

WAC 197-11-970 Determination of nonsignificance (DNS).

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Description of proposal:

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is proposing to make general improvements to Interstate 405 (I-405) from NE 6th Street in Bellevue to Interstate 5 (I-5) in Lynnwood. Improvements will include signal modifications, construction of a peak use shoulder lane (hard shoulder running [HSR]), lane re-striping, and stormwater conveyance and collection. The project includes work at five distinct locations as described below.

Location 1 - SR 527 to I-5:

At this location, the project will construct a northbound peak use shoulder lane. The lane allows general-purpose vehicles to use the shoulder when open, typically during weekday pm peak periods, but functions as a shoulder during all other hours. This work will include the following:

- *Restripe I-405 northbound from just north of SR 527 (MP 27.1) to just south of I-5 (MP 29.1)*
- *Install dynamic lane control signs (LCS) over the outside shoulder, including associated sign. structures, foundations, cabinets, conduit, and wiring.*
- *Construct a noise wall along a portion of northbound I-405.*
- *Install additional stormwater conveyance and collection infrastructure.*
- *Plane and overlay and construct vehicle refuge / maintenance pull-offs.*
- *Construct traffic elements such as signing, illumination, and Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) components including associated cabinets, foundations, conduit with trenching, and wiring.*

Location 2 - NE 85th I/C vicinity:

At this location, the project will modify the northbound on-ramp to 85th and the express toll lane (ETL) access point starting location. This work will include the following:

- *Reconfigure the 85th on-ramp to northbound I-405.*
- *Start the Express Toll Lane access point further to the south by restriping the current ETL buffer.*
- *Install additional stormwater conveyance and collection infrastructure.*
- *Construct traffic elements such as signing, illumination, and ITS components including associated sign structures, cabinets, foundations, conduit with trenching, wiring and a new advanced guide sign at approximately MP 17.7.*

Location 3 - NE 128th Direct Access Signal Modification:

At this location, the project will modify the signal at the NE 128th street direct access ramps. This work will include the following:

- *Modifying the signal by including a protected left turn only phase. Currently, motorists must always yield to oncoming traffic for the left turn movements on the direct access ramps.*
- *Adjust the lane striping on NE 128th street.*

- *Install additional roadway signage.*

Location 4 – NE 6th Direct Access:

At this location, the project will modify the existing signage for the ETL system to adding a third toll rate display for the 124th Street destination. This work will include:

- *Modifying existing toll rate sign (TRS) on NE 6th, 112th northbound, and 112th southbound to add the 124th Street destination to the existing toll rate signs.*
- *Modify the associated ITS cabinet and conduit wiring for the new toll rate displays.*

Location 5 – NE 6th to I-5:

At the access points to the ETL system pavement marking lettering was added in the ETLs to say “Express Toll Lane” to clarify the lane usage for drivers. This has been successful in improving driver understanding of the lanes in this area. This work will include Refreshing and adding additional locations of the existing “Express Toll Lane” pavement marking lettering.

Proponent: WSDOT

Location of proposal, including street address, if any:

The five project locations span the cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, and Bothell, and a portion of unincorporated Snohomish County. From south to north the project spans Townships 25N, 26N, and 27N, and Range 5E and 4E, across numerous sections. See attached Vicinity Map.

Lead agency: WSDOT

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 checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

There is no comment period for this DNS.

This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. Comments must be submitted by September 7, 2016

Responsible official: *Cameron Kukes*

Position/title: Northwest Region Environmental Manager

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Address:

Send comments to:

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Date: 8/18/2016

Signature:

