Property owners are invited to attend a public meeting to discuss the R.I.D. portion of funding for this bridge and to learn more about the bridge design and construction schedule.

**Property Owners Meeting**

**Tuesday, Feb. 25**

4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

1st Floor Meeting Room
County Admin-East Bldg.
3000 Rockefeller
Downtown Everett

Title VI/ADA: Interpreter and translation services for non-English speakers, and accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request. Contact Tina Hokanson.

For questions regarding Public Works’ Title VI Program, contact our Title VI Coordinator via email at spw-titlevi@snoco.org, or phone 425-388-6660. Hearing/speech impaired call 711.

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**February 2014 Update**

**Property owners meeting in February**

A February 25th meeting is planned for property owners to discuss the Road Improvement District (R.I.D.) portion of funding for this bridge that was discussed at the 2011 meeting with property owners. The county has limited funds for road improvements and must focus its maintenance efforts on roads that are most heavily used. An R.I.D. provides a way to fund a project that serves a small group of citizens.

Individual assessments will be based on useable acreage. Property owners will receive preliminary assessments at the County Council R.I.D. formation hearing prior to construction. After construction, a final assessment will be prepared using the methodology identified in the R.I.D. The County Council will hold a final assessment public hearing and ultimately approve the final assessment.

Eighty percent of the cost of replacing Bridge #540 is federally-funded. A 20 percent local match is required. The local match will consist of county road fund dollars and R.I.D. funds.

**Q: I understand the bridge design is 90% or more completed. Is that correct?**

**A: No. The bridge is currently at the 60 percent design stage. The preliminary structural design analysis for the bridge was finished in mid-2013. While the scope of design analyses vary from project to project, for this project the purpose of the analysis was to fully understand the factors that will determine the final length and foundation location of the bridge. Safety, environmental impact, cost and constructability were also included in the analysis.**

The findings were used to prepare the Design Report that was posted on the project Web page in September 2013 and sent to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for review and approval. The report was the 30 percent design milestone. The design has since progressed to the 60 percent stage. At this stage the plans are checked to ensure required items have been
accounted for, and that they fit together without requiring major changes and can move forward to full detailed design. Plans have been developed for erosion control, road construction, grading, drainage, traffic control, and all structural components.

Federally-funded projects typically have additional requirements for approval, and WSDOT did call for an additional review of our plan by an independent consultant. They want to verify cost and constructability of the bridge. That review is now in progress. Once results of the independent review are known and the design is approved, the county can begin the environmental permitting process. Preliminary work on the SEPA Checklist has begun. The Checklist is an environmental report required by the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) to document the likely environmental impacts of a project, and is part of the environmental review process.

Q. According to the November 2011 schedule the environmental process will take three years. Is this an estimate? Could it be finished sooner?
A. The environmental review and permitting schedule is an estimate derived from timeframes that were required for similar environmental review and permitting processes on past projects over the last several years. The Design Report posted on the project Web page contains more information about the permitting process.

Q. Are all of the field studies complete? If not, what is left to do?
A. The field studies that were required for the Channel Migration Zone (CMZ) study and the Design Report are completed. No additional field studies are anticipated at this time, though follow-up site visits will occur as design and construction details are developed.

Q. Has an updated project schedule been developed?
A. The project schedule was revised prior to the Independent Study. We will talk about this at the February 25th meeting.

A 2016 advertisement date is planned
We look forward to advertising the project and hiring a construction contractor during a 2016 bid process. Prefabricated segments can then be ordered and built by the manufacturer, and construction can proceed. We anticipate that the prefabrication work will occur in late 2016 and that construction of the tower and anchoring system, work on the bridge approach, and installation of prefab segments and cables will be completed during 2017.

Side view of the proposed bridge.
The proposed bridge will be a new single-lane, 15-foot wide, 265-foot long, single-span, cable stayed, steel bridge.