

# **Appendix B**

## **Review Past Studies & Reports**

---

The purpose of this appendix is to review the available studies and reports focused on SR 167 and any other relevant studies and reports that may provide technical or regional information. By using prior studies, a more complete background can be presented for the overall corridor planning process.

**What studies and reports have been conducted that focused directly or indirectly on the SR 167 Corridor?**

Within the SR 167 Corridor, there have been three studies that dealt directly with SR 167 and related arterial connections as a transportation network. The studies were conducted jointly by WSDOT and local agencies.

TransValley Area Study, Final Report - March 2002

This study provided an analysis of existing transportation facilities, planned local road and regional transit improvements from Renton down to Auburn. The focus of the study was the existing and potential east/west connections. The study provides a framework of what the local road infrastructures needs are in the next ten years.

This study provides information on east/west connections and travel patterns that may or may not affect the SR 167 operations. The study also provides a blueprint for potential regional cooperation on future funding scenarios.

Draft SR 167 Valley Freeway Corridor Analysis - February 2004

This analysis provided a framework of the short-term and long-term projects that could be potentially funded by the Regional Transportation Improvement District funds (RTID). The findings were presented the following working papers:

- Project Goals and Objectives
- SR 167 Improvement Options
- Transportation Findings
- Environmental Evaluation
- Cost Estimate Development Methodology
- SR 167 Options Screening Results

This analysis packet can provide relevant information that is focused on the primary corridor and general range of bottleneck projects. The environmental screening information and transportation findings will support the baseline information developed for the SR 167 Corridor Plan. The Cost Estimates outline and criteria can re-evaluated and updated to bring that information current for those long-term and short-term projects that are carried forward in the SR 167 Corridor Plan.

#### FHWA SR 167 High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lane Pilot Project WSDOT - March 2005

This project is entering the design and environmental stage in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 2005. The project is to determine the design and impacts of converting the existing High Occupancy Vehicles Lanes (HOV) lanes to HOV Toll Lanes.

The traffic modeling data and environmental analysis conducted for this pilot project will support the Corridor Study in the areas of focused operational traffic data and environmental resources in the northern and middle portion of the SR 167 Corridor.

#### **What Statewide Studies have been conducted that would be relevant to SR 167 Corridor?**

There are five studies on the state level that are relevant to SR 167, specifically focused on freight mobility, freight corridors, and historic modeling results.

#### Washington Commerce Corridor Feasibility Study - December 2004

This study was unique in that it analyzed multi-modal transportation and energy facilities in vicinity of Interstate-5 (I-5). The study analyzed the potential of improving existing facilities or creating a new stand alone Washington Commerce Corridor (WCC), which would be North-South alternatives to Interstate 5. The study area ranges from Lewis County (Centralia to the Canadian border) which contains Interstate 5 and other state routes, and mainline railroads. The two questions were:

- Is there sufficient demand for the corridor?
- Can it be built?

The study provides a comprehensive regional look at existing and potential facilities. In addition, it provides the background of how the SR 167 Corridor can be improved in conjunction with Interstate 405, to reduce congestion and improve freight mobility between Tacoma and Interstate 90.

Freight Movements on Washington State Highways. Results of the 2003-2004 Origin-Destination Survey SFTA Research Paper #10 - October 2004

This state and regional analysis of key freight corridors provides present and future freight chokepoints and an origin-destination breakdown of general freight movements. The study evaluated the major interstates and state routes that are commonly used by freight companies and provided information on the amount of import and export activities within the state and outside of the state. The information provided in the study provides background information on the volume and general travel patterns of freight truck in the SR 167 Corridor.

Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB), 2004 Activities and Recommendation Report

A report on the Washington State freight program that facilitates freight infrastructure projects through out the state. The 2004 Activities and Recommendation Report provides information on the projects built and future pending projects, based on available funding.

This report provides information on the projects built to-date in the SR 167 Corridor and provides a priority listing of future projects that will supplement the primary improvements to the SR 167 WSDOT infrastructures.

Freight Forum, FMSIB, Proceedings and Findings - July 23, 2004

This report is the result of a day-long forum on freight priorities to be considered in the Washington State Transportation Plan (WTP). The forum was sponsored by FMSIB and focused on providing information and project lists for the 2005 WTP Update.

