

# PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL PRIORITY PROJECT LIST

## *NARRATIVE PROJECT INFORMATION* *October 2011*

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Project Sponsor: *City of Kirkland*

Project Name: *124<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE Roadway Improvements*

Project Location: *between 116<sup>th</sup> Street to NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street*

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

Plan Consistency:

- Transportation 2040 project number: 2293
- Is the project consistent with the Transportation 2040: Yes  No

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

- Briefly describe the project
- What is the intended outcome & benefit

*Proposing to widen existing roadway between intersections at NE 116<sup>th</sup> Street and NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street from 3 lanes to 5 lanes, include 2 way center turn lane and improve pedestrian crossings. This project will reconstruct existing sidewalk, transit stops and bike lanes which will be impacted by roadway widening. This candidate project will help the City attain the 2022 level of service standard established in the Comprehensive Plan.*

*NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street leads directly to Kirkland's designated Urban Center. The slated redevelopment of the Totem Lake Mall will add over 600,000 square feet of retail space in the area. Totem Lake is also an important center for high-wage jobs associated with the existing university, high-tech, and bio-tech/medical institutions and research companies in the area and is projected to generate approximately 1,200 new permanent jobs associated with the redevelopment of the area. This project is a vital component of the City's overall economic*

*development strategy by providing essential infrastructure to serve this urban center.*

*The density and land use that has been planned for and adopted in the City's Comprehensive Plan is only achievable by the completion of a limited number of specific transportation improvements in the area; NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street widening is one of the critical improvements. The project is in the heart of Totem Lake; much of this area is established as retail, and office park containing a mix of office, light industrial and service uses. Totem Lake serves as the community and sub-regional center for services, vehicle sales, major destination retail and health care. Currently getting around this area is difficult due to significant congestion and circuitous travel patterns. This overly congested area lacks the transportation facilities necessary to efficiently handle current residents, business customers and employees, and Lake Washington Technical College students and employees. The expansion and redevelopment of the Totem Lake Urban Center will only compound the current congestion problems.*

*NE 124<sup>th</sup> Street provides a direct connection to northbound I-405, Evergreen Hospital, and Totem Lake Mall; widening the roadway will relieve vehicular congestion, improve transit operations, and improve critical non-motorized facilities/options for residents and business patrons. The project will improve a long-identified existing problem, improve alternative travel options and benefits a large number and variety of users including commuters, residents, and commercial users.*

*The Totem Lake area has experienced significant economic development since the existing roadways were constructed over 20 years ago. Now, this area consists of diverse economic activity (high density housing, commercial and industrial activity, Lake Washington Technical College) which depends on these roadways. The existing road plan constructed prior to these developments should be upgraded to achieve the levels of service mandated by the Growth Management Act and the Kirkland Comprehensive Plan. The existing roads are highly congested and the proposed project would aid in alleviating this congestion.*

#### Project Status & Timeline

Where is the project at in development?

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

*(Please identify the major phases)*

***Preliminary design report and a ROW needs assessment have been completed  
Design and ROW acquisition would take up to 3-years to complete; the  
construction phase will take up to 9-months (45-months from start to finish)***

Additional Comments