

OPEN HOUSE

Wednesday, Jan. 9
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Cavelero Mid High School
8220-24th Ave SE
(access via 83rd Avenue SE)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Dec. 20 ... Draft EIS Issued
Jan. 23 Comment Period Ends
February .. Final EIS Issued
7+ days .. SEPA Decision

INFORMATION

- **Project Design:**
Matt Ojala, 425-388-6647,
matthew.ojala@snoco.org
- **Environmental Issues:** Julie Highton,
425-388-3488, ext. 2341,
julie.highton@snoco.org
- **Communications:**
Tina Hokanson,
425-388-3789,
tina.hokanson@snoco.org
- **Info on Other County Projects:** Snohomish County continues to coordinate with transit agencies and other jurisdictions to improve the transportation network for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers. To learn more about projects under construction this year and projects being planned for the future, visit www.snoco.org, and type "roads" in the search box.

TTY users can reach County phone numbers by calling 425-388-3700.

20th Street SE

US 2 Trestle to 91st Ave SE

ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

December 2007

You're Invited to an Open House

Snohomish County Public Works staff is planning an Open House for the 20th Street SE project between the US 2 Trestle to just west of 91st Avenue SE, and you are invited. The purpose of the meeting is to provide you with information on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) that will be issued on December 20, 2007, and to give you an opportunity to ask questions and comment on the proposed improvements. The Draft EIS reviews the potential impacts of the proposed project, and meets the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).

Conceptual project design alternatives, maps, and other graphics will be on display at information "stations" set up around the multi-purpose room at Cavelero Mid High School. Project consultants will be present with County staff to answer questions related to the proposed project. You can arrive anytime before 7:30 p.m. since there will be no formal presentation.

Project Background

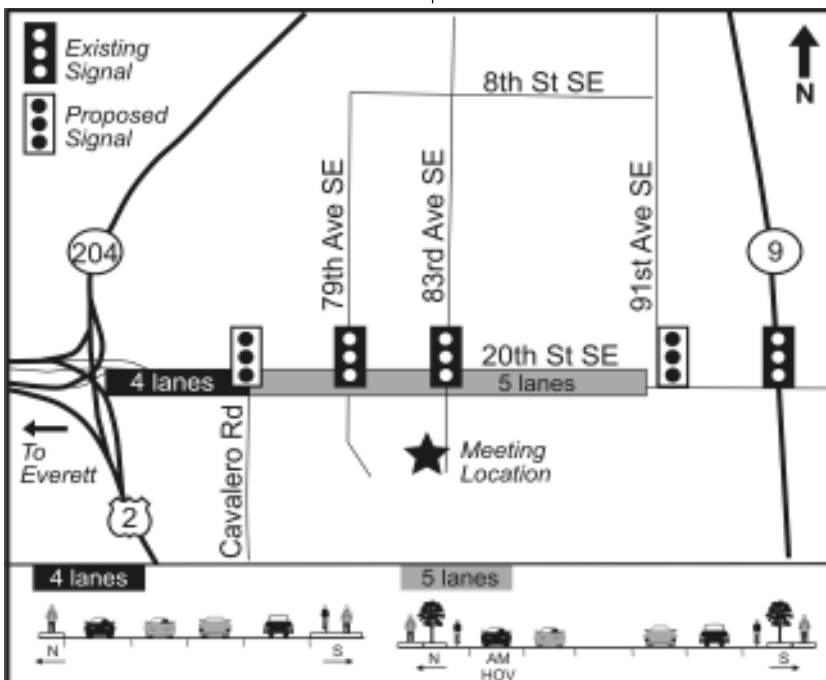
On December 6, 2006, a public scoping meeting was held at Lake Stevens Middle School to present preliminary design plans for the proposed widening of 20th Street SE. Representatives from the County and project consultants displayed project designs, maps, and other exhibits illustrating the design alternatives that were being considered. These alternatives featured additional traffic lanes, sidewalks, and bike lanes.

