

South Downtown I-405 Access Study

Alternatives Analysis

Andrew Singelakis, Director
Paula Stevens, Assistant Director
Shuming Yan, Engineering Manager
Transportation Department

September 28, 2020





Direction sought from Council

Direct staff to carry forward alternatives that passed fatal flaw screening for further evaluation

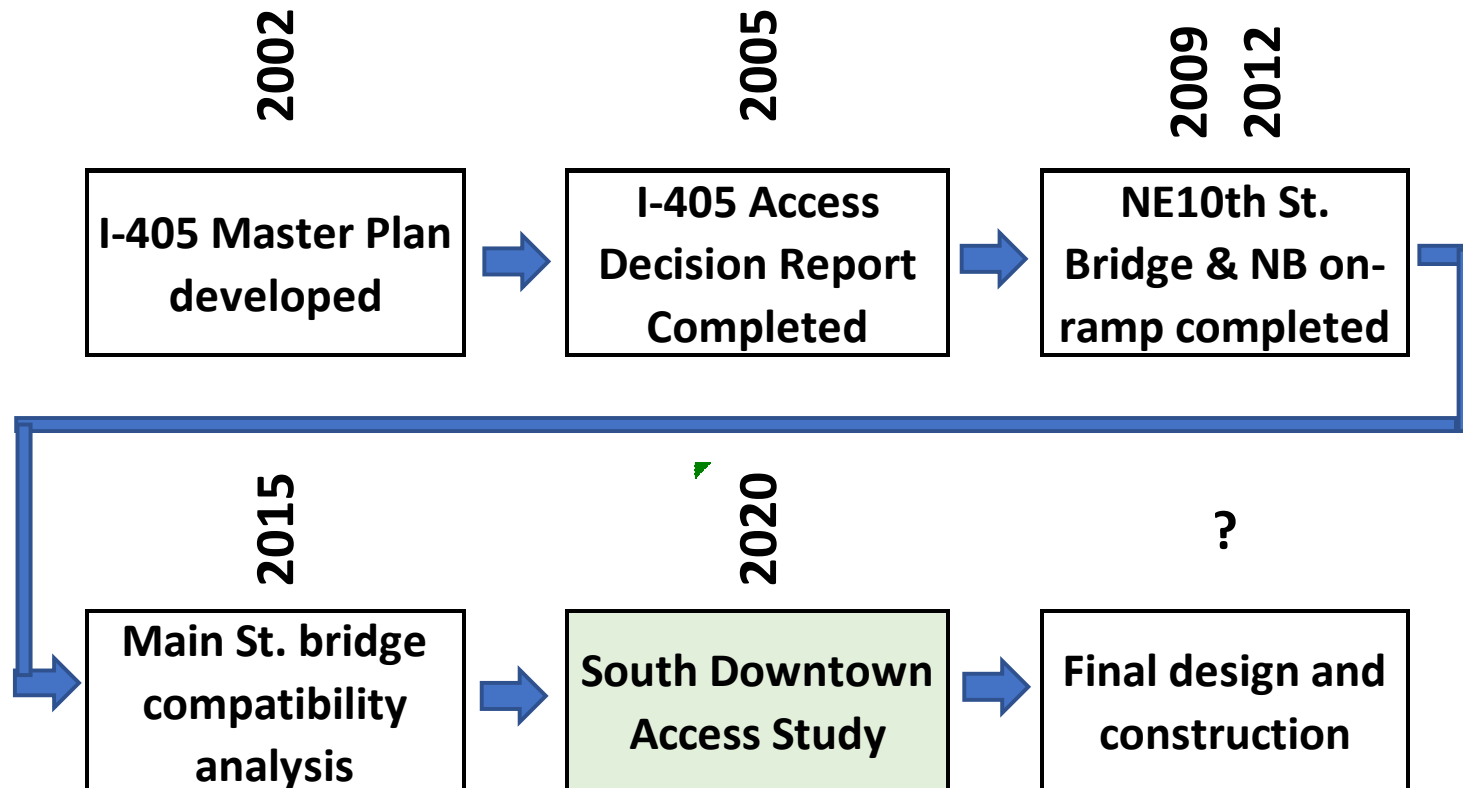


Agenda

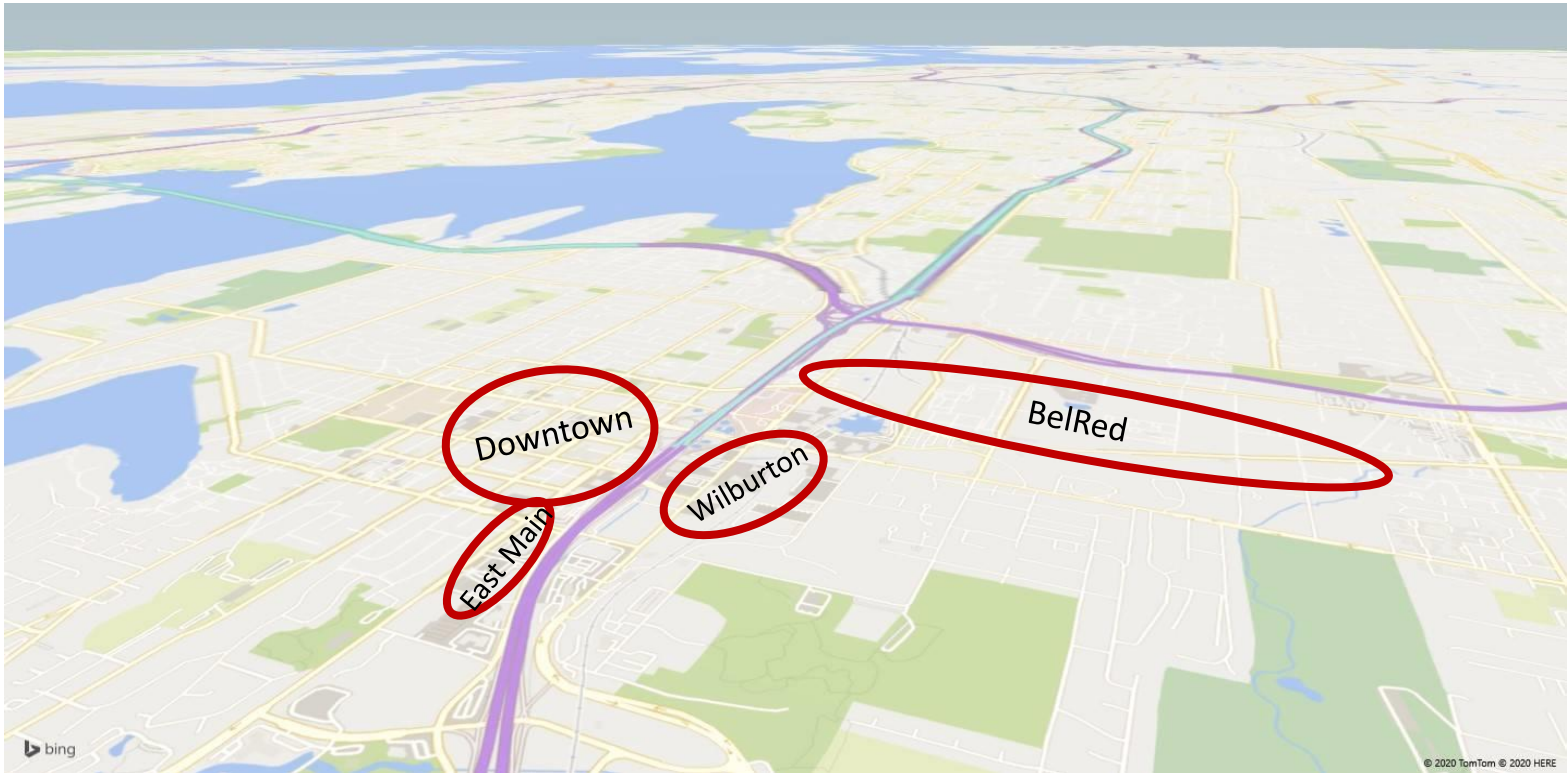
- Background
- Alternatives screening
- Community input
- Staff recommendation
- Direction sought



