

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA TOPIC**South Bellevue Construction Projects – Impacts and Outreach**

Lucy Liu, Director, 452-4445

Linda De Boldt, Assistant Director, 452-4625

Utilities Department

Maher Welaye, Assistant Director, 452-4879

Transportation Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**INFORMATION
ONLY**

This informational briefing will inform Council about expected traffic impacts on four high-visibility capital construction projects in South Bellevue during 2024. The briefing will provide background information for each project and the mitigation measures that will be taken to reduce impacts to the public from lane closures.

RECOMMENDATION

N/A

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

The Utilities and Transportation Departments will present information on January 8 regarding several high-visibility projects that will be in construction in 2024. These projects have significant traffic impacts due to necessary lane closures; therefore, the public outreach strategy is to use accessible language to communicate early and often to the affected residents, businesses, and traveling public. The purpose of the public outreach is to inform and advise – inform the public about the importance of these projects and advise on options to mitigate the traffic impact.

The projects to be discussed are listed below.

Lakemont Boulevard Emergency Culvert Replacement / Bridge Project: This is an emergency project, due to a failed culvert that carries Coal Creek under Lakemont Boulevard. The risks of culvert failure in a heavy storm and resulting road and underground utility damage plus safety risks to the public are eliminated by replacing the failed culvert with a new bridge.

Factoria Boulevard Stormwater Conveyance Improvement Project: This project mitigates the risk of severe flooding on Factoria Boulevard due to heavy storms. The aging and undersized stormwater pipe between SE 38th Street and the 3600 block will be replaced with a larger stormwater conveyance system to better manage the surface water runoff from large and intense storms.

Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Sunset Creek Fish Passage Project: This project is part of WSDOT's 2030 Fish Passage Delivery Plan to protect and restore salmon runs blocked by state culverts. WSDOT is currently in construction to replace the existing culvert conveying Sunset Creek under I-90, SE 36th Street, and Eastgate Way with new bridges to establish fish passage in this stretch of Sunset Creek.

WSDOT I-405 Renton to Bellevue Widening and Express Toll Lanes: This project will add highway capacity by creating a two-lane express toll lane system between SR 167 in Renton and NE 6th Street in Bellevue. The project will add one new lane in each direction and combine the existing HOV lane with the new lane to create a dual express toll lane system.

Mitigation Strategies

Due to the location proximity and timing of these projects, the Utilities and Transportation Departments are working with WSDOT to assess traffic flows and develop mitigation strategies to minimize the impact on the community.

This briefing will provide information on planned lane closures, predicted travel delays, strategies to mitigate traffic impacts, and public outreach efforts. Mitigation strategies include coordination between external agencies, project teams, and construction contractors.

Other mitigation strategies include using:

- Traffic cameras and other systems to monitor traffic flows in real time.
- Bellevue's adaptive traffic signal system for adjustments to signal timing.
- Detours and variable message signs.
- Flaggers and uniformed police officers.
- Extended work hours to complete construction faster and lessen traffic impacts.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

There is no policy impact with this informational briefing.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact with this informational briefing.

OPTIONS

N/A

ATTACHMENTS

N/A

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

N/A