

Public Services, Facilities, and Utilities

Studies and Coordination

Information regarding public services, facilities, and utilities serving the project area was obtained from the following agencies and utility providers:

- Snohomish County Sheriff's Department – *Police Protection*
- Lake Stevens Fire – *Fire and Emergency Services*
- Lake Stevens School District #4 - *Education*
- Snohomish County Public Utility District #1 – *Electric and Water*
- Lake Stevens Sewer District - *Sewer*
- Puget Sound Energy – *Natural Gas*
- Verizon – *Telephone*
- Comcast Communications – *Cable Television*

Related reports, plans and other documents were also reviewed.

Affected Environment

Police Protection

The project area, 20th Street SE between US 2 and a point 400 feet west of 91st Avenue SE, is an important response corridor for police. It connects the areas along 20th Street SE to the US 2 Trestle, and from there to the City of Everett.

As the project corridor is within unincorporated Snohomish County, the Snohomish County Sheriff's Department provides law enforcement and investigation and responds to calls within the area. The area north of 20th Street SE comes under the jurisdiction of the Department's north precinct, whose office is located at 15100 40th Avenue NE, Marysville, WA. The area south of the roadway is covered by the east precinct office, located at 14000 179th Avenue SE, Monroe, WA. There is also a mutual aid agreement with the surrounding police agencies for the cities of Lake Stevens and Snohomish, and the Washington State Patrol.

Regular patrols occur within the project limits. Response times vary and are dependent upon the officer's location at the time a call is received. Normal traffic backups along 20th Street SE during the morning and afternoon peak hours may cause delays in responding to emergencies. Disabled vehicles and accidents during these hours cause additional delays in emergency response.

Fire Protection

Lake Stevens Fire (the District) (formerly Snohomish County Fire District #8) provides fire protection and emergency services for a resident population of approximately 41,000 people within its geographic boundaries, which includes 20th Street SE from the US 2 Trestle east to Williams Road. The District's general boundaries are 60th Street NE on the north side, with the east side running primarily along the north-south line separating Ranges 6E and 7E. The south and west sides of Lake Stevens Fire's geographic jurisdiction are somewhat irregular. The south side runs westward along Dubuque Road to Machias Cutoff, then southwest to SR 2 and then northwest to the US 2 Trestle and I-5. From that point, the west side encompasses Steamboat Slough and 71st Avenue NE/Sunnyside Blvd (Figure 15).

