

WSDOT Public Involvement Activities: Synthesis

**Prepared for
Karl Herzog, Strategic Assessment Office**

**Prepared by
Aaron Poor, TRAC Synthesis Editor
Kathy Lindquist, WSDOT Research Office
Michel Wendt, WSDOT Library**

May 16, 2008

Transportation Synthesis Reports (TSRs) are brief summaries of currently available information on topics of interest to WSDOT staff. Online and print sources may include newspaper and periodical articles, NCHRP and other TRB programs, AASHTO, the research and practices of other state DOTs and related academic and industry research. Internet hyperlinks in the TSRs are active at the time of publication, but host server changes can make them obsolete.

REQUEST FOR SYNTHESIS:

Karl Herzog in the WSDOT Strategic Assessment Office requested a list of the public involvement guidelines and activities recently completed by WSDOT. This effort is part of the development of the WSDOT 2009-2011 Biennial Strategic Plan and Budget.

BACKGROUND:

Assessment of the external challenges and opportunities are a necessary part of strategic planning and are requirements for WSDOT's 2009-2011 Strategic Plan and Budget. The Strategic Plan describes the important external factors that affect WSDOT's ability to achieve its goals and performance targets. As part of this effort, WSDOT documents how it considers client/citizen/customer needs, preferences or expectations and feedback on the ways citizens expect WSDOT to deliver services. This synthesis documents many of WSDOT's policies and efforts to inform and involve the public, identify customer needs and expectations, and to deliver services they expect.

DATABASES SEARCHED:

- Transport, available through WSDOT Library
- TRIS Online
- Research in Progress
- WSDOT Website
- WSDOT Library Collection
- Google

SYNTHESIS SUMMARY:

Publications and resources are categorized as follows:

- WSDOT Public Involvement Policies and Guidelines
- WSDOT Public Involvement Plans
- Public Involvement Surveys
- Washington State Ferries
- WSDOT Regions

WSDOT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT POLICIES AND GUIDELINES:

WSDOT Public Attitudes Focus Groups, October 2003

Excerpts: Ever since the failure of Referendum 51 in 2003, the Transportation Commission and WSDOT staff have been interested in gaining more and better information about public attitudes relating to transportation, WSDOT and our projects.

In recent months, it became apparent that several initiatives within the department would benefit from more input on public attitudes in order to design effective programs, such as:

- A potential advertising campaign to encourage better driving habits as a means to reduce congestion,
- The potential future use of tolls and HOT lanes in Central Puget Sound,
- Communications efforts regarding Nickel Projects,
- The update of the Washington Transportation Plan.

WSDOT will use the findings in the following ways:

- In a cooperative promotional/advertising effort with Fisher Broadcasting, WSP and State Farm Insurance to encourage better driving,
- To inform decisions and recommendations regarding the potential HOT lane demonstration project on SR 167,
- To improve our project communications and make existing information more accessible,
- As information to consider in the development of the Washington Transportation Plan,
- The information will be shared with interested parties.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/4C995CDE-4318-40E5-8A38-BB74A2048998/0/WhyFocusGroups.pdf>

WSDOT Public Involvement Plan Guidelines: Developing a public-involvement plan

Developing a well-thought-out public-involvement plan can be critical to the success of a transportation effort, be it a planning study, project, or program. The public now scrutinizes almost everything the Washington State Department of Transportation does. The planning process, in particular, is of interest to concerned citizens. Three basic principles of public involvement are early, continuous, and meaningful involvement. The public involvement plan will focus on these principles.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/DE515BC1-9452-43E7-A5D8-99B60BB4B03B/0/PublicInvPlan.doc>

WSDOT's Title VI Program

This Web page contains links to:

- Title VI Plans and Annual Reports - Guidelines, Templates and Examples
- Title VI and ADA Language for use in public meeting announcements, notices, and publications
- Creation of Uniform Data Collection Standards

as well as Public Involvement Forms (in Word format and several languages). The public involvement form (choose your native language) is used to collect information from anyone attending a meeting (WSDOT employees or local agency).

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/equalopportunity/PoliciesRegs/titlevi.htm>

Title VI Requirements

Excerpt from Policy Statement (p. 5 of PDF): The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 (P.L. 100.259) be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity. WSDOT further assures every effort to ensure nondiscrimination in all of its programs and activities, whether those programs and activities are federally funded or not.

In the event WSDOT distributes federal aid funds to another governmental entity, WSDOT will include Title VI language in all written agreements and will monitor for compliance.

WSDOT's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO), External Civil Rights Branch (ECRB), is responsible for initiating and monitoring Title VI activities, preparing required reports and other WSDOT responsibilities as required by 23 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) 200 and 49 Code of Federal Regulation 21.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/66E36A90-B067-45C7-BA18-FC5502FF7E59/0/2001TitleVIPlan.pdf>

WSDOT Employee Performance Management Requirements for Public Involvement

PC11- Develops/Implements Public Involvement

Description: Develops and implements public involvement programs for projects.

