

ABSTRACT

Salmon Creek Interchange Project Environmental Assessment

The existing interchange at NE 134th Street needs to be expanded and improved to enhance safety and mobility. The Federal Highway Administration, Washington State Department of Transportation, and Clark County plan to expand the interchange at NE 134th Street and construct a new arterial and interchange at NE 139th Street to create an interchange complex.

The NE 134th Street Interchange is an integral part of several transportation systems, including the I-5 and I-205 freeways. These interstates are heavily utilized by motorists and serve as major freight and regional commute routes and the NE 134th Street interchange serves a large portion of central and west Clark County. Traffic congestion on NE 134th Street between I-5 and I-205 is increasing and I-5 and I-205 are approaching capacity during afternoon peak traffic hours at the I-5 and I-205 off ramps to NE 134th Street. Collisions on the local system are primarily due to high restricted mobility and low overall travel speeds. On the interstate system collisions are primarily due to vehicles entering the interstate, lane changes, and rear end collisions on both I-5 and I-205 off ramps. If the project is not constructed, by the year 2030 many intersections on NE 134th Street will fail, speeds on the local roadways in the project area are projected to be seven miles per hour or less, and the interstate system is projected to exceed capacity.

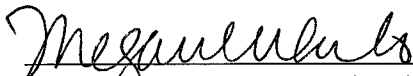
The environmental assessment evaluates a proposed Build Alternative and a No Build Alternative and their potential effects on the natural and built environments. This analysis also considers construction, indirect, cumulative effects, and identifies measures to mitigate negative effects.



Peter Capell, P.E., Public Works Director/County Engineer
Clark County

10/26/09

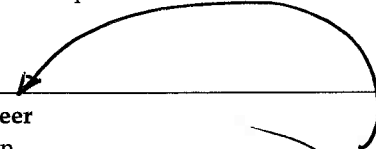
Date of Approval



Megan White, P.E., Director of Environmental Sciences
Washington State Department of Transportation

11/3/09

Date of Approval



Dean Moberg, P.E., Area Engineer
Federal Highway Administration

Date of Approval



Ingrid E. Allen, J.D.

11/3/09

Submitted Pursuant to:

National Environmental Policy Act
(42 U.S.C. 4332 (2) (c))

Submitted by:



U. S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration



Washington State
Department of Transportation





Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

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Lead agencies

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Southwest Region
PO Box 1709
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Clark County

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The Federal Highway Administration, Washington State Department of Transportation and Clark County are co-lead agencies under the National Environmental Policy Act.

Document Availability

The Environmental Assessment can be accessed at:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i5/ne134thi205/>

The environmental assessment is available on CD-ROM or in printed copies. The CD-ROM is available at no charge. The price for the printed copy of the environmental assessment is \$25, which does not exceed the cost of reproduction or distribution. To request a copy of the CD-ROM or printed copy please contact:

Leon Winger

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Vancouver, WA 98682

Or,

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Printed copies of the environmental assessment are available for review at:

- Fort Vancouver Regional Library
- Three Creeks Community Library
- Washington State University Vancouver Library
- Washington State Library

Comment period

The 30-day comment period on the environmental assessment will begin on November 12, 2009 when notice of availability is published in *The Columbian* and the *El Hispanic News*. Comments are requested by December 11, 2009.

Review comments and contact information

All written comments should be sent to:

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Comments can also be submitted via email to:

swVanc@wsdot.wa.gov

The public can access the environmental assessment and comment online at:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i5/ne134thi205/>

For additional information concerning this document please call:

1-877-624-7196

A public open house to provide information and accept comments on this environmental assessment will be held on December 2, 2009 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Alki Middle School, located at 1800 NW Bliss Road, Vancouver, WA 98685-1823.