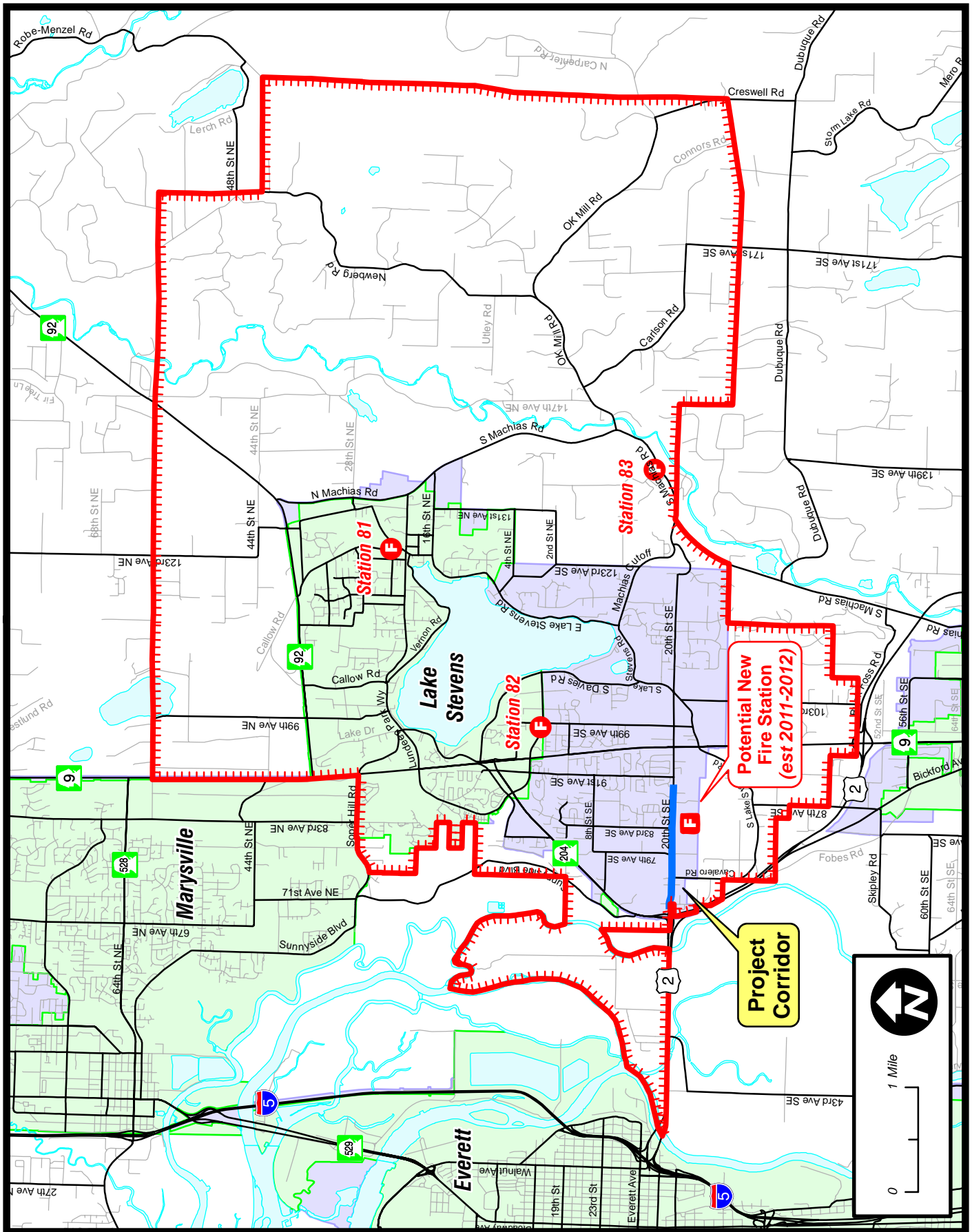
Lake Stevens Fire provides basic and advanced emergency medical services, fire suppression and rescue, and non-emergency fire prevention and public education to area residents. The District serves the area and surrounding vicinity from three fire stations. Station 81 is located in downtown Lake Stevens at 12409 21st Street, Station 82 is located in the Frontier Village area at 9811 Chapel Hill Road, and Station 83 is located at 13717 Division Street in the Machias area. Under its Master Plan, the District requires a fourth fire station in the Cavalero area to serve the rapidly growing population within its boundaries. The preferred location for this new station would be adjacent to 20th Street SE, between the US 2 Trestle and SR 9. The District is in discussions with the Lake Stevens School District #4 regarding a School District property in the southeast quadrant of 20th Street SE and 83rd Avenue SE.

As Lake Stevens Fire serves a geographic area that extends well beyond 20th Street SE to the north, south and east, emergency vehicles must travel a significant distance to serve some of the more remote locations. The District has expressed concern that its vehicle response capability is potentially adversely impacted by the existing congested traffic situation on 20th Street SE at morning and afternoon peak travel times. Delays in response times due to poor traffic flow are frequent occurrences. Like the Sheriff's Department, Lake Stevens Fire requires an open lane and priority travel status in order to provide timely service.

