August 2013

Bellevue to Redmond Improvement Projects

WSDOT is seeking solutions to reduce congestion on SR520 and I-405 between -Bellevue and Redmond. Development in the Spring District and continued growth in downtown Bellevue and Redmond will only increase pressure on this corridor.

WSDOT has identified four projects that can help relieve congestion on SR 520 and at the SR 520/I-405 interchange:

- 124th Avenue NE interchange project
- Auxilary lanes between 124th Avenue NE and 148th Avenue NE
- SR 520/I-405 Direct Connector
- 148th Avenue NE interchange project

124th Ave. NE Interchange Justification Report

WSDOT is developing an interchange justification report (IJR) for the proposed additional access to SR 520 at the 124th Avenue NE Interchange. This process includes traffic analysis, conceptual engineering development, and an environmental review for the 124th Avenue NE interchange, the auxiliary lanes between 124th Avenue NE and 148th Avenue NE, and the SR 520/I-405 direct connector.

124th Avenue NE interchange improvements will improve access to downtown Bellevue

To expand access to and from SR 520 at 124th Avenue NE, the project will modify the existing half-diamond interchange to a full-diamond interchange. In addition to improving access to Bellevue, including the Spring District, the medical district, and downtown, this project will also reduce congestion at the SR 520/I-405 interchange.

When complete, this project will allow travelers full access to and from 124th Avenue NE.

The SR 520/I-405 Direct Connector project relieves congestion at the SR 520/I-405 interchange

The SR 520/I-405 Direct Connector project would build an express toll lane ramp from the inside lane on SR 520 which would connect into the express toll lanes on I-405. The direct connector ramps would relieve congestion on westbound SR 520 during the peak commutes.

Auxiliary lanes connect 124th Avenue to 148th Avenue NE

Also critical to the success of the 124th Avenue NE interchange are the addition of auxiliary lanes between 124th Avenue NE and 148th Avenue NE, which will reduce weaving issues.

Planning Phase

This map shows the extent of the four project areas.

What are the costs of the projects?

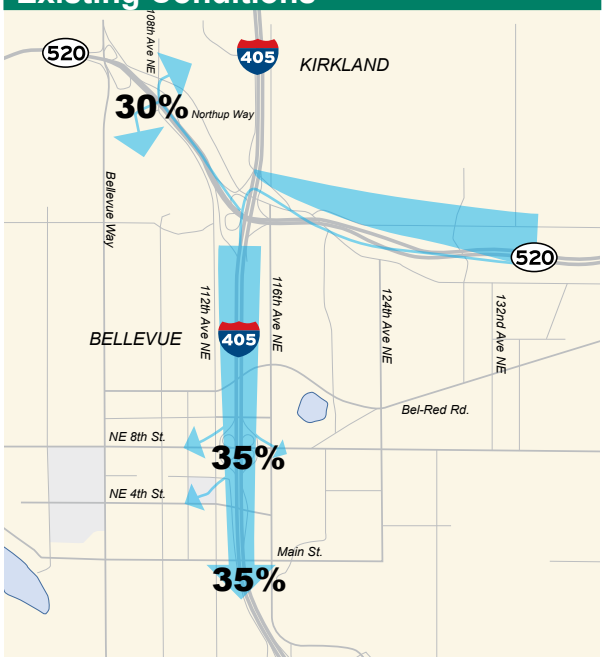
- **124th Avenue NE I/C:** A conceptual project cost estimate is $235 million.
- **SR 520/I-405 Direct Connector:** A conceptual project cost estimate if built after 124th Avenue NE is $315 million.
- **124th Ave. NE to 148th Ave. NE Auxiliary lanes:** A conceptual project cost estimate is $45 million.
- The combined benefit-cost for these three projects is 1.68.

Washington State Department of Transportation

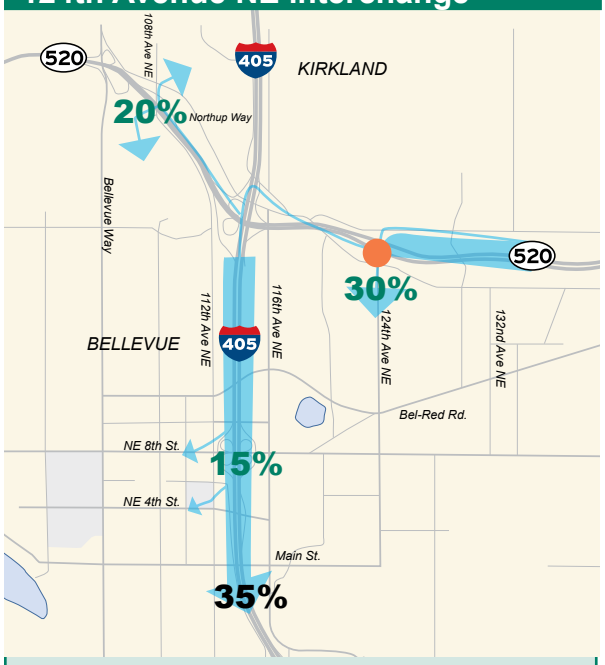
Improving access to and from Bellevue

The following maps have been designed to help show the traffic flow benefits associated with eith project improvement during the morning peak period. The percentages are representative of only traffic headed on westbound SR 520 into and through Bellevue.

Existing Conditions

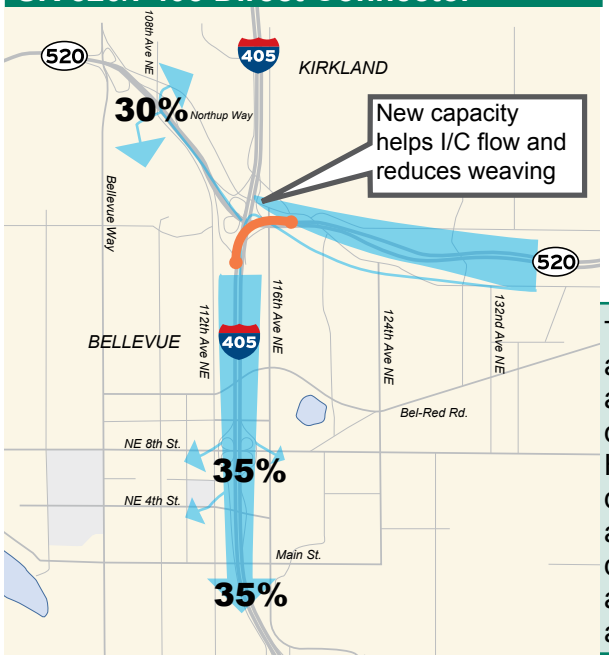


124th Avenue NE interchange



The 124th Avenue NE interchange project recognizes that 65 percent of the trips from westbound SR 520 are heading to Bellevue vicinity. Intercepting these trips through providing new access to and from the east on SR 520, will reduce both westbound SR 520 congestion and southbound I-405 congestion at the downtown Bellevue interchanges.

SR 520/I-405 Direct Connector



The SR 520/I-405 Direct Connector also addresses the SR 520 mainline congestion. By adding this connection, WSDOT can reduce the demand on the bottleneck area at the interchange. However, congestion will not be reduced at the downtown Bellevue interchanges, as the same amount of traffic will ultimately be funneled in that direction. The direct connector is assumed to be an express toll lane, allowing non-carpool vehicles access.