Approximately 20 citizens attended the meeting. Staff and consultants answered their questions about the project, and gathered comments on the design alternatives and environmental concerns. The citizens also filled out comments sheets, and mailed in additional comments during the 21-day comment period, which ended on December 18, 2006. All of these comments were considered during the preparation of the Draft EIS. From these comments and indepth traffic studies that were conducted, a Preferred Alternative emerged. The Draft EIS addresses the Preferred Alternative and a No Action Alternative.

Project Description

The proposed Preferred Alternative covers two slightly different roadway configurations to accommodate topography and fit the road network in the area. The proposal will widen the existing roadway to four lanes between the US 2 Trestle and Cavalero Road, and five lanes between Cavalero Road and a point 400' west of 91st Avenue SE. The 4-lane section will feature a 12-foot wide multi-use path for both pedestrians and bicyclists on the south side of the roadway, and a 5-foot sidewalk on the north side. There will be left-turn lanes at the Cavalero Road intersection.

The section between Cavalero Road to just west of 91st Avenue SE will include landscaped medians between signalized intersections to increase safety by limiting left turns across travel lanes. At each signalized intersection, left turns and U-turns will be permitted. Also included will be bike lanes, planter strips and sidewalks. A traffic signal will be installed at the 20th Street SE/ Cavalero Road intersection as part of this project. Traffic signals have been installed at 79th and 83rd Avenues SE as part of developer improvements on 20th Street SE.



This project is one approach for improving travel along this busy corridor, however, other ideas are also being proposed to ease congestion. There will be incentives to encourage commuters to choose alternatives to the single-occupancy vehicle (SOV) commute. During the morning peak traffic hours, the curb-side westbound lane between Cavalero Road and 91st Avenue SE will be high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)—dedicated to carpools, buses and vanpools. Bus pullouts will be added on both westbound and eastbound travel lanes of 20th Street SE at Cavalero Road, 79th Avenue SE, and 83rd Avenue. A bus pullout is also being added at 91st Avenue SE as part of the 2008 improvements to 20th Street SE.

If the decision is made to construct the project, construction would commence in 2009 following completion of the design and environmental processes, permitting, and property acquisition.

The Draft EIS for 20th St SE

The purpose of the Draft EIS is to examine and disclose the impacts the project could have on the natural environment and on the built environment.

Natural Environment topics addressed are:

- Geology and Soils
- Water Resources
- Plants and Wildlife
- Air Quality
- Visual Quality

Built Environment topics addressed are:

- Land Use
- Transportation
- Noise
- Hazardous Waste & Asbestos
- Public Services, Facilities, and Utilities
- Displacement and Relocation Assistance
- Cultural and Historic Resources

You have an opportunity to comment on any aspect of the Draft EIS during the comment period which continues through January 23, 2008. All comments post-marked by January 23 will be reviewed and incorporated into the Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS). A final decision on the project can be made seven or more days after the Final EIS has been issued.

Mail or Email Comments by January 23

To submit comments on the project proposal, you can mail your comments by January 23 to: Julie Highton, Senior Environmental Planner, Snohomish County Public Works, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, M/S 607, Everett, WA 98201, or e-mail: julie.highton@snoco.org.

Copies of the Draft EIS will be available for review at:

- Lake Stevens Library
- Lake Stevens City Hall
- Everett Library
- Snohomish County Admin-East Building, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, at the Public Works "Records" 2nd floor customer service counter.
- The County website (www.snoco.org), type "20th Street SE" in the search box. On the project page, you will find a project description, the Draft EIS, and copies of newsletters and news releases.

Copies of the Draft EIS are available for purchase for \$15. These copies are available only on the 2nd floor of the County Admin-East Building, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, in downtown Everett.

Update on Another 20th St SE Project

The County's Public Works Department is also working on another project that will make improvements to 20th Street SE between 91st Avenue SE and S. Lake Stevens Road. Construction of that project is projected to begin in 2008 and is being planned in coordination with the portion between the US 2 Trestle and 91st Avenue SE. For more info on that project, visit the website address listed above.

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