Standard 1 - Demonstrates a working knowledge of the WSDOT Communication Philosophy and follows the WSDOT guidelines established for developing and implementing a public-involvement plan.

Standard 2 - Effectively identifies the shareholders who will be or think they will be affected by the project and consistently develops and implements programs that are proactive in establishing early, continuous, and meaningful public involvement.

Standard 3 - Effectively anticipates questions/concerns that may arise which is reflected by a minimum of surprises at public meetings.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/0410B7D2-C3EC-4683-BF8D-B11DF0ACD9E7/0/533MMR01MarineProjEngr_EngTech_WSF_12008.pdf

WSDOT PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PLANS:

2007-2026 Washington Transportation Plan

Transportation Plan Comments

WTP Participate in the Outcome

WTP Schedule of Events

The Washington Transportation Plan (WTP) provides a blueprint and strategies to guide decisions and investments needed to develop Washington's transportation system to serve its citizens', communities', and economy's future needs, while safeguarding its environment. The Washington Transportation Commission adopted the WTP on November 14, 2006.

This site links to additional information, including various laws, studies, plans, and Web sites and a printable version of the WTP.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/wtp/comments/2007-2026WTP.htm>

Preliminary Feedback from Washington Transportation Plan Outreach 2007

Web page provides links to responses to Preliminary Transportation Plan for public outreach meetings throughout state during July and August 2006. Meetings were held in Yakima, Colfax, Olympia, Ephrata, Wenatchee, and Colville.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/wtp/datalibrary/Feedback.htm>

Washington Transportation Plan Public Involvement 2006 Participate in the Outcome

We appreciate all the input that we received in Phase 1 and 2, as well as all the comments received during the 45 day public comment period July 19 - Sept. 1. The Washington Transportation Plan Update will go to the Washington State Transportation Commission for adoption in November of 2006.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/wtp/comments/Participate.htm>

Route Development Plans

Excerpts: Route Development Plans (RDPs) are planning studies on state highway facilities, developed to identify deficiencies and propose solutions. These plans are part of the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) long range planning program and are intended to support local jurisdictions in implementation of the Growth Management Act (GMA) Revised Codes of Washington (RCW) 36.70A.

RDPs serve as a tool for discussion, a mechanism to integrate the needs of WSDOT with the needs of cities, counties, traveling public, and other stakeholders in the development of transportation solutions. They identify proposed improvements on designated sections of a state highway that will accommodate safety and capacity requirements during the next 20 years.

RDP Process:

The RDP process integrates various elements to produce an endorsed highway design solution. This process identifies transportation services desired by WSDOT customers, determines competing demands, and integrates the findings into a common vision for the entire transportation system, and supports investment decisions.

The process involves the following phases:

- Identify study area
- Establish goals and objectives
- Data collection (inventory)
- Public meetings
- Interagency liaison
- Traffic analysis
- RDP proposals (alternatives)
- Review comments
- Implementation
- Evaluation

As a guideline, endorsed Route Development Plans provide the following:

- Guidance for regional decision makers regarding future projects on state routes
- Direction in determining impact mitigation measures for proposed developments
- Inclusion of improvement solutions in the State Highway System Plan
- Guidance for interim projects to ensure the progression towards long range objectives
- Coordination with various stakeholders on the future development of the state route

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/RDP/>

For a current list of online planning studies go to
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/Studies/List.htm>.

The First Step in Project Delivery: A Reference Manual

Chapter 4 – Public Communications and Involvement

January 2003

Communication is a process that should be strategic, consistent, and continuous. Communication involves both listening and sharing. Even the absence of communication sends a message. Public communication and involvement is the process that helps meld transportation goals with the goals of the community.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ppsc/planning/completemanual.pdf>

Collaborative Stakeholder and Public Involvement

NW Region Beyond the Pavement Workshop

[http://wwwi.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/Northwest/NWR_Design_Resource/PowerPoint/CL8/CL8_M02\(.pps#796, 13, Stakeholder Involvement Plan\)](http://wwwi.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/Northwest/NWR_Design_Resource/PowerPoint/CL8/CL8_M02(.pps#796, 13, Stakeholder Involvement Plan))

WSDOT 2007 Planning Symposium

Module 3. Public Involvement Sessions:

- Incorporating Public Comment into the Decision Making Process
- Reinventing Public Outreach
- Developing and Writing a Community Profile and Public Involvement Plan
- Public Involvement Seminar - Presenting Yourself and Your Ideas

<http://wwwi.wsdot.wa.gov/gis/supportteam/docs/planSymp2007.pdf>

2002 Planning Design-Construction Conference Presentation

Public Involvement Promotes... open exchange of information and ideas between the public and WSDOT. ... Why is early and ongoing public involvement important? ...

http://wwwi.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/eastern/Info/Planning/HotTopics/Archived/2002%20Planning%20Design-Construction%20Conference%20Presentation_files/frame.htm#slide0019.htm

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT SURVEYS:

Transportation Surveys and Focus Groups conducted 2003–2007

Beginning in 2003, WSDOT conducted region-wide surveys and focus groups, asking a variety of questions relating to people's attitudes about WSDOT projects and services; tolls and High Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes; effective communications; use of public funds for advertising; citizen views on prioritizing and funding projects, among others. Below are the completed results and surveys prepared by or on behalf of WSDOT. They include data and other probative/analytical content relative to their subjects (all files are Adobe pdf's). [Some links to recent survey results follow; others can be found under region heading.]

