

Point Defiance Bypass Project

Technical Advisory Team

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NEPA's Purpose: "To Foster Excellent Action"

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NEPA's Principles

- Full disclosure of project effects & benefits
- Early issue identification & resolution
- Interdisciplinary approach
- Interagency cooperation
- Public participation

Fosters better decision making.

Disclosure of Project Effects

- Scoping: Physical, topical areas to study
- Alternatives: A range that meets needs
- Studies: Quantifying impacts and benefits
- Results: Clearly communicated
- Impacts: Are they significant?

Why an Environmental Assessment?

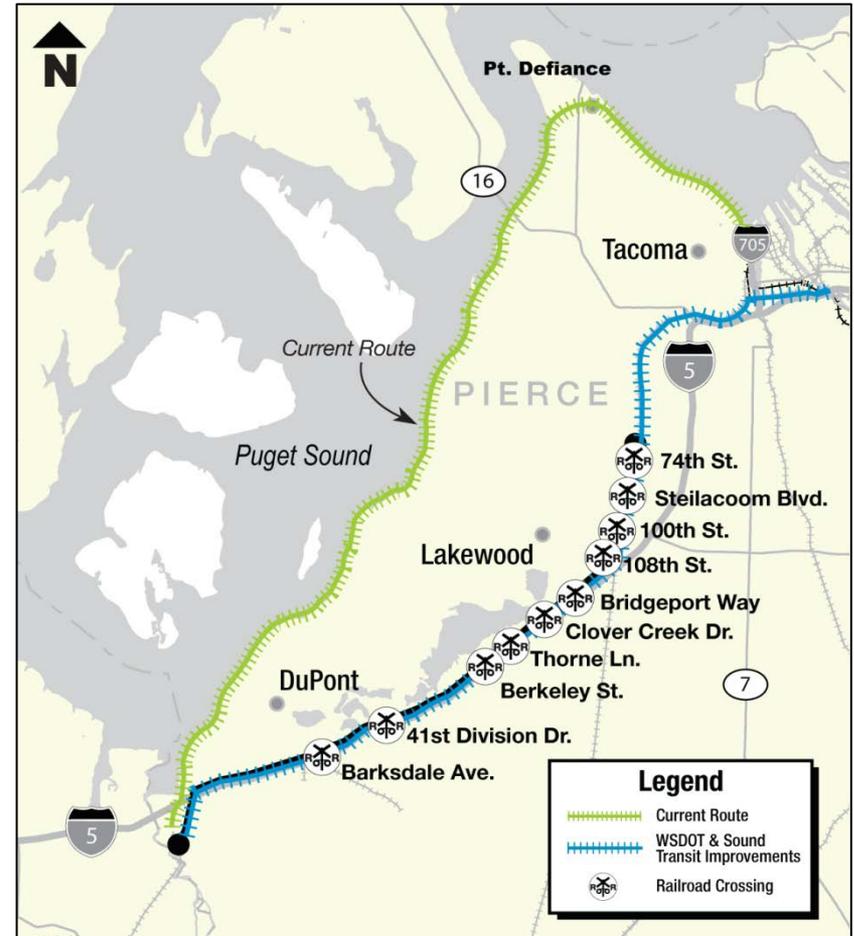
- No anticipated significant impacts
- WSDOT expects to mitigate any impacts that approach a level of significance



The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to integrate environmental values into their decision making processes by considering the environmental impacts of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

Early Issue Identification & Resolution

- Proven commitment to identifying and resolving issues early
 - Time to seek broader input
 - Flexibility in brainstorming potential options
 - Thorough review of potential options



Interdisciplinary Approach

- ‘Two heads are better than one’
- Don’t make decisions in a vacuum
- Use a systematic/methodical approach
- Explain results using “plain talk”

Interagency Cooperation

- 2006-2010: From the DCE to Today
- The care and feeding of a project with interstate benefits and local effects
- Interagency cooperation ensures success
- Our forum: The Technical Advisory Team

Public Participation – upcoming

- Briefings with Senators Murray and Cantwell staff
- South Tacoma Neighborhood Council - Presentation
- National Night Out – Fair Booth
- Public Open House