Schools

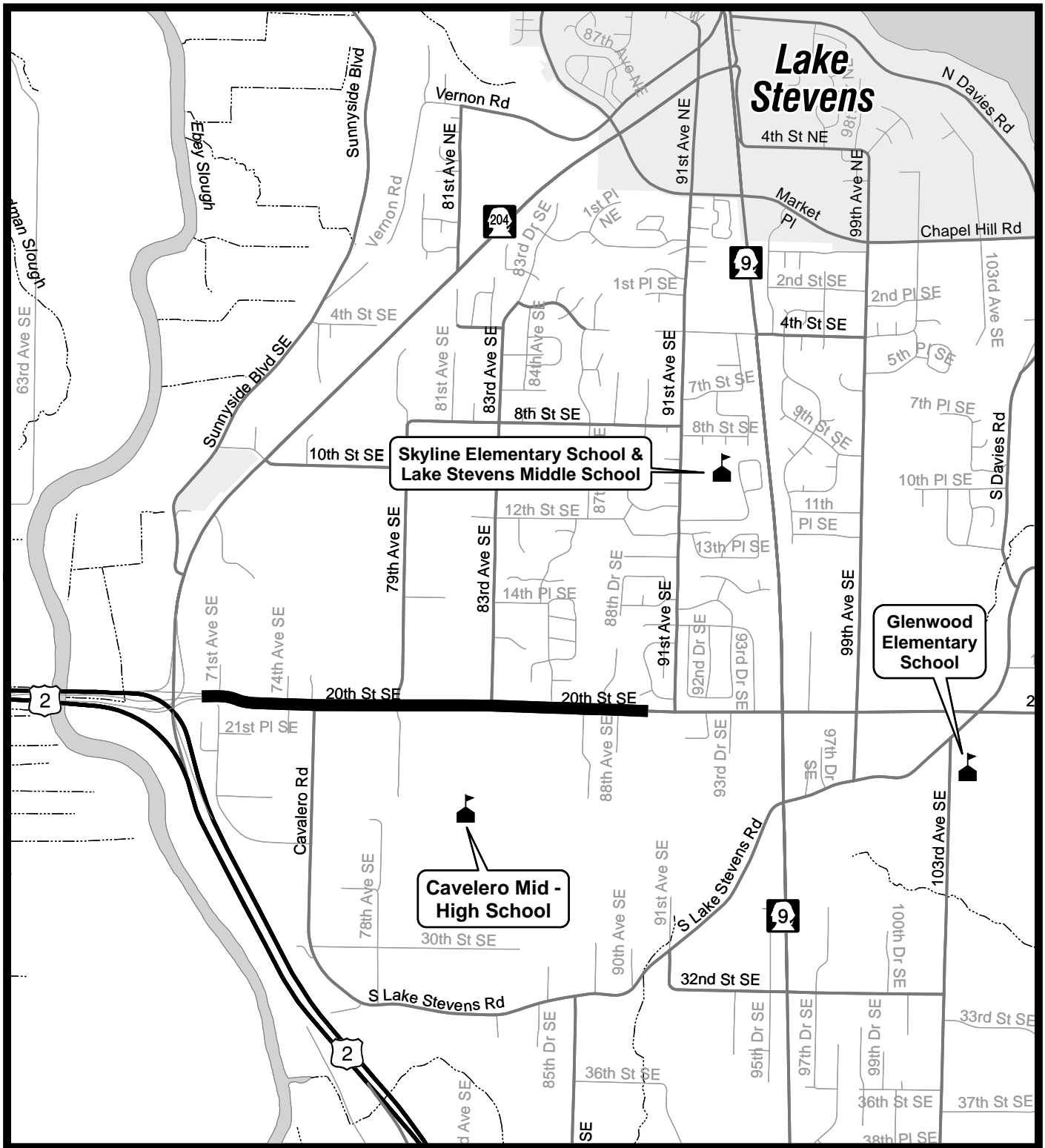
The project area lies within Lake Stevens School District #4 (the School District). The School District covers a portion of east-central Snohomish County centered on the City of Lake Stevens. There are currently 12 schools in the District, which has an approximate student population of 7,046 in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade.

Three public schools are situated within 0.3 mile of 20th Street SE (Figure 16). Lake Stevens Middle School is located at 1031 91st Avenue SE and has a population of over 800 students in grades five through eight. Skyline Elementary School is adjacent to the middle school at 1033 91st Avenue SE, and serves more than 500 students in grades K through six. To meet the area's steady growth, a third school, the new Cavalero Mid-High School, has recently been built south of the project area at 8220 24th Avenue SE. The school opened on September 4, 2007 with an enrollment of 1,250 students in grades eight and nine. The maximum enrollment capacity of 1,500 students is expected to be reached when the school converts to a high school with grades nine through twelve. This will happen in a minimum of 5 years, but will more likely require seven to twelve years.