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Accountability/Publications/PublicOpinion.htm>

- **Strategies 360, Inc./WS DOT: King, Pierce and Snohomish County Voters, December 17–20, 2007**

Don McDonough Associates, January 2008, DMA #07-0016

This survey is directed at voters' feelings about area transportation agencies, recently failed Proposition One, and funding methods, including tolls.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/5BE9806D-F5B6-476A-BEEA-AF16571F6DBE/0/2007_WSDOT_Survey.pdf

- **Pricing Focus Groups, Final Report, December 2007**

WSDOT, Puget Sound Regional Council, King County

Focus groups engaged King County drivers and transit riders about congestion pricing. The groups were designed to gauge awareness of tolling to improve traffic, improve ability to communicate with public about traffic operations and tolling strategies, identify why people support or oppose tolling, and determine ways to improve support for tolling with a public

engagement program (p. 3 of PDF). Appendices on Focus Group methodology and discussion guide.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/5BE9806D-F5B6-476A-BEEA-AF16571F6DBE/0/2007_WSDOT_Survey.pdf

- **Strategies 360/WA DOT: King, Pierce, and Snohomish County Voters, August 19-29, 2006**
EMC Research, EMC #06-3553

This surveys voters' responses to a proposed Puget Sound roads and transit package, and priorities for local transportation system improvement.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/68FC0818-76BD-4BA9-B114-87A50AE262AC/0/SurveyAugust2006.pdf>

- **WA DOT: King, Pierce, Snohomish Counties, January 27–February 3, 2006**
EMC Research, EMC #06-3435

Surveys area voters on proposed transportation package.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/9A75934A-FC44-495C-8558-95AD6515014F/0/FocusGroup2006.pdf>

WSDOT 511 IVR Survey and Usability Testing Results

PRR, Inc., May 2005

WSDOT receives customer feedback on the touch-tone menu of its 511 travel information number and on how the voice recognition feature can similarly be improved.

Key findings indicate that respondents seek an improved voice recognition system and better geographic coverage of travel information.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/596DD86C-340E-4B10-8660-22805F9AE10E/0/511Survey.pdf>

WASHINGTON STATE FERRIES:

Ferry Customer Survey

The main Web page of the Washington State Transportation Commission (WSTC) contains descriptions of and links to reports on the 2008 State Ferries Customer Survey. In 2007 the Washington State Legislature mandated that WSTC perform a survey of ferry customers in order to ascertain their travel behaviors and attitudes, and their feedback on strategies for improving efficiency and expansion of capacity. The survey is being conducted by Opinion Research Northwest. On-board surveys were scheduled for March and July 2008.

<http://www.wstc.wa.gov/FerryCustomerSurvey/default.htm>

Key links include:

- **2008 Washington State Ferry Survey**
Survey descriptions from Opinion Research Northwest
http://www.nwrg.com/northwest_research_group_wstc.aspx
- **Statement of Survey Purpose and Outcome**
<http://www.wstc.wa.gov/FerryCustomerSurvey/StatementSurveyPurposeOutcome.pdf>
- **Frequently Asked Questions**
<http://www.wstc.wa.gov/FerryCustomerSurvey/RespondentFAQ.pdf>
- **2007 Ferry Customer Survey, Focus Groups Summary Report**
Opinion Research Northwest, for WSTC, January 2008
Excerpt from main page: In this presentation, you will find information about the survey's overall purpose and desired outcome, the survey work plan and project timeline, and an

overview of the process that will be followed in completing both the qualitative and quantitative work to be performed over the next year.

http://www.wstc.wa.gov/FerryCustomerSurvey/2007FerryCustSurv_FocusGroupSumRpt.pdf

- **Kickoff Presentation, November 2007**
<http://www.wstc.wa.gov/FerryCustomerSurvey/default.htm>
- **House Bill 2358 Mandating Survey (section 4)**
<http://www.wstc.wa.gov/FerryCustomerSurvey/FerryBill07.pdf>
- **Implementation Plan, August 2007**
http://www.wstc.wa.gov/FerryCustomerSurvey/FerrySurveyImplementationPlan_081507.pdf

Ferry Financing Legislation, WSDOT Web Page

This Web page includes more information on the scope and timeline of the 2008 Ferry Customer Survey, including links to March/April 2008 public meetings on the vehicle level-of-service (LOS) approach and baseline ridership forecasts:

- [Monday, March 24 – Bainbridge](#) (pdf 82 kb)
- [Tuesday, March 25 - Kingston](#) (pdf 71 kb)
- [Wednesday, March 26 - Southworth](#) (pdf 67 kb)
- [Thursday, March 27 - Coupeville](#) (pdf 63 kb)
- [Monday, March 31 – Bremerton](#) (pdf 62 kb)
- [Tuesday, April 1 – Anacortes](#) (pdf 59 kb)
- [Wednesday, April 2 – Friday Harbor](#) (pdf 90 kb)
- [Thursday, April 3 – Vashon](#) (pdf 82 kb)

In June public comments will be taken on operational and pricing strategies. In fall all information will be incorporated into a revised draft long-range plan.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/ESHB2358.htm>

Origin Destination Survey

Washington State Ferries

Excerpts:

What is the Origin-Destination Onboard Survey?

