Washington State Department of Transportation

SR 539/Horton Road to Tenmile Road - Widen to Five Lanes

Project Information

PIN: 153902B
As of Date: December 2017
Region: Northwest
Regional Admin: L. Eng
State Route: SR 539
Current Status: Completed
Legislative Districts: 42

Project Description

This section of SR 539 is an existing two lane roadway located in Whatcom County between Horton Road and Tenmile Road north of the city of Bellingham. Considerable congestion is experienced throughout this section due to rapid commercial and residential development. To relieve congestion and increase capacity and mobility, SR 539 will be widened to four lanes with a continuous two way left turn lane between Horton Road and Tenmile Road. Other improvements include the replacement of two bridges and a non-standard box culvert at Deer Creek, storm sewer system construction, traffic signal reconstruction Smith, Axton and Laurel Roads, and illumination installation at channelized intersections.

Gray Notebook Text

0911Q8 GNB 42 (June 30, 2011) - The final cost was $35.8 million, 14% above the contractor's bid of $31.5 million, due to escalating costs for construction materials as well as higher-than-planned amounts of labor and materials needed for construction. This contract included an adjustment for both asphalt and fuel costs that resulted in payments to the contractor totaling nearly $1 million for price increases on these materials. Other expenses that raised the contract cost included extra traffic control needed to manage the volume of traffic using this section of SR 539 daily, and additional environmental compliance work.

Project Milestones

Milestone	Original Date	Current Date	Status
Project Definition Complete			
Preliminary Engineering Start	Q4 1990	Q4 1990	On Schedule
Environmental Complete			
Right of Way Complete	Q4 2006	Q4 2006	On Schedule
Contract Advertisement	Q1 2007	Q1 2007	On Schedule
Operationally Complete	Q4 2008	Q4 2008	On Schedule

Project Cost Summary ($ in Thousands)

Project Status	Leg. Initial Budget	Current Leg. Budget	Current Approved Cost
Preliminary Engineering	$5,184	$8,417	$8,404
Right of Way	$12,902	$12,473	$12,473
Construction	$26,685	$47,131	$46,718
Total	$44,771	$68,022	$67,596

Project Funding Summary - Current Approved Cost ($ in Thousands)

Project Phase	Nickel	TPA	Pre-Existing Funds	CWA	Other	Total
Prelim Engineering	$0	$0	$8,404	$0		$8,404
Right of Way	$0	$0	$12,473	$0		$12,473
Construction	$0	$0	$46,718	$0		$46,718
Total	$0	$0	$67,596	$0		$67,596

Project Web Site: