



I-5/Bakerview Road Interchange Value Planning Study– Project Update

Improvements are needed to relieve congestion and support economic development in the fast-growing area surrounding the I-5/Bakerview Road interchange in Bellingham. Our long-term plan calls for a full re-build of the interchange that we currently cannot afford. WSDOT, city of Bellingham, Whatcom County, Whatcom Council of Governments and Port of Bellingham staff worked together to identify a lower-cost alternative.



Recommended improvements

The multi-agency Value Planning Study, completed in May 2011, recommends widening and restriping at an estimate cost of \$3.2 million. The project will improve safety, reduce backups across the I-5 overpass and will benefit regional transportation circulation in northwestern Bellingham. The project is unfunded.



Progress

- WSDOT completed a scoping effort in spring 2011 to validate Value Planning Study findings and recommendations.
- This project is part of the city of Bellingham's adopted Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), an eligibility requirement for many grant programs.

Next steps

We anticipate that once funding is secured, it would take approximately 18 months to complete preliminary engineering, secure necessary permits and advertise the project. Estimated cost for this phase is \$500,000. The construction phase would require nine to 12 months, at an estimated cost of \$2.7 million.

Contact:

Todd Carlson, Planning & Engineering Services Manager: 360.757.5980 or carlsot@wsdot.wa.gov