Washington State Ferries (WSF) conducts origin-destination (O&D) surveys every six to seven years as a way to accurately capture and measure the travel patterns of ferry passengers. The last survey was conducted in [2006]. The surveys asked passengers about their typical routes, how they get to and from the ferry terminal, and the purpose of their trips.

How does WSF use the results of the survey?

After WSF collects and analyzes passenger responses to the O&D surveys, the results are used by the agency and decision-makers in a number of ways:

- Matching ferry service with customer needs,
- Running an efficient ferry operation,
- Informing WSF's long-range service planning,
- Providing input to capital improvement needs,
- Working with communities on managing local traffic impacts.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/planning/odsurvey.htm>

This Web page contains links to sections of the 2006 Origin Destination Onboard Survey, published by Cambridge Systematics in 2007, as well as the full report

(<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/DDE4572D-8F8E-49F1-BE27-A68D3B7264EF/0/WSF2006TravelSurveyFullReport.pdf>: 545 p.). A summary report (525 kb) can be found at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/21D4998F-0922-4D2F-8AE1-F19100AE9D45/0/2006OriginandDestinationSurveySummaryReport.pdf>.

Public Meetings to Discuss San Juan Island Scenic Byway Designation [News Release]

Washington State Ferries, November 2007

Excerpt: Islanders are invited to learn about and comment on the State Scenic Byway designation process for local island routes at public meetings from 5:30–6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 14, at the Grange on San Juan Island, and from 5:30–6:30 p.m., Thursday Nov 15 at the Fire Hall on Orcas Island.

The Scenic Byway designation would include the Washington State Ferries San Juan Islands route as well as County roads on Orcas and San Juan Islands.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/commuter_updates/index.cfm?fuseaction=press_releases_content&press_release_id=539

Draft Long-Range Strategic Plan, Public & Agency Comments

Washington State Ferries, 2006

These are compiled rider and agency comments to the draft of Washington State Ferries' Long-Range Strategic Plan 2006–2030.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/CC745E6A-768A-4331-87F8-6E131CDFF636/0/WSFDraftLRSPComments.pdf>

Draft Long-Range Strategic Plan, Appendix J: Phase I Public Outreach

July 2006

Public questions and comments from nine public meetings held in June 2005 on WSF's Long-Range Strategic Plan.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/ronlyres/1EC104E0-5C62-4A23-BD38-B19E1BB1FD59/0/AppendixJPublicOutreach.pdf>

Public Outreach

Web page of Washington State Ferries

Excerpt: Washington State Ferries works with Ferry Advisory Committees throughout Puget Sound to develop schedules that work, resolve customer problems, and understand regional issues. Public Outreach meetings are held quarterly in various venues throughout our service area.

Washington State Ferries also hosts open houses during the design process for major terminal work that could cause delays or disruptions to our customers. Other Public Outreach meetings, such as those related to tariff increases or policy changes will also be listed below as the meeting dates and locations are set.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/ferries/commuter_updates/index.cfm?fuseaction=pub_meetings

WSDOT REGIONS:

Eastern Region:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/Eastern/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Regions/Eastern/projects/>

Eastern Region Planning and Public Involvement

Why is early and ongoing public involvement important?

http://www.wi.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/eastern/Info/Planning/HotTopics/Archived/2002%20Planning%20Design-Construction%20Conference%20Presentation_files/frame.htm#slide0019.htm

SR 291 Route Development Plan, Introduction

WSDOT, August 2006

Excerpt from Public Involvement: As part of WSDOT's plan to emphasize early, continuous, and meaningful involvement, this RDP initiated an aggressive public involvement campaign to promote early and ongoing stakeholder and public input with the open exchange of information, and promoting a greater understanding of the competing needs and concerns of WSDOT, stakeholders and the public. An Advisory Group was established for the SR 291 RDP. This Advisory Group was comprised of representatives from Spokane and Stevens Counties, City of Spokane as well as several neighborhood associations, resulting in over 40 representatives. In addition, WSDOT sent out over 21,000 mailers to citizens along the route, hosted four listening posts along the route, and held open houses to present conceptual alternatives and receive feedback. A web page is also available at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr291rdp> that provides further detail about the SR 291 RDP. Ultimately, this public involvement effort leads to RDP alternative solutions strongly supported by WSDOT, stakeholders and the public.

[Section continues with chronology of public-involvement events and summary of open houses.]

