



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Department of Public Works

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MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay, City Manager

From: Daryl Grigsby, Public Works Director
Noel Hupprich, P.E., Project Engineer
David Godfrey, P.E., Transportation Engineering Manager

Date: December 23, 2009

Subject: SR 520 EASTSIDE TRANSIT AND HOV PROJECT – PROJECT BRIEFING

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Council receive the planned special presentation to provide a briefing on the SR 520 Eastside Transit and HOV Project by WSDOT Staff. Daniel Babuca, Engineering Manager, SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program will present.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION:

The Eastside Transit and HOV Project is one of four projects under the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program. The project provides infrastructure and operational improvements along SR 520 from approximately Lake Washington to 108th Avenue NE and restriping of HOV lanes from 108th to SR 202 (Attachment A). Council has closely followed development of this project for several years, and WSDOT has been developing the project components with the cooperation of Eastside jurisdictions. Kirkland related project elements include:

- Construction of a direct-access interchange for transit and HOV at 108th Avenue NE
- Realignment of NE Points drive. This work will accommodate wider lanes along SR 520, installation of noise walls and construction of an extension to the SR 520 regional bicycle trail.
- Storm water detention and treatment facilities. Currently there are no detention or treatment facilities along SR 520 and it is expected that the project will meet current standards.
- Fish passage improvements to Yarrow Creek. Replacement of two culverts that cross under NE Points Drive.
- Development of a regional trail for cyclists and pedestrians.
- Reconstruction of the interchange at Lake Washington Boulevard

On September 23, 2009 WSDOT Staff briefed the Kirkland Transportation Commission on the project. On December 16, the Commission reviewed the project's recently released Environmental Assessment and identified several questions and issues that the Council may want to address with WSDOT staff. These are detailed in a separate item under Unfinished Business on the January 5 Council agenda and include:

- Linkage of the proposed regional trail with the existing SR 520 trail to the east and other bicycle/pedestrian issues.
- Consideration of tolls on SR 520 and I-405 in the Environmental Assessment.
- Operation of the new interchange at Lake Washington Boulevard/Bellevue Way.
- Impacts of changes to Points Drive

WSDOT staff plans to present a program overview, a funding/schedule update and information about the Environmental Assessment.

Attachments (1)

SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program

Medina to SR 202: Eastside Transit and HOV Project



Fall 2009

Enhancing safety and mobility on the Eastside

The Eastside Transit and HOV Project will provide infrastructure and operational improvements in the SR 520 corridor to support planned population growth, economic expansion and increases in transit service in rapidly growing communities on the east side of Lake Washington.

What does the Eastside Transit and HOV Project include?

The Eastside Transit and HOV Project would complete and improve the HOV system from Evergreen Point Road to the vicinity of the SR 202 interchange, a distance of approximately 8.5 miles. The six-lane corridor would have two general-purpose lanes and one HOV lane in each direction.



Conceptual rendering of Eastside lane configuration looking west near Bellevue Way.

Project highlights include:

Transportation

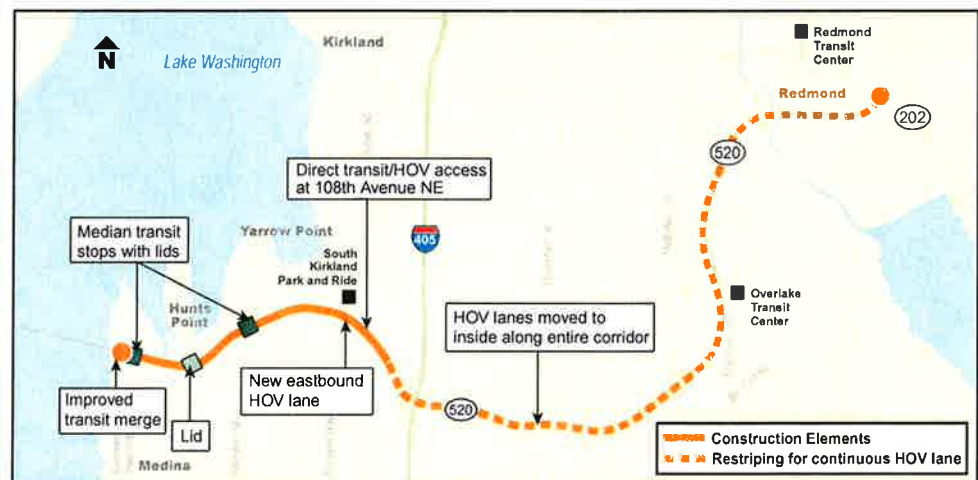
- Restriping the existing HOV lanes to the inside lane between Evergreen Point Road and SR 202.
- Constructing an eastbound HOV lane between Evergreen Point Road and 108th Avenue NE.
- Constructing lids at Evergreen Point Road, 84th Avenue and 92nd Avenue NE.
- Relocating transit stops to the center lanes at 92nd Avenue NE and Evergreen Point Road.
- Constructing a direct-access interchange for transit and HOV at 108th Avenue NE.
- Constructing a regional bicycle/pedestrian path along the north side of SR 520.
- Expanding the Evergreen Point Road Park and Ride.

Environmental

- Constructing noise walls along the corridor between Evergreen Point Road and Bellevue Way.
- Improving Yarrow Creek and making culverts passable for fish.

The Eastside Transit and HOV Project is one of four projects of the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program.

- Eastside Transit and HOV Project
- Bridge Replacement and HOV Project
- Pontoon Construction Project
- Lake Washington Congestion Management Project



What is the environmental review process?

WSDOT's goal is to deliver effective transportation solutions while minimizing effects to the community and natural surroundings. We are currently in the process of developing an environmental assessment that evaluates environmental effects and mitigation measures. This assessment will incorporate and build upon other planning efforts and environmental studies related to the SR 520 corridor.

What's happening with project design?

WSDOT recently worked with corridor users and neighbors to provide input on our preliminary designs. The Eastside Community Design Collaboration committee helped to refine the Eastside corridor, including lids, transit stops, corridor walls, pathways and trails.

We are pursuing interagency review of our lid design plans prior to finalizing the preliminary design.



Conceptual rendering of a bus picking up passengers at an Eastside lid and transit station at 92nd Avenue NE.

Costs and funding

The current cost estimate for the Eastside Transit and HOV Project is \$776 million.

WSDOT applied for federal stimulus funds this year to help pay for improvements included in this project. The United States Department of Transportation is evaluating applications and is expected to make selections by February 2010.

What is the project schedule?

Environmental review and design

- 2008 - Conduct environmental scoping.
- 2009 - Release environmental assessment.
- 2010 - Finalize design.
- 2010 - Receive permits.

Construction (pending funding)

- 2010 - Begin construction.

For more information:

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**Washington State
Department of Transportation**

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