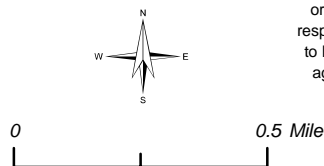
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Figure 15: Lake Stevens Fire Service Area



Key to Features:

- | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|-------------|
|  | Project Corridor |  | Freeways |
|  | Arterial Roads |  | Local Roads |
|  | Schools | | |



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Figure 16: Schools in Project Vicinity

School districts are required to have approved walk route plans for every elementary school (*WAC 392-151-025* Route Plans). The routes take into consideration the pedestrian facilities which are available (sidewalks, shoulders, etc.), the particular school being accessed, the age and number of students using the route (walking or bicycling) and the controls at crossings (crosswalks, crossing guards, stop signs, signals). Because 20th Street SE and 91st Avenue SE are high traffic areas that currently have no sidewalks, there are few safe walk areas for students who attend both the Lake Stevens Middle School and Skyline Elementary School. The main walk area is bordered by 87th Avenue SE to the west, SR 9 to the east, 15th Street SE to the south, and 8th Avenue SE to the north. Students coming from the residential developments on both sides of 91st Avenue SE, along 16th Place SE and 91st Drive SE, are bussed to their schools. At the new Cavero Mid-High School, there are no designated walk areas because the school is an “all district school”, meaning the students come from all over the district and are bussed. Fifteen new bus routes were created to transport the students to the school.

The three schools have different class start and dismissal times. Lake Stevens Middle School’s morning bell time is 7:50 a.m. and Skyline Elementary’s is at 8:45 a.m.; the afternoon dismissal time for Lake Stevens is 2:25 p.m. and for Skyline is 2:55 p.m. Therefore, walkers and bicyclists are using the walk routes around the schools for extended periods of time, with the morning walking period coinciding with the morning peak traffic period, and the afternoon walking period occurring before the afternoon peak traffic period. School buses traveling to and from Cavero Mid-High School need to drop off their students by 7:20 a.m., and collect them when school is dismissed at 2 p.m.

Community Transit

Community Transit has two bus routes that access 20th Street SE. Local Bus Route 280 provides service between Granite Falls, Lake Stevens, the Lake Stevens Transit Center, and Everett. Selected trips on Route 280 also serve the Everett Boeing Plant. Commuter Bus Route 425 provides service between the Lake Stevens Transit Center and downtown Seattle. From the Lake Stevens Transit Center, the buses serve 4th Street NE, 99th Avenue SE, Market Place, and 91st Avenue SE. West of 91st, the buses travel along 20th Street SE and across the US 2 Trestle to Everett. These are express bus routes and there are currently no active bus zones or other facilities to support transit or HOV on 20th Street SE. However, bus pullout areas in both directions on 20th Street SE are planned for the Cavero Road, 79th Avenue SE, and the 83rd Avenue SE intersections. A park-and-ride lot adjacent to 20th Street may become feasible as the area is developed at higher densities, but discussions between Community Transit and area agencies have not yet progressed beyond the conceptual phrase.

Water and Electric

Snohomish County P.U.D. #1 (PUD) provides water supply services to residences and businesses in the project area, as well as other unincorporated areas of the county. Between Cavero Road and 91st Avenue SE, the PUD has an 8-inch main within the road prism, buried three to four feet below grade. There are no water lines west of Cavero Road. A new 12-inch water line provides service to the new Cavero Mid-High School. The PUD line taps into the City of Everett’s three 48-inch water transmission lines that are located in an easement which is parallel to 20th Street SE. The 100-foot wide easement is located approximately 150 feet south of 20th Street SE, and is generally considered outside the project limits.

The PUD also provides electricity to residences and businesses in the project area, and has overhead 12 kV distribution lines parallel to 20th Street within the project area. The lines are on

either side of 20th Street SE between the US Trestle and 71st Avenue SE, then only on the south side to 74th Avenue SE, before transferring to the north side and extending to 91st Avenue SE. The lines are primarily located within the existing right-of-way. There are no underground lines between the US 2 Trestle and 91st Avenue SE. There is a power substation located outside the project area on the north side of 20th Street SE, west of South Lake Stevens Road. If a new substation is warranted in the future, PUD plans to build it south of 20th Street SE.

In response to the area's increasing growth, the PUD has extended service to new nearby residential developments and the Cavelero Mid-High School. Service to the school was via a 3-phase overhead line south across 20th Street SE and the City of Everett's water line easement, before being transferred to the school via underground lines.

In addition to PUD's power lines, there are two power transmission lines that cross 20th Street SE between 79th and 83rd Avenues SE. One line is owned by Puget Sound Energy, and the other line is owned by Seattle City Light.