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/1CB9D6CA-7709-466D-929D-25E59E1B265E/0/IntroductionSR291RDPFinal.pdf>

For links to the full SR 291 RDP go to

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR291/RouteDevelopmentPlan/RDPFinal.htm>.

US 2 - Lincoln County Line to I-90 Route Development Plan

Project Status, August 2007:

The US 2 Advisory Group met June 12, 2007. An informational 'Roundabout Facts' presentation was given by WSDOT to begin discussion. A summary of Listening Post comments from Dean's Drive Inn, Yokes Fresh Market, and Fairchild Air Force Base were then presented to the Advisory Group, along with a preliminary accident analysis of the corridor. Also shown were existing and proposed developments that will be impacting US 2 over the next few years.

WSDOT presented several conceptual solutions that could be considered in the RDP process. These included coordinated signal systems, roundabouts, widening and/or adding lanes, and alternate routes. The Advisory Group then discussed concerns and local issues relative to US 2 solutions. A preliminary ranking of the proposed solution options was made to help WSDOT assess priorities for the study . . .

The next Advisory Group meeting is scheduled for early 2008.

The Route Development Plan (RDP) for US 2 from the Lincoln County Line to I 90 was initiated by WSDOT in January 2007. The Eastern Region Steering Committee met Jan. 26 to consider the limits and scope of the study. An RDP Advisory Group was assembled made up of people representing state, county and city planners, businesses, schools, tribes, emergency responders, citizens, developers, and law enforcement. This Advisory Group met March 13th to identify concerns in the RDP corridor, and again on June 12th to consider conceptual solutions.

What is the project timeline?

The project started in January 2007 with the formation of the US 2 RDP Steering Committee and the first Advisory Group meeting. Three Listening Posts will held in the first week of May, 2007. All results and feedback will be tabulated, and the RDP team will begin evaluating potential alternatives and solutions. This process will include ongoing meeting with the Steering Committee and the Advisory Group with revision of conceptual solutions, as needed. Open Houses are scheduled for early spring and late summer 2008 for public review and comment. The final phase will be completion of the RDP, and the presentation of final conceptual design alternatives to stakeholders in late 2008.

Public Involvement:

Interested citizens should contact the Planning Manager's Office listed below or Eastern Region Public Affairs at (509) 324-6015.

To submit online comments go to the link "Public Input" located under the Project Information heading.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US2/Lincolntol90RDP/>

US 2 Route Development Plan

Deer Road to Pend Oreille County Line

Planning at the WSDOT is a continual, evolving, and flexible process that seeks to facilitate the development and implementation of sound and innovative strategies, incorporating the dynamic issues and needs that face our transportation system. The goal of WSDOT planning is to create an integrated transportation system capable of supporting a vital economy while maintaining sensitivity to the surrounding environment and promoting a positive quality of life. We endeavor to accomplish this goal by integrating the needs of WSDOT with those of stakeholders including cities, counties, the public, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs). During implementation of the above recommendations, WSDOT will strive to employ design elements that are sensitive to the surrounding environment.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/eastern/info/Planning/HotTopics/US%20%20Deer%20Road%20to%20Pend%20Oreille%20County%20Line%20RDP.pdf>

King Region:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Northwest/King/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Northwest/King/Projects/>

SR 520 Survey

Evans/McDonough Company, May 2006

Survey investigates area voters' opinions on replacement options for SR 520.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/2CE598D3-E15B-4FC7-B5B7-27146F931C91/0/SR520FocusGroupMemo.pdf>

SR 520 Focus Groups Report, May 2006

Cocker Fennessy

Focus groups gather information on how King County residents view and use SR 520, test messages for proposed replacement options, and understand how residents and neighbors rank proposed proposed solutions.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/747DC311-1AFA-4597-8925-D42E5F610B91/0/SR520FocusGroupsReport.pdf>

Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project, Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement, Comment Form

WSDOT, July 2006

This form solicits public comments for inclusion in Final Draft EIS.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8254F071-69B3-4AEB-BF31-C3AC78D81102/0/SDEISCommentForm.pdf>

SR 202 - Sahalee Way to Duthie Hill Road Corridor Study, Main Page

WSDOT, April 2008

WSDOT and CWG members are developing a draft list of potential improvement options for SR 202. This winter, the list will be available online and at community locations in Sammamish.

It's important that we continue to hear from SR 202 users and local residents throughout the study process. We want to hear what you think.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/RDP/SR202/SahaleeWayToDuthieHill/Default.htm>

A list of public meetings and links to materials can be found at

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/RDP/SR202/SahaleeWayToDuthieHill/PublicMeetings.htm>.