Project history



Plan for growth



Study outcome

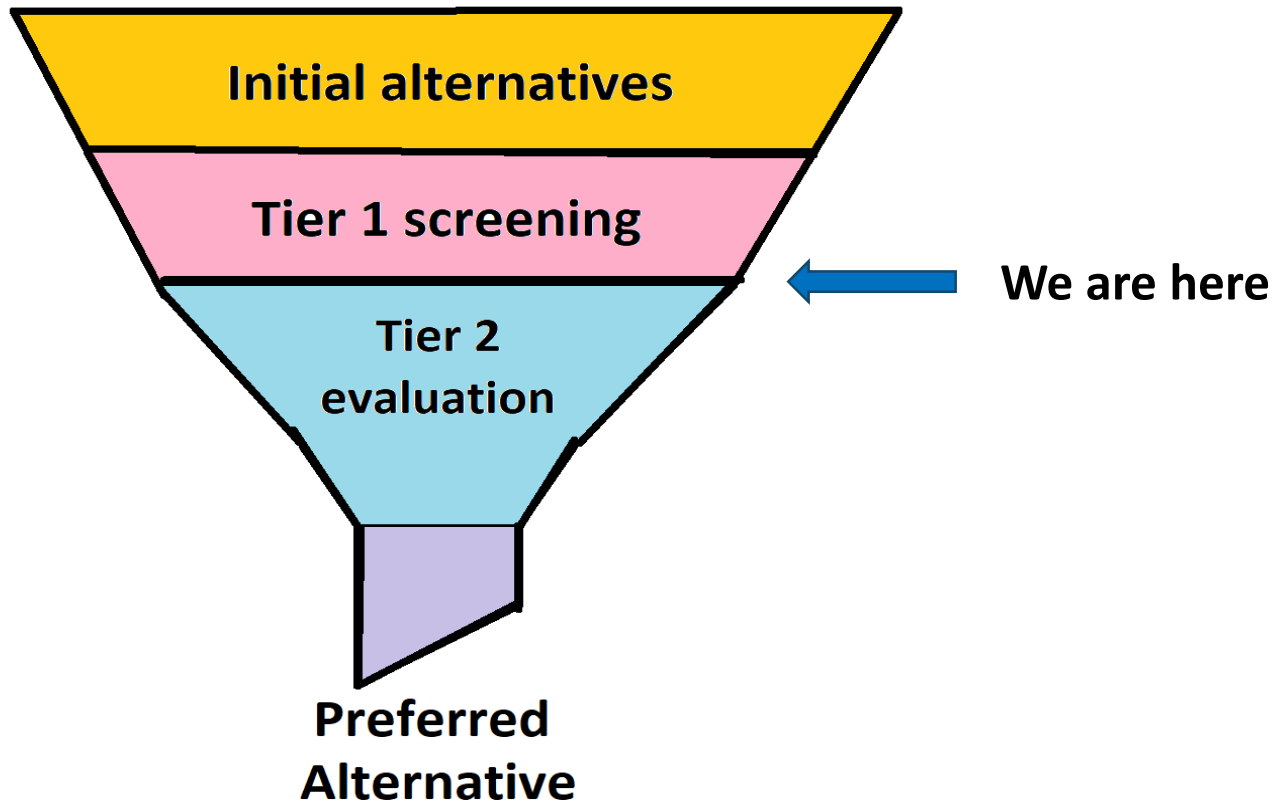
The City Council, in partnership with WSDOT, will select a preferred option



Legend

Link light rail station	Grand Connection
Link light rail	King County's Eastrail
Main Street linear buffer gateway, Lake to Lake greenway trails	Potential I-405 access