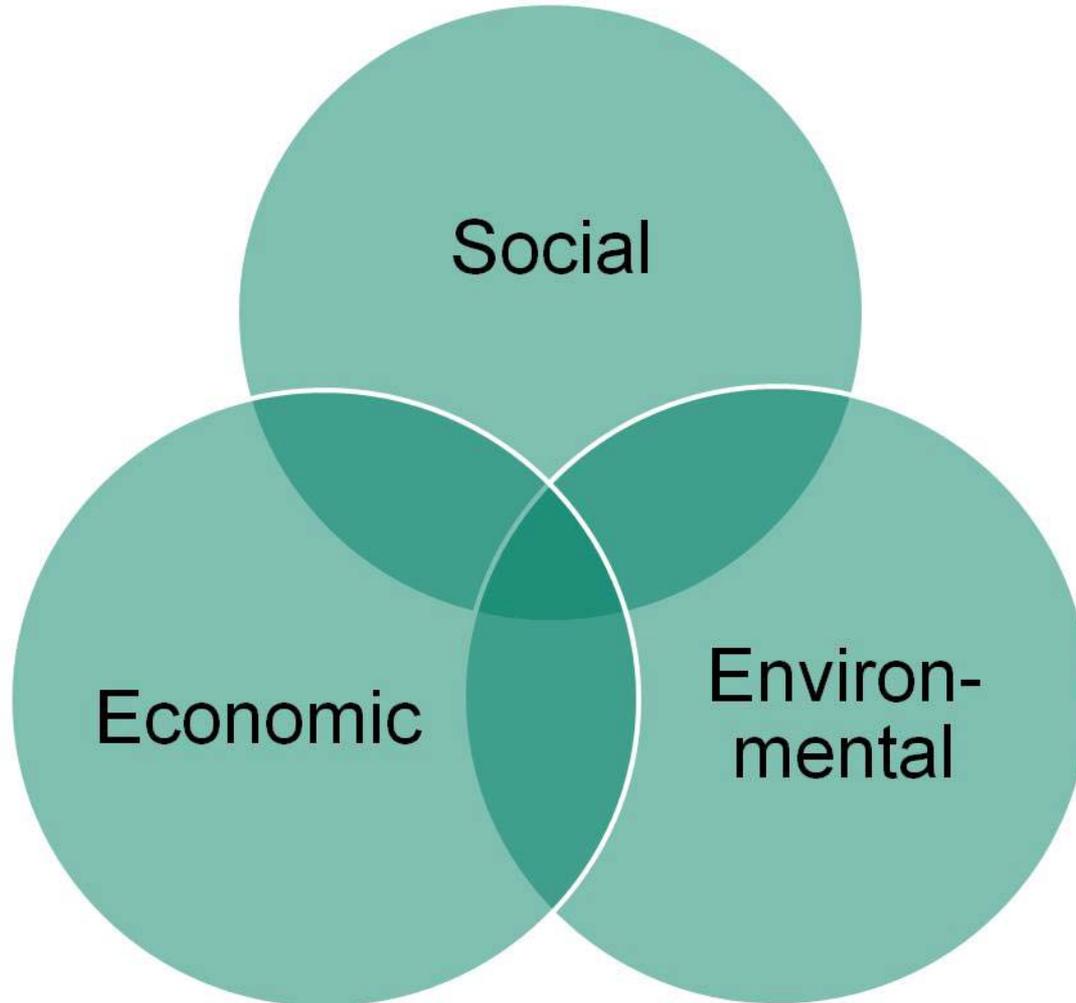


“To Foster Excellent Action”

