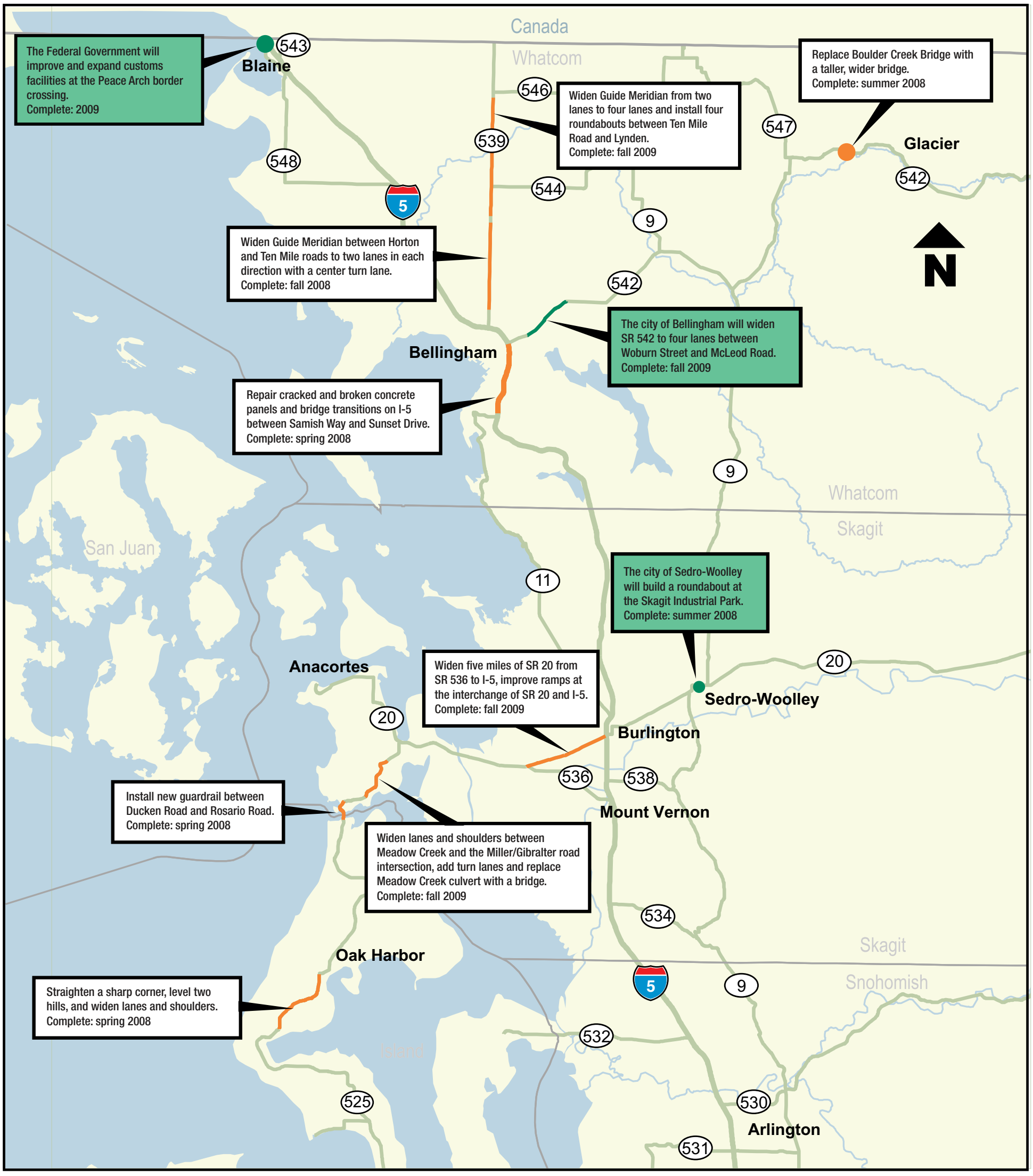
2008 Construction Highlights

Washington State Department of Transportation

Key Projects in Whatcom, Skagit and Island Counties



Projects continued into 2008

Blaine, I-5: Lynden, SR 539: Sumas, SR 9: Traffic detection at border crossings
Crews will install 10 new cameras and traffic detecting equipment in Blaine, Lynden and Sumas. We will use the new equipment to broadcast information and wait times on roadside signs, radios and the Web, so drivers can choose the quickest route to Canada.

Estimated completion: january 2008
Total cost: $3.4 million

Blaine: I-5, Blaine exit interchange improvements
The federal government plans to improve and expand the customs facilities at the I-5, Peace Arch border crossing in Blaine. We will support this effort with improvements to I-5 and the Blaine interchange.

Estimated completion: summer 2010
Total cost: $24.6 million

Burlington: SR 20, Fredonia to I-5 widening – stage 1
We will widen five miles of SR 20 from SR 536 to I-5, and improve the on- and off-ramps at the SR 20, I-5 interchange. Stage 1 widens from SR 536 (Memorial Highway) to east of Higgins Airport Way, builds bridges, and improves the SR 536 and Higgins Airport Way intersections.

Estimated completion: summer 2008
Total cost: $118.2 million

Oak Harbor: SR 20, Sidney Street to Scenic Heights widening and realignment
We widened lanes and shoulders, straightened sharp corners and leveled two hills on SR 20.

Estimated completion: spring 2008
Total cost: $9.6 million

Deception Pass: SR 20, Cornet Bay Road to Rosario Road
We will replace historic, outdated guardrail along SR 20 in Deception Pass State Park with new guardrail that meets current design standards. The new guardrail will retain many of the character-defining features of the old guardrail, including the defining log, rock and mortar bollard appearance. The new guardrail will improve safety and reduce the severity of collisions.

