

# Hazardous Waste and Asbestos

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## Studies and Coordination

The hazardous waste and asbestos assessment for this project is based on review of pertinent documents and aerial photographs of project area, discussions with regulatory agencies, and field investigations. Documents reviewed included records of hazardous waste generators compiled, investigated and regulated by the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology). Ecology routinely monitors hazardous waste and toxics generators, transporters, and treatment, storage, and disposal facilities. Discussions also took place between County staff and Ecology personnel regarding active and inactive hazardous waste and toxic material sites within the project area.

## Affected Environment

Existing properties in the rural area along the 20th Street SE corridor are not the type that would typically have soil, groundwater and structure contamination issues associated with hazardous and toxic materials or asbestos. Buildings and properties in the project vicinity are primarily residential houses that are unlikely to contain asbestos. Some of the vacant, undeveloped parcels have historically been utilized as pasture lands and have not been subject to high levels of disturbance. There are no industrial properties in the project vicinity that could be candidates for hazardous and toxic spill sites. Two of the three businesses in the area – a plant nursery and adult daycare center – are low risk establishments for contamination. There are no operating or closed gas stations in the project area. In fact, the only potential sources of hazardous materials associated with the area's land uses include small amounts of pesticides, fertilizers, paint removers, and solvents, as well as hydrocarbon-based fluids such as oil and gasoline associated with a mechanic's shop near the intersection of 20th Street SE and 83rd Avenue SE. It is possible that these materials could be present and are currently undiscovered or undocumented in agency records.

A review of Ecology's records and communications with the agency's staff reveal no hazardous waste sites, toxic sites, or underground storage tanks within the project area itself. There are two inactive sites, however, within close proximity to 20th Street SE:

- The Duskin property, approximately 0.25 miles south of 20th Street SE at 2433 79th Avenue SE, is listed as a site (Identifier #78664556) under Ecology's Toxics program. The site was initially listed due to soil contamination by petroleum. After the site owner participated in DOE's Voluntary Cleanup Program, no further action was required and the site was declared inactive on May 11, 2007.
- The WSDOT parcel 109641, approximately 0.5 miles from the west end of the project area near the US 2 Trestle, was a Hazardous Waste Program site (Identifier #78886796) that now has an inactive status.

# Impacts – Hazardous Waste and Asbestos

## During Construction

### **Preferred Alternative**

There are no known recorded sites in the project area, and no significant adverse environmental impacts relating to hazardous waste and toxic materials are expected during construction of the Preferred Alternative. While a number of structures will be acquired and demolished, a preliminary field investigation indicates that it is unlikely that asbestos materials would be encountered in the buildings, although there is a minor potential for encountering lead-based paint in older structures. All affected structures would be identified prior to construction of the roadway, and the level of hazardous materials or asbestos, if found, will be determined.

### **No Action Alternative**

The No Action Alternative has no construction impacts as it does not require the acquisition of additional right-of-way, or the removal, relocation or demolition of structures.

## During Operation

### **Preferred Alternative**

No significant adverse impacts relating to hazardous waste and toxic materials are expected during operation of the expanded roadway.

### **No Action Alternative**

No impacts are anticipated from this alternative.

# Mitigation – Hazardous Waste and Asbestos

## During Construction

### **Preferred Alternative**

Prior to property acquisition, the County will conduct Level 1 environmental site assessments on all properties that need to be acquired to determine the potential for hazardous materials or asbestos. If asbestos is found in a structure, the Washington State Department of Labor and Industry, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration will be notified, and a decision will be made to determine whether the structure will be demolished or relocated. If demolition is recommended, an assessment of the extent of asbestos materials present would be undertaken prior to this action. The removal of the asbestos will be performed by workers trained and certified in asbestos removal, who will comply with the applicable rules, regulations, and guidelines relating to identification, removal and disposal of this material.

For those sites identified as containing or likely to contain hazardous materials, a Hazardous Waste Management Plan (Plan) would be prepared. The Plan, which may be subject to Ecology approval, would assess and recommend safe, economical, and permitted methods to clean up the waste and mitigate possible soil and groundwater contamination. Any waste encountered will be managed and disposed of in accordance with the Plan and applicable local, state and federal

regulations, and construction activities will be resumed when it has been determined that conditions are safe.

To avoid spills of hazardous materials during construction of the roadway, the project contractor would prepare and implement a project specific spill prevention, control and countermeasures plan. The plan would include preventive measures to minimize the potential for spills. If hazardous materials are released during construction, the contractor would immediately employ temporary measures to control and contain the material until appropriate measures can be taken to remove, transport, and properly dispose of the contamination.

### **No Action Alternative**

This alternative requires no mitigation because there will be no construction impacts.

### **During Operation**

#### **Preferred Alternative**

Any hazardous waste or asbestos findings would take place prior to or during construction. Therefore, no impacts will occur during operation, and no mitigation is provided.

#### **No Action Alternative**

No impacts are expected to take place under this alternative, so no mitigation is required.

## **Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts**

There are no known recorded hazardous waste and toxic material sites within the project area, and the typical structures found along 20th Street SE are residences, which are unlikely to contain asbestos. While a number of properties will be required, they only have a minor potential for having lead-based paint. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts are expected from the project.