North Road from Filbert Road (SR 524) to 164th Street SW

Snohomish County Public Works is planning improvements to North Road beginning in 2012, and held an open house on January 27, 2010 to discuss ideas with residents of the area. North Road stretches between Filbert Road (SR 524) and 164th Street SW and has seen a steady increase in traffic in recent years. The opening of Lynnwood High School in its new location along the route increases the importance of upgrading the roadway to meet current and future needs.

120 people attended the January 27 open house

Thanks to all the citizens who participated, the open house held in January was very productive. Draft plans and exhibits were on display and project team members were available to explain the drawings and answer questions about design, environmental issues, right-of-way concerns and traffic. Area residents were actively involved in asking questions, expressing concerns, offering suggestions and discussing the proposed design with staff.

According to the comment forms and conversations, pedestrian safety—a place for people to walk—is the highest priority, followed by traffic safety. Many residents welcome the plan for sidewalks and asked about lighting to improve visibility. There were also comments about lane markings that are difficult to see at night.

The project will include illumination to improve visibility along the entire length of North Road, especially at intersections. Reflective raised pavement markers will delineate the center left turn lane and the center line of side streets that adjoin North Road. Also, bike lanes along the sides of North Road will be easier to see with reflective paint that will define them.

Crosswalks will be maintained at intersections controlled by existing traffic signals: Filbert Road (SR 524), Lynnwood High School, and 164th Street SW. Federal guidelines say that crosswalks should not be used indiscriminately, and Snohomish County does not install them at uncontrolled locations. No additional traffic signals are planned for this corridor.

Sidewalks on both sides of North Road are part of the proposal, as well as bike lanes and a center turn lane. On-street parking will not be included due to the limited width of the corridor. Planter strips on both sides of the roadway are also included in the proposed, but may not be feasible in some areas. That will be determined as the right-of-way plan is developed.

Staff members from the County’s right-of-way group have begun working with individuals who own property fronting North Road, and will be able to answer questions that are specific to each property.
Help Us Keep You Informed
There are several ways for you to stay informed.
1. Visit the County’s Web site
   www.snoco.org and type “North Road” or “road projects” in the search box.
2. Register on the project page
to receive e-mail notices when information on the page is updated (follow the “e-subscribe” link on the page to register).
3. E-mail questions and comments
to transportation@snoco.org.
4. Mail questions and comments
to: Snohomish County Public Works, Attn: Tina Hokanson, Communications, 3000 Rockefeller Ave., M/S 607 Everett, WA 98201.
5. Call Tina Hokanson at 425-388-3789.

Community Transit Bus Routes Serve 164th Street

Routes 115/116: Mill Creek/Silver Firs to Edmonds Senior Center

Routes 115/116: serve Mill Creek Town Center, Alderwood Mall, and Edmonds Community College and connect to Swift and many local and regional transit routes.

- “Which bus should I take?”
- “How do vanpools work?”
- “How can I find a carpool?”

Contact CT’s Curb the Congestion Specialist for answers: 425-438-6136

Printed on recycled and recyclable paper. March 2010

Speeding is an issue that has been a concern for residents. One resident asked if the speed could be lowered. Because the road is an arterial, the speed is designated to be no lower than 35 miles per hour. We were also asked about the possibility of installing an electronic speed indicator sign. Traffic Operations is gathering information about that so a decision can be made.

There was also a request for development of an east-west bike route. Currently there is an east-west bike connection between North Road and Larch Way at 164th Street SW. Bicyclists can also travel on 176th Street SW, through Woods Trail, to Larch Way. There are no additional east-west bike routes proposed as part of this project.

Why weren’t sidewalks built before the school?
For many years the county, without success, has been seeking funding for improvements to North Road that included sidewalks and the added center turn lane. The permitting of the school could not be delayed until enough funding was secured to begin the road project.

Environmental Review
An environmental review of this project has been completed in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). An Environmental Checklist has been prepared and A Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) has been issued. These documents are available during normal business hours from Snohomish County Public Works at the address below or visit www.snoco.org and type “North Road” in the search box. Comments on the SEPA documents must be submitted by April 9, 2010 to: Mary Auld, Snohomish County Public Works, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S 607, Everett, WA 98201 or by e-mail to: mary.auld@snoco.org. For more information, call 425-388-3488, ext. 4510.

If you travel on 164th Street, you could save money, reduce your stress and win incentive prizes through the “Curb the Congestion” program by riding a bus, carpool, vanpool, or bicycle or by walking instead of driving alone.

Curb the Congestion is a partnership between Community Transit (CT) and Snohomish County to alleviate traffic congestion and encourage healthy travel options on congested roadways, including 164th, 128th and 20th Streets. The program provides residents and commuters with information and incentives to reduce drive-alone trips. The program, which is funded by Snohomish County through development mitigation fees and federal grants and operated by CT, is part of integrated efforts to coordinate land use and transit planning.

A CT Specialist can help plan your trip. Visit www.communitytransit.org/CurbIt for details and to sign up. The Web site provides resources such as bus information, maps, carpool matching, a “Bike Buddy” program and other tools. If you don’t have Internet access or for more information, contact 425-438-6136 or CurbIt@commtrans.org.