North Central:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/NorthCentral/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Regions/NorthCentral/projects/>

US 2/97 - West of Cashmere - Median Barrier, Project Web Page

Excerpt from Public Involvement: A public open house was held at the Cashmere Riverside Center on June 6th, 2007 to describe the project's access impacts and get input from the public who would be affected. The project was also detailed in presentations to the Cashmere Town Council and the Leavenworth Town Council at public meetings in April and May.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US2/97WestCashmere/>

Olympic Region:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/Olympic/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Regions/Olympic/Projects/>

Hood Canal Bridge Project, Public Opinion Survey

Cocker Fennessy and Evans McDonough Co., July 2007

Excerpt (p. 2 of PDF): Cocker Fennessy and Evans McDonough Company conducted the Hood Canal Bridge (HCB) project public opinion survey in June 2007 on behalf of the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT).

The survey provides a baseline evaluation of public perceptions of WSDOT and public knowledge about the HCB project, bridge closure, the frequency and nature of bridge crossings, their awareness of and likelihood to use mitigation steps, preferred communications techniques, and their experiences during the last bridge closure.

Results from this survey will be used to assess and refine the HCB closure communications plan as work continues to educate the public about the need to plan for the six week HCB closure.

The survey results reinforce the need to share information about the HCB closure mitigation plan with the public, as the closure is likely to disrupt travel for a majority of survey-area residents.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/513BA69C-C701-45EA-95B4-EA68C724DCCF/0/2007PublicOpinionSurveyFinalResultsReport.pdf>

US 101 - West Olympia Access Study

Project Status, May 2008:

During the summer months, the study partners put together improvement option packages using information and ideas gathered during the public involvement activities last spring. In the fall, the public will have the opportunity to view and comment on the option packages that best address the access and traffic circulation needs in West Olympia . . .

Why is WSDOT studying US 101?

The West Olympia Access Study is being done in partnership with the City of Olympia. Olympia's west side continues development with more stores, offices, churches, medical services and housing. US 101 and the City's streets are components in a transportation network that serve the West Olympia area. What changes to the transportation system are needed to support the growth?

The West Olympia Access Study will evaluate WSDOT's highway system and the City's street network to determine how well they work together to support the diverse transportation needs of this area.

The End Result:

The goal is to come up with a workable strategy for meeting the mobility needs of West Olympia neighborhoods, businesses, employers and service providers for decades to come. The product of the study will be a plan that outlines how US 101 and the City's streets should be developed to accommodate the increasing traffic and development in the area while preserving US 101 as a regional transportation feature . . .

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US101/WestOlympiaAccessStudy/>

Record of Public Comment, Phase 1 Outreach, West Olympia Access Study

WSDOT and City of Olympia, February/March 2007

Excerpt (p. 1): This document includes all public comments received during the Phase 1 outreach efforts of the West Olympia Access Study from February through March, 2007. That outreach included two general public workshops as well as the opportunity to submit comments via email or regular mail.

http://www.trpc.org/resources/woas_phase1recordpubliccomment.pdf

Survey Results from the March 28, 2007 Manette Bridge Replacement Project Open House

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/69366FEA-4537-4DBB-8B9C-C1B301D28E17/0/SR303ManetteBridgeSurveyResults.pdf>

SR 302 - Establish New Corridor - Open House Meetings

Web page contains links to summaries of three public meetings held in September and December 2007 on establishing a new corridor for SR 302 between SR 3 and SR 16.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR302/NewCorridor/OpenHouse.htm>

SR 302 Corridor Study Phase I Report, Chapter 2: Public Involvement

This chapter covers the purpose of the Corridor Study's public involvement program, the method in which it was conducted, what information was learned, and how that information will be used.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/E2C720B3-F2DE-4403-91D8-5D48119EDAFC/0/SR302_022908finalchap2.pdf

SR 302 Corridor Study Phase I Report, Appendix A: Public Involvement Materials

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/ACD750C5-069C-4C27-BE82-69CA67F84AFC/0/SR302_022908finalappendA.pdf

SR 167 - Tacoma to Edgewood New Freeway Construction, Tier II Final EIS

October 2006

Web page contains links to sections of the project's Tier II Final EIS, including several links to public comments in Appendix G.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR167/TacomaToEdgewood/documents.htm>

Bremerton Economic Development Study

WSDOT, May 2008

Excerpts: We are currently gathering input from local agencies and the public about travel needs and conditions on SR 3, US 101 and SR 16.

What is the Bremerton Economic Study?

It's a planning study where we will assess the current and future transportation needs within the study area and provide recommendations to address short-term and long-term safety and mobility deficiencies. We will also identify improvement strategies that support the economic objectives within the study area, including the South Kitsap Industrial Area (SKIA).

What areas are being studied?

The study will be conducted along SR 3 from US 101 near Shelton to Loxie Eagans Boulevard in Bremerton; US 101 from SR 3 near Shelton to SR 102 (Dayton Airport Road); and SR 16 from Sedgewick Road (SR 160) to SR 3 in Gorst.

Why is WSDOT studying these highways?

Presently, SR 3, US 101 and SR 16 highways serve growing communities in once largely rural areas, a booming freight industry and local businesses.

Thirty percent of Kitsap County's workforce relies on these highways to commute to work daily. Mason County has one of the highest population growth rates in the state and is home to a growing business environment.