Estimated completion: fall 2008
Total cost: $6 million

Deception Pass: SR 20, Quiet Cove Road to SR 20 Spur safety improvements – stage 1
We will improve safety and traffic flow along SR 20, between Sharpes Corner and Meadow Creek. Specifically, we will: widen the lanes and shoulders of the highway; close dangerous intersections; build new left and right turn lanes; level and realign the highway to increase motorists sight distance and safety; and replace an old culvert with a new bridge to improve fish passage.

Estimated completion: fall 2008
Total cost: $34.3 million

Bellingham: SR 539, Horton Road to Ten Mile Road widening
We will widen the Guide Meridian between Horton Road and Ten Mile Road to four lanes with a two-way turn lane. This will help relieve congestion.

Estimated completion: fall 2008
Total cost: $66.3 million

Glacier: SR 542, Boulder Creek Bridge - replace bridge
We will replace the old bridge with a new bridge designed to current standards. The new bridge will be taller to protect it from flooding. The wider bridge deck will include a barrier-protected bike and pedestrian path that will connect to the Whatcom County Bay to Baker Trail.

Estimated completion: summer 2008
Total cost: $7.3 million

Bellingham: SR 543, I-5 to International Boundary widening
We dramatically changed and improved SR 543 through Blaine. We reconstructed, lowered and repaved SR 543 from Boblett Street to the U.S.-Canada border. We built a new interchange at D Street and a designated truck lane. The new truck lane lines up with the commercial inspection booths at the border. These improvements will help increase safety, improve freight movement and relieve congestion.

Estimated completion: summer 2008
Total cost: $50.8 million

Projects starting in 2008

Bellingham: I-5, 36th Street to Slater Road
We will repave on- and off-ramps, and repair and replace broken concrete panels through Bellingham.

Begin construction: summer 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2008
Total cost: $5.1 million

Burlington: I-5, Burlington vicinity bridges - seismic retrofit
We will retrofit the bridge support columns to meet current seismic standards.

Begin construction: spring 2008
Estimated completion: summer 2008
Total cost: $1.2 million

Skagit, Whatcom, Island counties: SR 9, SR 11, SR 20 roadside safety improvements
Engineers will study roadways and collision data to identify where safety improvements can be made. Crews will install guardrail, remove fixed objects and improve roadsides to reduce collisions and improve safety.

Begin construction: 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2008
Total cost: $1.4 million

Sedro-Woolley: SR 20, roundabouts
The city of Sedro-Woolley will build a roundabout at F&S Grade Road and at the north side of the Skagit Industrial Park to improve safety and relieve congestion.

Begin construction: July/August 2008
Estimated completion: Sept/Oct 2008
Total cost: $2.9 million

Deception Pass: SR 20, Quiet Cove Road to SR 20 Spur safety improvements - stage 2
We will improve safety and traffic flow along SR 20, between Sharpes Corner and Meadow Creek. Specifically, we will: widen the lanes and shoulders of the highway; close dangerous intersections; build new left and right turn lanes; level and realign the highway to increase motorists sight distance and safety; and replace an old culvert with a new bridge to improve fish passage.

Begin construction: spring 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2009
Total cost: $34.3 million

Burlington: SR 20, Fredonia to I-5 widening – stage 2
We will widen five miles of SR 20 from SR 536 to I-5. In addition, the on- and off-ramps at the SR 20, I-5 interchange will be improved. Stage 2 widens from east of Higgins Airport Way to I-5, dramatically improves the I-5 interchange, and builds or improves intersections.

Begin construction: spring 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2009
Total cost: $118.2 million

Clinton: SR 525, Clinton Ferry Terminal to Bob Galbreath Road – paving
We will resurface the highway from the Clinton Ferry Terminal to the intersection of Bob Galbreath Road to extend the life of the roadway.

Begin construction: summer 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2008
Total cost: $981,000

Mount Vernon: SR 538, College Way and Riverside Drive
The city will add channelization and make signal improvements to improve traffic flow.

Begin construction: summer 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2008
Total cost: $5.5 million

Lynden: SR 539, Ten Mile Road to Badger Road
We will widen the Guide Meridian from two lanes to four from Ten Mile Road to Lynden, transforming the roadway from a narrow two-lane highway with minimal shoulders into a four-lane highway with wide shoulders. We will build four roundabouts at key intersections to help keep traffic moving. This will relieve congestion and improve traffic flow and motorists safety.

Begin construction: spring 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2009
Total cost: $106.7 million

Bellingham: SR 542, Woburn to McLeod widening
The city of Bellingham will widen SR 542 from Woburn Street to McLeod Road to four lanes to help relieve congestion and improve safety. The 2005 Transportation Partnership Funding Package provides $1 million in funding for this project.

Begin construction: summer 2008
Estimated completion: summer 2008
Total cost: $10.3 million

Whatcom County: SR 542, Bruce Creek culvert replacement and realignment
We will replace a culvert at Bruce Creek and remove a fish barrier at Baptist Camp Creek.

Begin construction: spring 2008
Estimated completion: winter 2009
Total cost: $2.8 million

Whatcom County: SR 544, Hannegan Road signal and channelization
The county will install channelization and new signal at the intersection of Pole Road (SR 544) and Hannegan Road

Begin construction: summer 2008
Estimated completion: fall 2009
Total cost: $4.4 million