Sewer

The Lake Stevens Sewer District (the Sewer District) has been providing sanitary sewer service to the Lake Stevens and surrounding area since 1965. Its service area covers 4,450 acres and its estimated service population is approximately 20,000 people. Only part of the project area between the US 2 Trestle and 91st Avenue SE lies within the Sewer District's boundaries. All of the north side of 20th Street SE lies within the boundary; on the south side of 20th Street, the area included in the boundary is between Cavalero Road to just west of 83rd Avenue SE. This area includes the new Cavelero Mid-High School which requested to be annexed into the Sewer District via a geopolitical boundary line adjustment.

Despite the boundary parameters, the Sewer District has only limited service in this area. There is a 10-inch pipe within the 20th Street SE road prism for approximately seven hundred feet west of the 91st Avenue SE intersection, at which point it leads north along a number of neighborhood streets including 17th and 19th Streets SE. The nearest lift station is located at the east end of the project area, south of 20th Street SE and west of 91st Avenue SE. Current sewer system construction includes installation of a 24-inch ductile iron sewer pipe just west of the 83rd Avenue SE intersection with 20th Street SE. It is planned to provide service to the new Cavelero Mid-High School by extending a sewer line approximately 200 feet south of 20th Street SE to 24th Street SE, the school site's northern boundary. Until this occurs, the school is utilizing a 15,000 gallon tank and pumping it almost daily. Future construction scheduled for early 2008 includes installation of 481 feet of 24-inch main from approximately 500 feet east of 79th Avenue SE to 79th Avenue SE itself. From this point on 20th Street SE, a 30-inch main will lead north for several hundred feet and then turn west to the new Sutherland residential development in the northwest quadrant of 79th Avenue SE and 20th Street SE. Service to the nearby East Everett residential development located west of the Cavalero Road intersection involves pumping waste to the pump station downhill near the Trestle, and then uphill to the new Sunnyside Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The Sewer District's comprehensive planning has evaluated the potential for constructing the Southwest Interceptor (SWI). The proposed route south of 20th Street would have spanned the area from SR 204 eastwards to 103rd Avenue SE and South Lake Stevens Road. The SWI was determined to be infeasible due to challenging environmental constraint such as wetlands and streams in the area. A future location under consideration would be the new road prism of 20th Street SE. Planned improvements are listed in the Sewer District's Capital Improvement Plan,

which is part of the Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan was adopted on October 25, 2007.

Natural Gas

Puget Sound Energy (PSE) provides natural gas service to some residences and businesses in the project area. On the north side of 20th Street SE, between 79th Avenue SE and 91st Avenue SE, there are 6-inch and 8-inch gas lines, buried 30 to 36 inches deep. To meet demand from the many residential developments being built north of 20th Street SE, a new 8-inch main was installed on 20th Street SE east of 83rd Avenue SE, and north on 79th Avenue SE to 10th Street SE. A new main is also planned for west of 15th Place SE toward the proposed Sunnyside Wastewater Treatment Plant on the west side of SR 204, and also west of 83rd Avenue SE at 12th Street SE for the Boggs residential development. There are no lines on 20th Street SE west of 79th Avenue SE, and the proposed route west would follow 15th Street SE.

Telephone Service

Verizon provides telephone service in the area using both overhead and underground lines. The overhead lines are located on the south side of 20th Street SE, and the underground lines are within the existing roadway prism. Verizon's central office for the Lake Stevens area is a major switching facility located east of the project area near South Lake Stevens Road. The facility also acts as a host, providing connections to a number of remote serving units.

Cable Television

Cable television service is provided in the area by Comcast Communications Corporation. The cable lines extend the length of the project, and are predominantly overhead on PUD poles, which are located on the north side of 20th Street SE. There are some underground lateral lines. These involve both fiber optic and coaxial cable varying from 2 to 6 per sheath. Comcast's conduit size is 4-inch schedule 40 PVC.