Also, during the summer months these highways see increased traffic due to recreation travelers.

The End Result:

We will develop a plan to improve the function of SR 3, US 101 and SR 16 for communities that rely on them.

We will also determine if capacity improvements will be needed to connect local roads.

The study will include a list of recommended congestion, preservation and safety improvement projects that could be constructed over the next 20 years as funding becomes available.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/BremertonEcon/>

Tacoma/Pierce County HOV Program - Public Involvement

Excerpts: Your input in the design and construction process is important to us. We want the Tacoma/Pierce County community to be aware of our projects and involved as we deliver them.

Public involvement activities started as early as July 1993 when the program was initially envisioned. Since then public presentations, open houses and hearings have been held to provide opportunities for public input.

Most recently, team members from the HOV Program answered questions and provided informational materials to the public at community events.

- Art on the Avenue - July 8, 2007
- Narrows Bridge Opening - July 15, 2007

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/PierceCountyHOV/PublicOutreach.htm>

Skagit, Whatcom and Island County Region:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Northwest/Baker/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Northwest/Baker/Projects/Default.htm>

SR 20 - Sharpes Corner Vicinity - Interchange - Survey Results

This Web page reveals the opinions of survey respondents who attended an open house in Oak Harbor on February 25, 2008, or emailed regarding improvement options for the Sharpes Corner Intersection in Anacortes.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR20/SharpesCornerInterchange/SurveyResults.htm>

SR 20 - Fredonia to Interstate 5 - Additional Lanes

Excerpt from Public Involvement: March 4, 2008 - We held an open house at Burlington City Hall so the public could review our plans for stage 2, make comments and ask questions.

We held an open house on November 16, 2006 at the Burlington-Edison High School. The public had an opportunity to view the designs and talk with project engineers.

Oct. 27, 2004 - We hosted a limited access hearing in the cafeteria at Burlington Edison High School in Burlington. The hearing was an important opportunity for nearby residents to understand the access plan and how it will affect them. Planned safety improvements (a median in the center of the highway, widened shoulders, and closing or moving driveways) can affect access to nearby homes and businesses.

Jan. 2006 - We distributed the environmental assessment for public and local agency comment.

March 23, 2005 - We held an environmental assessment hearing at the Burlington-Edison High School in Burlington.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR20/sr536fredonia/>

Snohomish County Region:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Northwest/Snohomish/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Northwest/Snohomish/Projects/>

US 2 Traffic Safety Corridor

Excerpt: The goal of the traffic safety corridor program is to reduce fatal and disabling collisions on roadways with significant safety needs. Roadways chosen to become safety corridors must have local level support and a history of significant collision problems that can be addressed with low-cost, short-term solutions.

A community-based task force provides leadership in identifying and solving problems along the safety corridor.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US2/DriveSafe/>

US 2 - Route Development Plan - Snohomish to Skykomish - Complete November 2007

From Overview: The US 2 Route Development Plan (RDP) is a list of safety and congestion relief improvement projects created by WSDOT with the help of local communities.

Working with our partners and local communities, we identified a list of 56 projects to enhance safety and reduce congestion for drivers along a 47-mile stretch of US 2 between Snohomish and Skykomish.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US2/RDP/>

I-5 - Everett, SR 526 to US 2 HOV Lanes, Expanding I-5 Through Everett - Public Involvement: Neighborhood Meetings

List of neighborhood and city meetings through May 2007.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/HOVSr526toUS2/PublicInvolvement.htm>

I-5 - Everett, SR 526 to US 2 HOV Lanes, Questions From the Public

Excerpt: Project staff for the I-5 Everett HOV freeway expansion team receive many questions from the public about traffic conditions during construction, concerns about safety and what it is we're building.

Below are the answers to our most frequent questions, a few of our responses to The Herald's Street Smarts column.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/HOVSr526toUS2/QuestionsFromThePublic.htm>

South Central Region:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/SouthCentral/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Regions/SouthCentral/Projects/>

US 12 - Frenchtown Vicinity to Walla Walla - Add Lanes, Project Web Page

Excerpt from Public Involvement: The latest open house was held on January 9, 2008 at the Touchet School. Approximately 125 people attended the function to find out more information about this and other area projects.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US12/FrenchtowntoWallaWalla/>

US 12 - Frenchtown Vicinity to Walla Walla - Open House

Excerpt: WSDOT environmental experts and project engineers hosted over 100 local citizens at an open house meeting to present the environmental assessment for the next phase of the project to widen US 12 from two to four lanes between the Tri-Cities and Walla Walla. A court reporter was present for official comments, and citizens were also given the option of providing written or e-mail input. The public comment period ends June 16, 2006.

Many of the discussions explored the reasoning behind the US 12 alignment chosen by WSDOT, the alignment's impact on local landowners, and the timeframes associated with the remaining phases of the project. Unresolved queries were assigned to appropriate WSDOT experts for follow-up.

[Web page provides links to presented materials.]

