

## **DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**

**Description of current proposal:** The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is proposing to construct the I-405, Bellevue to Lynnwood Improvement Project to improve safety and reduce congestion along I-405 between NE 6th Street in Bellevue and I-5 in Lynnwood. To accomplish this, WSDOT proposes the following improvements:

- Northbound lane from NE 124th Street to SR 522;
- Braided ramps between the I-405 northbound on-ramp from NE 160th Street and the northbound I-405 off-ramp to SR 522;
- Southbound transit shoulders between SR 522 and NE 160th Street and between SR 527 and NE 195th Street;
- New northbound and southbound structures over NE 132nd Street and a new northbound off ramp structure over the railroad for the I-405 off ramp to NE 124th Street;
- Small amounts of additional widening, between four and eight feet, at several locations for buffers, wider shoulders, tolling equipment, enforcement areas and maintenance pull-outs; and
- Minor upgrades to pedestrian facilities in some areas.

The Bellevue to Lynnwood Improvement Project is designed to compliment other projects along I-405 including:

- I-405, SR 520 to SR 522 (Kirkland Nickel Stage 1 Project), which added one lane in each direction between NE 85th Street and NE 124th Street and opened to traffic in November 2007;
- NE 195th to SR 527 Auxiliary Lane Project, which added one northbound lane between NE 195th Street and SR 527 and opened to traffic in June 2010; and
- NE 8th Street to SR 520 Braided Ramps Project, which creates new multi-level “braided” ramps to separate vehicles entering and exiting northbound I-405 between NE 8th Street and SR 520 and is anticipated to be open to traffic during the summer of 2012.

The Kirkland Nickel Stage 2 Project has been environmentally cleared and permitted to build northbound and southbound lanes between NE 70th Street and NE 85th Street, and a southbound lane between SR 522 and NE 124th Street, and between NE 70th Street and SR 520. It will be constructed at the same time as the Bellevue to Lynnwood Improvement Project.

Build Alternative 1, the preferred alternative, will implement an express toll lane system. The system will provide two express toll lanes between NE 6th Street, in Bellevue, and SR 522, in Bothell and one express toll lane between SR 522 and I-5, in Lynnwood.

Build Alternative 2 will allow HOV users with three or more occupants and transit vehicles to use the single HOV lane, similar to today’s operation. The new northbound lane between NE 124th Street and SR 522 will be operated as a GP lane.

### ***Other Improvements:***

- Construct stormwater management facilities to provide water quality treatment and upgrade detention and conveyance systems;
- Construct retaining walls;

- Construct two noise walls;
- Use Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS) during the project to incorporate the elements of aesthetics throughout the project; and
- Mitigate for stream and wetland effects.

**Proponent:** Washington State Department of Transportation

**Location of current proposal:** The project extends approximately 17 miles north along I-405, from south of NE 6th Street in Bellevue to the I-5 interchange in Lynnwood.

**Title of document being adopted:** *I-405, Bellevue to Lynnwood Improvement Project Environmental Assessment*

**Date adopted document was prepared:** May 10, 2011

**Description of document (or portion) being adopted:** The Environmental Assessment (EA) contains the results of environmental analyses to identify potential impacts of the project and the No Build Alternative, and the document is used to convey the project information to the public and project decision-makers so well informed decisions can be made. This EA was prepared in accordance with the *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA). The NEPA EA and supporting discipline studies can be found on the project website at: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/i405/>

**The documents can be read at the following location from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm:**

I-405 Project office  
600 – 108th Avenue NE, Suite 405  
Bellevue, WA 98004

Copies are also available for review at the following locations: Bellevue College Library; Bellevue Regional Library; Bothell Regional Library; Kingsgate Library; Kirkland Library; Lynnwood Library; Mercer Island Library; Renton Public Library; and University of Washington Library (Suzzallo).

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed Environmental Assessment and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This Determination of Non-Significance is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on the proposal for 14 days from the date issuance on May 10, 2011.

***Comments must be submitted by May 24, 2011.***

We have identified and adopted this document as being appropriate for this proposal after independent review. The document meets our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision maker.

**Name of agency adopting document:** Washington State Department of Transportation.

**Responsible official:** Denise Cieri, I-405 Deputy Project Director

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