

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

NARRATIVE PROJECT INFORMATION -October 2011

Due to Peter Heffernan no later than close of business Wednesday October 12.

Project Sponsor: *City of Covington*

Project Name: *SR516 – Jenkins Creek Bridge to 185th Place SE*

Project Location: *SR 516 from the Jenkins Creek Bridge (0.2 mi east of SE Wax Road) to 185th Place SE*

What type of project is it: Support Centers ____ Corridors Serving Centers

Plan Consistency:

- Transportation 2040 project number: 4288
- Is the project consistent with the Transportation 2040: Yes No ____

Project Description - No more than two full page - (see evaluation criteria for information to include):

- Briefly describe the project
This project will widen SR 516 (Kent-Kangley) from a two lane rural standard to a 5 lane arterial standard from Jenkins Creek Bridge to 185th Place SE. The improvements will include center median landscaping, illumination, 5' planter strips and 8' ADA compliant sidewalks throughout the project limits, and 5' bike lanes to the east of Jenkins Creek. The new bike lanes will connect to the existing section of the Jenkins Creek Multi-Use Trail. Currently there are only minor, isolated sections of pedestrian facilities.

A drainage conveyance and treatment system will be incorporated to retain, treat, and infiltrate drainage associated with the additional widening. Runoff currently flows untreated into Jenkins Creek.

The project will also include the widening of the stream crossing of Jenkins Creek to accommodate the arterial standard and improve the fish habitat with the improved structure as well as handle high water flows during storm events.

All above ground utilities will be converted to an underground system.

Construction will also incorporate environmentally friendly practices including

the use of suitable soils on site which will reduce the import of materials. Landscaping will include the use of drought tolerant and native species to reduce the need for watering and landscaping maintenance.

- What is the intended outcome & benefit

The intended outcome of this project is to improve the level of service of the substandard roadway to accommodate current and future traffic volumes in the area. The projects will eliminate a critical pinch point in the system by widening the structure over the Jenkins Creek crossing. This critical project will spur future widening to make SR 516 a five lane roadway through the Covington City limits. These improvements will allow for development as currently developments east of Jenkins Creek are unable to meet concurrency requirements.

SR 516 is a key arterial for the southeast King County Area. There are few east west routes that serve the Covington, Maple Valley and Black Diamond area and since primary commute direction is to and from the west (towards Seattle/Tacoma) this corridor is vital in making that connection. The construction of this project would not only allow for development within the project area, it would also likely spur developments east of the project by eliminating this missing gap/bottle neck allowing transportation concurrency to be met.

These improvements will not only benefit commuters but residents, businesses and freight mobility. Significant delays are also experienced during the weekends as downtown Covington is becoming more of an attraction with regional attractions such as Costco, Home Depot, Kohl's, Wal-Mart, etc. This project will reduce delays and improve the quality of life of residents experiencing delays from east Covington as well as Maple Valley and Black Diamond.

The project not only improves capacity for motorists it also includes 8' wide separated sidewalks on both sides of the arterial. This spurs pedestrian activity in an area that currently has several locations with little to no pedestrian accommodation. A gap in the pedestrian facilities on the north side of SR 516 would also be eliminated. Existing bus stops will have improved access with the completion of the pedestrian facilities with direct connection to the nearby commercial businesses.

Project Status & Timeline

Where is the project at in development? Design

What is the timeline for this project from start to completion?

(Please identify the major phases)

Preliminary Engineering/Design Complete: January 2013

Right of Way Complete: January 2014

Construction Complete: July 2015

Additional Comments