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US12/FrenchtowntoWallaWalla/EADisplays.htm>

US 12/SR 124 Intersection - Build Interchange - Open House, October 2006

Excerpt: WSDOT design, real estate, and environmental experts hosted over 140 Burbank area residents for an open house showcasing the latest design concepts for a US 12/SR 124 interchange. Many comments centered on access to US 12 and local road impacts.

Our next steps will be to review and address the comments we have heard or have received on comment cards, and make any necessary adjustments to our design.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/US12/SR124BurbankInterchange/openhouse.htm>

I-82 - Valley Mall Blvd Interchange - Rebuild Interchange

Excerpt from Project Status, May 2008: WSDOT held an open house and access hearing on March 26, 2008 at Union Gap elementary school.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I82/ValleyMall_IC/

Southwest Region:

Region Main Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/Southwest/>

Region Projects Page: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/regions/southwest/projects>

Public Involvement Archive, Southwest Region

Web page provides past open house dates and links to related project pages, including the following.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Regions/SouthWest/Events/PublicMeetingsArchive.htm>

Vancouver Rail Project Public Involvement Responsibilities

Washington State Department of Transportation is the lead agency on the bridge design, construction, and public involvement and is responsible for overall project delivery.

http://wwwi.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/D30DF763-420E-4CD7-A9EE-EF2A731E51D4/0/VancouverRailProjectUpdate_Witt.pdf

SR 502 - Widening From I-5 to Battle Ground

Project Web page provides dates of open houses and links to materials.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR502/Widening/>

Public Input, Business and Environmental Issues Drive Decision to Widen SR 502 on the Existing Alignment

June 2007 News Release

Excerpt: Public involvement, including meetings with business owners, was critical in the decision making process. Through this process, business owners identified additional criteria – such as looking at the number of businesses, not just the number of buildings they occupy. Business owners stated that options that bypassed Dollar's Corner had a far more negative impact on businesses than widening the existing highway.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/News/2007/06/18_SR502Widening.htm

Community Input Leads to Schedule Change for US 97, Biggs Bridge Construction

June 2006 News Release

Excerpt: The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) will begin the US 97, Biggs Rapids - Sam Hill Memorial Bridge Deck Replacement Project in October 2007, rather than Summer 2007, as was previously planned. The community requested that the project, and full closure of the bridge, begin after the summer tourism season, and the engineers listened.

http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/News/2006/06/01_US97Biggs.htm

I-5 - Blakeslee Junction to Grand Mound, Project Web Page

Excerpt from Public Involvement: Your thoughts and opinions are important to us. Three public open houses were held in 2006 to solicit feedback from the public. On March 7, WSDOT introduced the project to the public and asked for ideas and suggestions. The May 9 open house focused on issues and options at the Mellen Street interchange. On December 5, WSDOT provided an update on the project, presented proposed improvements to I-5 as it is widened

between Mellen Street and Grand Mound, and asked for comments from the public on alternatives to improve the Mellen Street interchange.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/MellentoGrandMound/Phase1/>

I-5 - SR 501 Ridgefield Interchange, Project Web Page

Excerpt from Public Involvement: Your thoughts and opinions are important to us. An Open House introducing this project occurred on April 11, 2006 at the Union Ridge Elementary School Gymnasium. This event provided an opportunity for WSDOT and the city of Ridgefield to introduce the project to the public, provide information and get the public's feedback on issues to be addressed. The project was on display at five open houses in Battle Ground in 2007. The open houses took place on Feb. 22, March 27, May 9, June 14 and Sept. 26.

This project has been presented at several community meetings. These have included:

- May 17, 2007 Hillhurst Neighborhood Ice Cream Social,
- June 21, 2007 Wishwell Neighborhood Ice Cream Social,
- May 21, 2007 Ridgefield Neighborhood Meeting,
- In 2007, presentations were given at Offsprey Point (July 19), Cedar Ridge (Aug. 16) and Heron Ridge (Sept. 20) neighborhood ice cream socials.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/SR501Interchange/>

SR 14 - Camas-Washougal Widening & Interchange, Project Web Page

Excerpt from Public Involvement: An open house will be held on April 22, 2008, to from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Camas Police Department Community Room in Camas, WA to discuss changes in the design of this project with the public. A newsletter outlining these changes will be sent out the community at least two weeks prior to this date.

Three open houses have been held, in addition to stakeholder meetings. Most recently, an open house was held Nov. 16, 2006. A prior open house was held May 24, 2006, at the City of Camas Community Center. This open house provided the public with an opportunity to learn more about the project. A prior open house was held September 22, 2004, also at the Camas Community Center. The public was able to view and comment on possible long-term plans for the SR 14 corridor between the NW 6th Avenue interchange in Camas and 45th Street in Washougal.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR14/CamasWashougal/>

SR 503 - Lewisville Park - Climbing Lane

Excerpt from Public Involvement: This project was on display at five open houses in Battle Ground in 2007; these dates were Feb. 22, March 27, May 9, June 14 and Sept. 26. Additional opportunities to learn about the project will be available.

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR503/LewisvilleClimbingLane/>