

Salmon Creek Interchange Project - February 2011

Road work coming your way

The Salmon Creek Interchange Project, a joint project between Clark County and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), will reduce congestion, improve safety and support economic development.



On Jan. 25, the Board of County Commissioners awarded an \$11.6 million contract to Rotschy Inc., a Clark County contractor, for building local road improvements on both sides of Interstate 5 and Interstate 205 north of Vancouver.

Rotschy is expected to begin work in March. Construction could last until early summer 2012.

Later this year, WSDOT expects to award a separate contract to extend NE 139th Street over both freeways, build freeway ramp improvements and add auxiliary freeway lanes.

The entire project is scheduled for completion in June 2014. Every effort will be made to ease traffic tie-ups and delays, but some construction-related disruption will be unavoidable.

Inside: Detailed project map

Project contacts

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Receive traffic updates

Clark County Public Works and WSDOT will both issue electronic updates during construction.

To sign up, go to the project's website, www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/15/ne134thi205, and click on "e-mail updates" in the upper right corner.

 For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office
Voice (360) 397-2000, Relay 711 or (800) 833-6388,
Fax (360) 397-6165, E-mail ADA@clark.wa.gov

Clark County Public Works
1300 Franklin Street
Vancouver, Washington 98660



Salmon Creek Interchange Project

This view to the south shows where the NE 139th Street interchange will be built, near the junction of I-5 and I-205.

What will be built

The project will create a second east-west arterial with freeway access by extending NE 139th Street across Interstate 5 and Interstate 205 east toward Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center.

It also will provide a new exit from I-5 northbound and a new entrance onto I-5 southbound, both at NE 139th Street. The current ramp from NE 134th Street onto I-5 northbound will be relocated to NE 139th Street. The NE 139th Street interchange is designed so an off-ramp from I-5 southbound could be added when funding is available.

Access from I-205 northbound and to I-205 southbound will not change, although an exit-only lane to NE 134th Street will be added from I-205 northbound, resulting in a two-lane off-ramp.

Local road improvements include substantial upgrades to the NE 139th Street-NE 20th Avenue intersection, with double left-turn lanes and right-turn lanes in all directions.

Clark County took a significant step to improve traffic flow in the Salmon Creek area last year when it upgraded traffic signals and controllers along the NE 134th-139th Street corridor.

Construction started last year on a new Park & Ride lot, immediately east of the Fred Meyer store and Three Creeks Community Library. The project will use pervious pavement in the parking area, which allows water to drain through the surface, eliminating the need to build large stormwater facilities.

Project budget and funding

The Salmon Creek Interchange Project is expected to cost \$133 million for construction, design and right of way, making it one of the biggest public works projects in Clark County history. Funding will come from state, federal and local sources, including \$84.3 million from the 2003 Nickel gas tax package, enacted by the Washington Legislature.

Jobs and the economy

The Washington State Department of Transportation estimates the project will support about 600 temporary jobs, including direct construction jobs, indirect jobs with suppliers and additional jobs at stores, restaurants and small businesses.

This estimate doesn't count thousands of permanent jobs the private sector could create. The area has about 4,500 jobs and is home to Legacy Salmon Creek Medical Center, a 220-bed hospital, and Washington State University Vancouver, the county's only four-year university where enrollment exceeds 3,000 students.

The Salmon Creek area also includes other medical facilities, large and small retailers, and many small businesses, along with schools and neighborhoods. All will benefit from decreased congestion and improved freeway access in an area that has tremendous economic potential but is hampered by inadequate infrastructure.

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A joint project by the Clark County Public Works Department and the Washington State Department of Transportation



Washington State
Department of Transportation

