline Ordinances

Franchise Agreements

- Bellevue Ordinance No. 6275 (2016)
- Bellingham Ordinance No. 2011-11-060 (2011)
- Bellingham Ordinance No. 2019-12-033 (2019)
- Kirkland Ordinance No. 4298 (2011)
- Newcastle Ordinance No. 2008-0388 (2018)
- Pierce County Ordinance No. 2017-45s (2017)
- Renton Ordinance No. 5788 (2016)
- SeaTac Ordinance No. 06-100

Local Land Use Ordinances

- Benton County Code Sec. 9.08.030(h) and Sec. 9.08.033
- King County Code Sec. 21A.12.140
- Kirkland Ordinance No. O-4371 (2012)
- La Center Municipal Code Ch. 18.157
- Redmond Municipal Code Ch. 21.26
- Roy Municipal Code Ch. 11-39
- Skagit County Code Sec. 14.16.835
- Whatcom County Code Ch. 20.81

Federal and State Agencies Involved in Pipeline Operation Safety

Federal Agencies

- Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)
- National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB)
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

Washington State Agencies

- Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC)
- Washington Department of Ecology –
- Washington Utilities Coordinating Council (WUCC)
- Washington Citizens Committee on Pipeline Safety (CCOPS)

Recommended Resources

Local Organization and Government Resources

- **Pipeline Safety Trust** - Their publication, Local Government Guide to Pipelines (2014), is especially useful.
- **Whatcom County** - Natural Gas and Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Background Report (2001)

State and Federal Government Resources

- **PHMSA** - Overview of Pipeline Information for Washington State
- **Utility Notification Center** - Washington - Locate requests are accepted over the phone, through a fax-a-locate program, or through the ITIC program.
- **National Association of State Fire Marshalls: Pipeline Emergencies Training**

Other Previous MRSC Outreach Efforts to Local Governments

MRSC and Pipeline Safety Trust staff have presented multiple times at:

- WSAC conferences
- AWC conferences
- State Emergency Management Conference
- Planning Assoc. of WA
- Washington Fire Chiefs



MRSC staff participated in the creation of the PIPA Report

MRSC staff helped review and comment on many of the local government easement and land use ordinances.

Other Similar Information

The Pipeline Safety Trust's – Planning Near Pipelines

<https://pstrust.org/trust-initiatives-programs/planning-near-pipelines/>

PHMSA's – Land Use Planning and Transmission Pipelines

<https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/pipa/landuseplanning.htm>

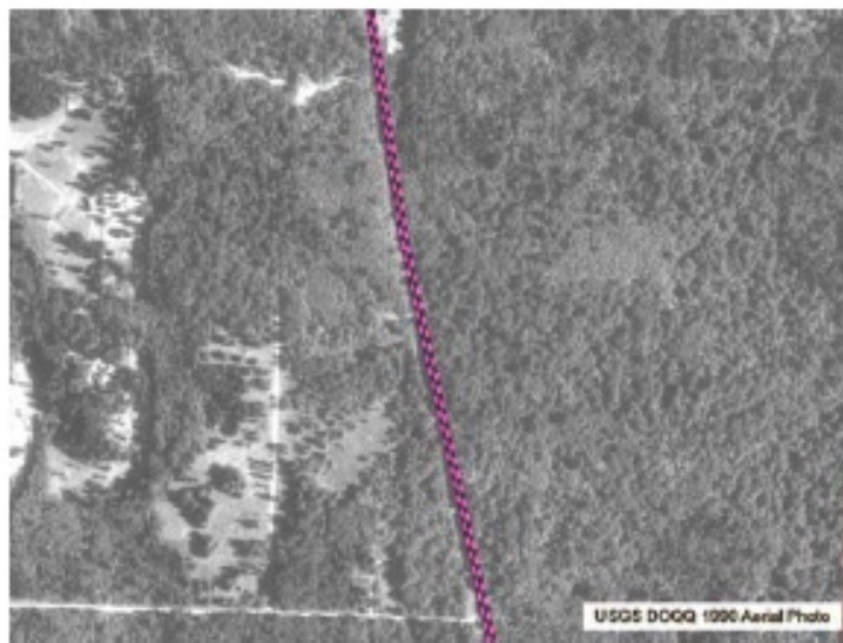


Figure 1 - 1990



Figure 2 - 2002