

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: *City of Redmond*

Project Name: *520 Regional Trail*

Project Location: *Bike SR 520 regional trail at NE 40th Street and at NE 51st Street*

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

Plan Consistency:

- Transportation 2040 project number: none
- 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

Grade separate the Bike 520 regional trail at NE 40th Street and at NE 51st Street.

- What is the intended outcome & benefit

Improve bicycle and pedestrian access along 520 Trail, reduce conflicts between vehicles and non-motorized users and improve vehicle operations at two intersections. The Bike 520 corridor provides a link between Bellevue/Kirkland, Overlake, and Downtown Redmond, and will in the future link across SR 520 to Seattle and UW.

This project remedies long-identified safety and mobility concerns that peak during the key commute hours in an area that is adjacent to the Overlake Urban Center and the Overlake Transit Center, and is identified in

Transportation 2040 as “commonly congested.” Circulation and access for all modes improve as cyclists and pedestrians are physically separated from weaving and turning motor vehicle traffic. Long- term safety and system continuity improve as merge-diverge, and crossing movements are eliminated. CTR and commuter bicycling become more attractive alternatives to single-occupant vehicles, which contribute to improvements in air quality.

The intersection of the 520 Trail/ NE 40th Street/westbound SR 520 ramps - with over 100 bikes and 150 pedestrians(PM Peak 2010) over 3,000 vehicles (PM peak 2009),METRO and Sound Transit, and Microsoft shuttles, provides a key linkage to the Overlake Transit Center, and the Microsoft west and main campus, and future light rail station.

The NE 51st Street interchange provides similar key linkages to Nintendo of America, the Microsoft west and north campus, and other high-tech job-creating employers.

Upon full build-out the 520 Trail will provide a nearly eight mile long continuous corridor that will easily be seen as being one of the premier bicycling corridor in the region and State - linking residential areas to high quality jobs. It will serve multiple user groups and a wide range of economic groups - including those without full-time access to cars.

The Overlake area is an employment, transportation and residential hub. It is home to Microsoft, Nintendo, and Honeywell International, and in the future will accommodate two Sound Transit Light Rail stations, host several thousand new residents as well as mixed-use development. A high percentage of the jobs in this area are in information technology - the kind identified by the Washington Employment Security Department as providing among the very highest job-multiplier and high-export activity effects on Washington State.

Project Status & Timeline

Where is the project at in development?

Preliminary Engineering/Design

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

(Please identify the major phases)

2011-2013 Preliminary Engineering/Design; Right of Way Acquisition;
Construction Phase 1
2013-2015 Construction Phase 2
2015-2017 Construction Phase 3

Additional Comments