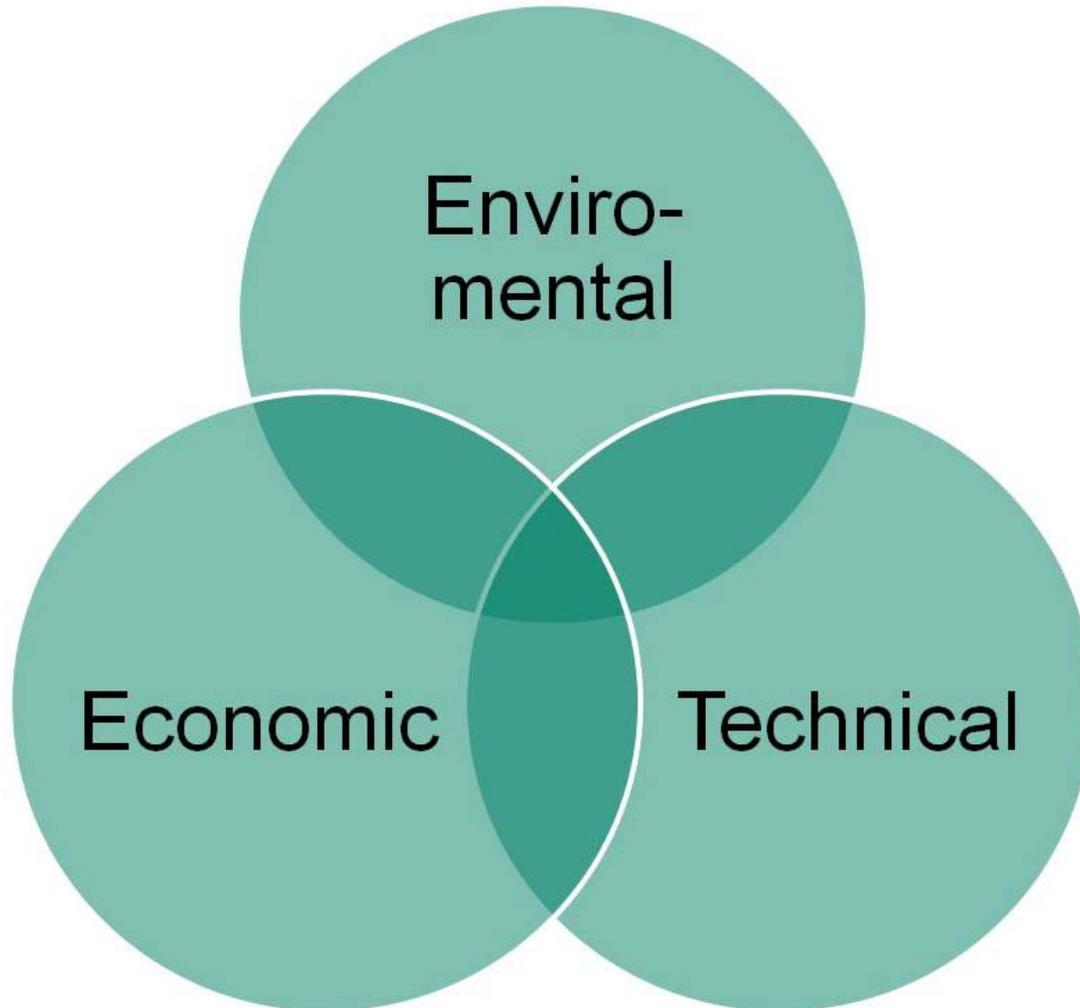
- *How?*
 - We base decisions on accurate and inclusive environmental analysis
- *Why?*
 - So decision-makers and affected interests can understand and acknowledge the results of our analysis

"Be excellent to each other..." Bill Preston and Ted (Theodore) Logan
Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure

Balancing Effects, Part I: The 'Purely' Environmental Arena



Balancing Effects, Part II: The 'Socio-Politico-Technical' Arena



Schedule

- Technical Team Review Milestones
 - Feb. 2011 – Transportation Report review
 - March 2011 – Socioeconomic Report review
 - April 2011 – Noise/Vibration Report review
- EA Review – Late summer 2011

Pedestrian Overpass

Jeff Gonzalez
City of Lakewood

Design Options

- “Design” vs. “Mitigation”
 - Design options:
 - Enhances functions/features of project
 - Typically constructed within the transportation Right-of-Way
 - Mitigation measures:
 - ‘Cures’ impacts resulting from project’s features,
 - Typically located outside of Right-of-Way
- Discuss additional options

Next Steps

- Review schedule (handout in binder)
- General agenda for next technical meeting
 - Review concerns
 - Assign action items
 - Review Discipline Reports
 - Final input for Discipline Reports
 - Design options weighting exercise

For more information

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