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Snohomish County's 35th Ave. SE Corridor Receives \$4 Million for Road Improvements

Multiple Snohomish County area projects also awarded funding from Washington State Transportation Improvement Board

EVERETT, Wash., December 02, 2016 – One of the fastest-growing areas in Snohomish County, 35th Ave. SE, bordering Mill Creek, has been awarded \$4 million for road improvements from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB). This grant, in addition to federal funds, completes Snohomish County Public Works Department's estimated \$8.4 million needed to fully fund the project's construction. This was one of eleven transportation projects within Snohomish County that received funding from the state agency.

The proposed improvements to 35th Ave. SE will take place between 180th St. SE and Seattle Hill Road. The corridor is an important north-south route for residents in the rapidly developing area. Improvements include adding bike lanes, planter strips, sidewalks, and stormwater detention and water quality treatment facilities. In addition, a continuous center turn lane will be added and a new traffic signal will be constructed at 156th Street SE. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2018.

"This is an example of stretching our local road tax dollars to build infrastructure. The public works staff is continually applying for other grants or funding sources to supplement local funds," said Steve Thomsen, Snohomish County Public Works Director. "It enables us to maximize our road fund budget while keeping our focus on improving the motorist's mobility and offering alternative modes of transportation such as biking or walking. Funding from the TIB makes it possible for us to move forward with the construction of major projects like that of the 35th Ave SE corridor."

Snohomish County was not the only recipient of funding from the TIB; nearly \$20 million was awarded to ten cities within the county. The grants signify recognition of the anticipated growth throughout the

county and reflect the transportation funding needed. This year, the TIB presented 115 street and sidewalk improvement grants to agencies across the state, totaling \$121.2 million.

For a full list of the 2016 TIB project selections visit www.tib.wa.gov.

About Snohomish County Public Works

The Snohomish County Public Works Department employs approximately 600 staff members that develop and maintain county roads; control and manage surface water quantity, quality, and fish habitats; and oversee the recycling and disposal of solid waste. The department's main office is located at 3000 Rockefeller Ave., Everett, WA 98201. For more information about Snohomish County Public Works, visit www.snohomishcountywa.gov/PublicWorks.

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