Impacts – Public Services, Facilities and Utilities

During Construction

Preferred Alternative

Police and Fire

The Preferred Alternative would result in traffic delays due to partial lane closures on 20th Street SE, and some short-term closures of local access cross-streets when intersection improvements occur. Detour routes may be necessary. In order to maintain emergency vehicle access to all roads within the project area, the Sheriff's Department and Lake Stevens Fire would be required to use primarily north-south routes to access 20th Street SE and adjacent streets in responding to emergencies. Response times to emergencies could increase due to these indirect routes and congestion around the construction site. The Sheriff's Department may be required to provide staff to conduct traffic control for local and through traffic. Project construction will not impact Lake Stevens Fire's preferred fourth station location on 20th Street SE because the District is not planning to build the new station until at least 2011, after construction of the proposed 20th Street SE project is completed.

Schools

Construction occurring while schools are in session could result in traffic diversion to neighborhood streets. This could potentially disrupt and delay school bus student pickups in the 20th Street SE area and delivery of students to schools both north and south of the roadway. This may particularly affect the new Cavelero Mid-High School south of 20th Street SE on 24th Street SE as the only public access road to the school is via 83rd Avenue SE. (Paving has occurred on 79th Avenue SE, but the street is only designated as an access route for emergency vehicles.) The School District's eleven buses serving the 15 new routes, will be subject to delays as they travel along 20th Street SE to turn south on 83rd Avenue SE. While Lake Stevens Middle School and Skyline Elementary School have walk plans for their students, it is unlikely that there will be impacts on walk routes because the routes and schools are located north of the project corridor, and not within the corridor itself.

Community Transit

Partial lane closures on 20th Street SE would increase traffic congestion, resulting in delays to bus service for commuters taking public transit. Normal bus schedules are expected to be unreliable during construction. If it is necessary to close 20th Street SE completely for short periods, a significant amount of traffic would likely be diverted to SR 204, including Community Transit buses, and existing customers on 91st Avenue SE would lose their bus service.

Water and Electric, Sewer, Natural Gas, Telephone, Cable Television

Temporary disruptions to services in the project area would occur during construction if utility and service lines need to be relocated. It is not known at this time if and when any potential disruptions would occur, or how many residences and businesses would be affected.

In the event power lines need to be relocated, there are two clearance standards which must be met. During construction, the minimum working clearance for a distribution (12 kv) line is ten feet; upon project completion, if the roadway crosses beneath distribution lines, there must be at least a 24-foot vertical clearance. In all cases, transmission (115 kv) lines require greater minimum clearance.

The two power transmission lines that cross 20th Street SE between 79th and 83rd Avenues SE will not be affected by the roadway expansion as the pylons are set well back from 20th Street SE.

No Action Alternative

Under this alternative, there would be no roadway expansion and traffic delays that could disrupt the operations of emergency services, or utility and other services to residences and businesses.

During Operation

Preferred Alternative

Police and Fire

This alternative would reduce peak-hour traffic congestion and improve average response times for police, fire and emergency medical vehicles to the project area and vicinity. The wider roadway would provide faster response times, smoother traffic flow, and reduce congestion. Visibility will be improved along the length of the project corridor for emergency vehicles, particularly during periods of heavy traffic. **If a landscaped median is selected as the center lane option for the section of roadway between Cavalero Road and 91st Avenue SE, it could impact response times to properties on the opposite side of the road.**

Schools

This alternative would have a positive impact on the School District's transportation systems. The Cavelero Mid-High School's 15 new routes along 20th Street SE should improve on their travel times to their turn-off onto 83rd Avenue SE. However, if students are picked up on 20th Street SE, widening the roadway may require changing bus routes to pick up students from both sides of the road. The provision of sidewalks in the project design will increase safety for any students who live adjacent to 20th Street SE and may choose to walk to school.

Community Transit

The expansion of the roadway and intersection improvements at 20th Street SE and 91st Avenue SE would benefit the operation of Community Transit's Bus Routes 280 and 425 as traffic flow would be improved along the corridor.

Water and Electric, Sewer, Natural Gas, Telephone, Cable Television

Apart from times when regular maintenance is required, Water and Electric, Sewer, Natural Gas, Telephone, and Cable Television will not be affected once the project is completed.

No Action Alternative

Under this alternative, traffic congestion, particularly during peak-hour times, would continue to increase, resulting in a deterioration in response times by emergency services, and potentially a delay in school buses delivering students to Cavelero Mid-High School. Minor safety improvements and normal maintenance would continue to be performed to keep the roadway operational. However, during these times there may be a minor impact on emergency response times. It is likely that utility and other service levels will remain unchanged during the short-term.

