

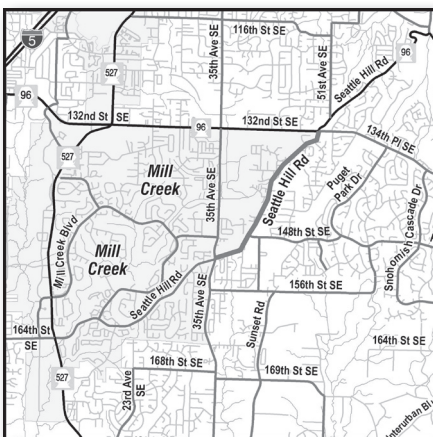
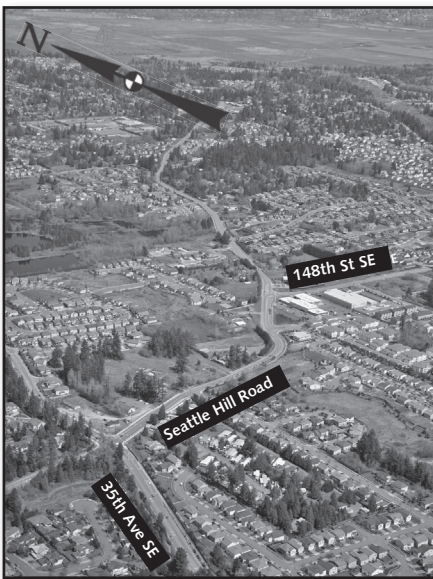
Improvements planned for Seattle Hill Road

Open house set for Feb. 28

Public open house

6 to 8 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 28

Mill Creek Elementary
School
3400 148th St., SE
Mill Creek



Seattle Hill Road – corridor widening project

Snohomish County plans to widen nearly two miles of Seattle Hill Road from 35th Ave. to 132nd St. The widened road will include dedicated center turn lanes, sidewalks and bike lanes.

Commuters and residents along Seattle Hill Road are invited to learn more about the project at an open house from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 28, at Mill Creek Elementary School. Snohomish County Public Works staff will be on hand to talk about plans to widen and improve Seattle Hill Road from 35th Ave. to 132nd St.

Project benefits

Widening 1.6 miles of Seattle Hill Road will help ease congestion during the busy morning and afternoon commutes. A center turn lane running the length of the road will give drivers a place to wait – out of traffic – when they turn on or off the road. Dedicated bike lanes and new sidewalks will make it easier for pedestrians and cyclists to commute without competing for space with vehicle traffic. Engineers also plan to improve sight distance by smoothing out some horizontal and vertical curves in the road. These type of improvements help reduce the risk of collisions along the route.

A unique and innovative aspect of construction is the plan to use of porous concrete for sidewalks along Seattle Hill Road. Unlike traditional concrete, which forces water to run off its surface and into storm drains, porous concrete allows water to pass through the concrete into below-ground water treatment areas before entering lakes and streams. The county also plans to use tree-box filters and grass-lined retention areas to hold and treat stormwater. These are two low-cost strategies that help improve water quality and reduce the need for large detention ponds or extra right of way.

Timeline

Widening nearly two miles of road isn't a quick or simple task. Engineers are currently designing the best way to widen the road to include new sidewalks, curbs, a center turn lane and bike lanes. Snohomish County public works staff will coordinate improvements with the city of Mill Creek, as well. Interested residents can find information about the city's plans for an urban village and roundabout at 136th St by contacting Scott Smith, City Engineer, at 425-921-5708 or scott@cityofmillcreek.com.

Crews are also conducting traffic counts along Seattle Hill Road to gauge the current volume of traffic and account for future traffic growth. We want to make sure improvements to the road will work for drivers today and in the future.

Crews recently potholed along Seattle Hill Road to determine the depth and location of existing utility lines. Residents and drivers may see crews surveying the roadway and testing soil as the design process continues in 2013.

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Acquiring right of way for the widening project should begin in mid-2013 and run through 2014. Snohomish County needs to purchase right of way from approximately 50 parcels along the road to complete the project. For more information about how the county acquires right of way, visit www.snoco.org and search "right of way group."

If construction funds are secured, public works could advertise the project for competitive bid in 2017.

Funding

Design and right-of-way costs are estimated at \$3,861,000. Current funding for those phases consists of a federal grant of \$879,000, developer mitigation fees of \$1,663,000 and county road fund of \$1,319,000. The county continues to pursue a partnership with the city of Mill Creek and grant opportunities to fund construction.



Snohomish County

Public Works

TES-Communications

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Everett, WA 98201

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Seattle Hill Road improvements
Open house set for Feb. 28

More details

▶ www.snoco.org search "Seattle Hill Road"

▶ Scan with your mobile device to reach the project website.

▶ You can sign up to receive project emails on the project website.



scan me

Questions?

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