

PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

NARRATIVE PROJECT INFORMATION - October 2011

Due to Peter Heffernan (peter.heffernan@kingcounty.gov) no later than close of business Wednesday October 12.

Project Sponsor: *King County Parks/King County Road Services*

Project Name: *East Lake Sammamish Trail MP (Issaquah Segment) Construction Phase*

Project Location: *City of Issaquah, NW Gilman Blvd – SE Point Way (SE 43rd Way)*

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

Plan Consistency:

- Transportation 2040 project number: **4038**
- Is the project consistent with the Transportation 2040: Yes **x** No ____

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

- Briefly describe the project
King County continues to develop the 11-mile master planned East Lake Sammamish Trail (ELST), a missing link in a 44-mile seamless, non-motorized transportation/recreation corridor that includes the Burke Gilman Trail, the Sammamish River Trail, the Marymoor Connector Trail and the Issaquah Preston Trail. Preliminary design of the master planned corridor was completed in early 2009. Construction is scheduled to be done in phases; the Redmond segment began in May 2011 and the Issaquah segment will begin in the spring of 2012.

The project proposes to develop the 2-mile-long paved and soft-surface regional trail and related improvements within the City of Issaquah as the second phase of the master planned trail. The project will include:

- Construction of a 12-foot-wide paved regional trail with soft-surface (gravel) shoulders;
- Related earthwork;
- Drainage improvements related to the trail;
- Retaining walls and other site improvements;

- Landscaping and fencing; and
- Access and traffic control (bollards, striping, signage, etc.)

The project is a component of the 11-mile-long master planned East Lake Sammamish Trail linking downtown Issaquah (south) with the Redmond Urban Growth Center (north). The Master Planned ELST will be the “full” buildout of the trail and will replace the existing soft-surface “Interim” ELST along a similar alignment.

- **What is the intended outcome & benefit**

The ELST will provide a paved multi-use trail for bicyclists, pedestrians, and others between cities within the Urban Growth Area – Issaquah, Sammamish, and Redmond (regional urban center). The trail will provide an off-road facility and route as a nonmotorized alternative to surrounding congested arterials. As a result, the project will promote nonmotorized access to employment, retail, and recreation centers within the city of Issaquah as well as provide regional link with Redmond, Sammamish, and other cities and regional growth centers as an important component of the Regional Trails System.

The Issaquah segment of the ELST is part of the expanding Regional Trails System (RTS) that provides a network of off-road, multi-use, nonmotorized transportation facilities used by thousands of bicyclists, pedestrians, and others daily for commuting to work or school, local travel, and recreation. The existing RTS now comprises approximately 300 miles of alternative transportation corridors. The ELST is among the most significant of these due to its strategic location within King County, its length, and its connections via urban centers, city centers, and many land uses (residential, commercial, retail, professional, institutional, government, historic districts, and recreation areas). The ELST extends the Burke-Gilman and Sammamish River Trails to create a truly regional alternative transportation corridor stretching from Seattle to Issaquah and beyond to the Cascades. This project is an important part of that extension.

The Issaquah segment of the ELST will provide many direct local benefits, including providing the spine of Issaquah’s nonmotorized network of trails and road improvements. The ELST will link with other regional trails that intersect within the city, including the Issaquah-Preston, Pickering, Sammamish, and planned I-90 and Cedar-Sammamish trails. The trail will provide numerous connections with arterials and city streets. The ELST in Issaquah will be an important urban trail linking land uses and activities throughout the city. As such, the trail will safely accommodate a variety of users groups such as bicyclists, pedestrians, runners, skaters, wheelchair users, and others of varying ages, skill levels, and circumstances.

Project Status & Timeline

Where is the project at in development?

Design plans are at 90%; 100% design plans will be completed at the end of November 2011.

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

(Please identify the major phases)

Advertise project: November 2011

Notice to Proceed: March 2012

Construction Begins: April 2012

Construction Completed: September 2012

Additional Comments

The proposed project would fund construction of the Issaquah segment of the master planned East Lake Sammamish Trail, an 11-mile missing link in a 44-mile urban regional trail corridor that extends from Seattle to Issaquah and beyond.