The report provided some freight improvement and funding strategies, as well as some examples of safety and congestion chokepoints information from trucking representatives. The

forum also focused on multi-modal solutions and multi-jurisdictional approaches on projects, which support the range of solutions that will be analyzed in the SR 167 Corridor Plan.

PSRC Regional View Newsletter, Historic Forecast - June 2005

Documentation and review of model forecast accuracy over a historical time period. The newsletter focused on past modeling from the 1960's to the 1980's. The findings of this PSRC study confirm that the modeling architecture and modeling assumptions that have been utilized for regional forecasting is the best available technical analysis.

**What regional studies have been conducted that include the SR 167 Corridor?**

Puget Sound Regional Council Destination 2030 Report - October 2004

This regional plan provides an overview and policy guidance on growth management, land use, infrastructure and protection of natural resources within the Central Puget Sound Region. SR 167 is identified as a key corridor in the regional and state transportation infrastructure. Related land use analyses and travel demand, as well as economic projections, support the existing and future growth estimates for the SR 167 Corridor.

- Growth Management Information/Urban Centers
- Employment Demographics and Forecast
- Population Demographics and Forecast
- Housing Forecast
- Regional Transportation Projects
- EMME/2 Modeling Data

South County Economic Engine, Economic Analysis/Statistical Profile & Summary - September 2004

A regional demographic and economic data analysis of the Green River Valley Cities (Auburn, Covington, Federal Way, Kent, Maple Valley, Renton, and Tukwila) located on or nearby the SR 167 corridor. The report provides baseline information on existing economic conditions, constraints to business growth, freight movement problems, available square footage

for warehouse/distribution/manufacturing/retail uses, and south county company profiles. This report provides a snapshot of the business community that exists in the south King County portion of the SR 167 Corridor. The information will provide information on development of the existing land use and socioeconomic conditions of the corridor.

I 405 Corridor Program, Final Environmental Impact Statement - June 2002

This environmental document provides an analysis of I-405 projects and the northern portion of SR 167. The documentation provides information on existing conditions, the built and natural environment within the corridor, and potential range of impacts with regional and local improvements.

The range of information for projects starting at the I-405/SR 167 interchange down to SR 516 in the City of Kent provides information on:

- Existing conditions,
- Background of forecasted changes
- The Wetlands Mitigation Plan developed at the I 405/SR 167 Interchange can be folded into the SR 167 Corridor Plan Environmental Section
- Projects analyzed in the EIS can be listed under previous NEPA/SEPA review;
- Land Use, Indirect, and Cumulative Impacts can be utilized from this NEPA/SEPA document.

The Interstate 90 Floating Bridge's Impact on Travel Patterns – April 2004

This analysis focuses on the induced growth question, specifically – Do roads create traffic or do traffic demands create roads. This study provides empirical data that the land use development patterns that generate traffic and demand were not substantially different than other areas of growth in the Puget Sound Region.

The type of analysis utilized in this report can be used in the SR 167 Corridor in support of land use versus transportation improvements.

**What Local Agency reports or studies have been conducted in the SR 167 Corridor?**

Local and regional Comprehensive Plans containing Land Use and Transportation Elements that are useful to the SR 167 Corridor planning process include:

- City of Auburn – Comprehensive Plan
- City of Kent – Comprehensive Plan
- City of Renton – Comprehensive Plan
- City of Puyallup – Comprehensive Plan
- City of Sumner – Comprehensive Plan
- City of Pacific & Algona – Comprehensive Plan(s)
- Pierce County – Comprehensive Plan
- King County – Comprehensive Plan
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe – 2005 Draft Comprehensive Plan

**What Studies are related to Land Use?**

The primary studies that relate to land use are the following:

1. I-1405 Corridor Program – DEIS and FEIS
2. South County Economic Engine
3. Destination 2030 – PSRC/Travel Demand Model
4. South County Economic Engine

**What Studies/Reports are related to Transportation?**

The primary studies that relate to transportation are the following:

1. PSRC Regional View Newsletter – Historic Forecast
2. FASTrucks Forecasting Model