Mitigation – Public Services, Facilities and Utilities

During Construction

Preferred Alternative

County staff will be fully aware of the service and equipment relocation schedules of service providers and utility companies in the project area. Pre-construction meetings for emergency

services, utilities and service providers will be held during the design phase of the project, and regular construction updates will occur during construction. These service providers would be kept informed of developments throughout the duration of the project, and actions would be coordinated to minimize service disruptions and relocations. Major construction operations would be scheduled outside of peak traffic hours to avoid delays to emergency services personnel and school bus runs. Planned utility disruptions would be scheduled for low demand time periods. Traffic-related construction impacts would be mitigated through measures such as construction flagging and signing, and advance notice to residents by public service providers.

Police and Fire

During construction at least one lane would be kept open at all times, and fire and emergency service vehicles will be given priority travel to ensure service is provided in the project area. Notice of lane closures and temporary intersection closures will be provided in writing as required, so that services can plan alternate routes for their operations in advance. Emergency preempt systems will be provided at key signalized intersections in project area, and controlled pedestrian access will occur at specified intersections.

Schools

Coordination of construction activities will occur in a manner that will not disrupt or interfere with the bus schedules for Lake Stevens Middle School, Skyline Elementary School, and Cavelero Mid-High School. The provision of shoulders during roadway operation (not construction) for bus pull-off and sidewalks for pedestrian access, where appropriate, would likely decrease the potential for accidents along the road and at bus stops.

Transit

The County will coordinate with Community Transit to ensure there is minimal disruption to Bus Routes 280 and 425 due to the roadway expansion and the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Cavalero Road and 20th Street SE. This may require a detour route if both lanes on 20th Street SE cannot remain open.

Water and Electric

The County will solicit utility location information prior to constructing the project. If relocations are required, replacement lines would be constructed and placed in service before existing utility lines are removed. During construction, the County will coordinate with the PUD to minimize disruptions to water and electric service, and residents would be notified in advance of anticipated disruptions. Disruption of service would not exceed eight to ten hours. The County will work closely wherever possible with the PUD to help it maintain its policy of rerouting power to provide continuity of service.

Sewer, Natural Gas, Telephone, and Cable Television

Any disruptions to sewer, natural gas, telephone and cable television services would be minimized by coordinating construction activities with the Lake Stevens Sewer District, Puget Sound Energy, Verizon and Comcast Communications. Residents would be notified in advance of anticipated disruptions, which would not exceed eight to ten hours.

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no roadway expansion and traffic delays that could disrupt the operations of emergency services, or utility and other services to residences and businesses, so no mitigation is required.

During Operation

Preferred Alternative

Police and Fire

Emergency preempt systems will be provided at key signalized intersections in project area, and controlled pedestrian access will occur at specified intersections. **In addition to the landscaped median proposed for the center lane in the Draft EIS, the County will now evaluate a second option of a two-way left-turn lane to improve access to properties during emergency responses.**

Schools

The potential for accidents on the roadway and at bus stops will decrease during roadway operation due to the provision of shoulders, bus pull-outs, bike lanes, and sidewalks being constructed as part of the project.

Transit

There are no existing transit support facilities in the project corridor. The incorporation of bus pull-outs into the project design will enhance the potential for future service. The addition of these transit elements would also further the goals and objectives of the Snohomish County Comprehensive Plan by adding transit elements along this corridor.

Water and Electric, Sewer, Natural Gas, Telephone, Cable Television

These utilities will not be impacted by the expanded roadway, so no mitigation is required. Any impacted septic systems will have been relocated.

No Action Alternative

Under this alternative, the existing roadway will remain in its current condition. No mitigation is provided to compensate for deteriorating road conditions that result in delays to service providers, schools and transit services.

Significant Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

No significant adverse impacts are expected as the expanded roadway will primarily benefit public services such as police and fire by improving response times due to the additional travel lanes. **Lake Stevens Fire District has indicated that a two-way left-turn lane for the center lane may be less problematical than a landscaped median.** Community Transit will likewise benefit from the proposed HOV lane and bus pull-outs. Student walk routes and bus routes will similarly be adversely unaffected. Septic systems that are located in the proposed right-of-way will need to be relocated, but are not expected to be a significant adverse impact in the long-term.