Alternative analysis process



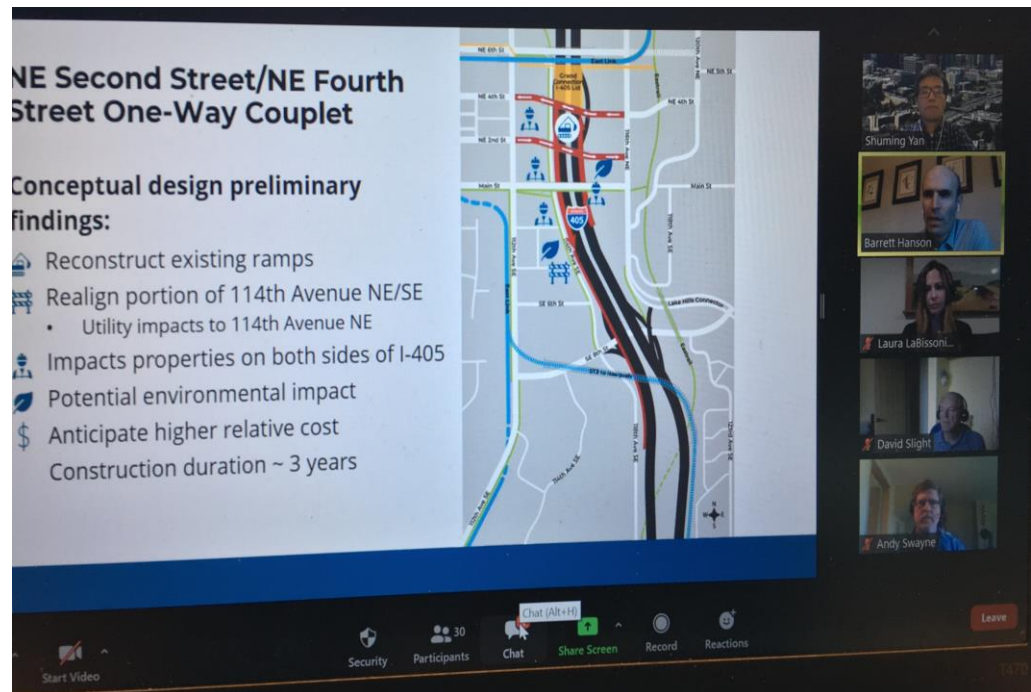
Tier 1 – Fatal flaw screening

- Bellevue's plans and policies
- FHWA and WSDOT policies
- Constructability (cost consideration)



Community engagement

- Stakeholder forums (virtual)
- Interest group presentations (virtual)
- Open house (online)



The screenshot displays a virtual meeting interface. On the left, a presentation slide titled "NE Second Street/NE Fourth Street One-Way Couplet" is shown. The slide lists "Conceptual design preliminary findings:" with the following items:

- Reconstruct existing ramps
- Realign portion of 114th Avenue NE/SE
 - Utility impacts to 114th Avenue NE
- Impacts properties on both sides of I-405
- Potential environmental impact
- Anticipate higher relative cost
- Construction duration ~ 3 years

To the right of the slide is a map showing the project area with various streets and landmarks. On the far right, a vertical grid of video thumbnails shows participants: Shuming Yan, Barrett Hanson, Laura LaBissoni, David Slight, and Andy Swayne. At the bottom of the screen, a control bar includes icons for "Start Video", "Security", "Participants" (30), "Chat (Alt+L)", "Share Screen", "Record", "Reactions", and a "Leave" button.



Stakeholder forums

- Business/property owners and developers within the study area
- Representatives of:
 - Downtown Bellevue Residents Association
 - Surrey Downs Community Club
 - Wilburton Community Association
 - Bellecrest Neighborhood Association
 - Woodridge Community Association



Stakeholder input highlights

- Generally supportive of a new access
- Prefer alternatives in the south part of the study area
- Integrate with other plans, multimodal emphasis
- Consider impacts to 114th Ave., existing properties, wetland and mitigation costs
- Consider traffic and safety impact on local streets
- Some wondered why the Main Street alternative is dropped and “no new interchange” is included



1st Online Open House

- Hosted online at engagingbellevue.com
- Five languages
- 2,383 people visited
- 247 visitors submitted 1,164 comments

Study Online Open House

South Downtown I-405 Access Study Online

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [e](#)

Legend

- Link light rail stations
- Link light rail
- Main Street linear buffer gateway
- Lake to Lake greenway trails
- Grand Connections
- King County's Eastrail
- Potential I-405 access

[PRIMARY ALTERNATIVES](#) [ASK A QUESTION](#)

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [e](#)

South Downtown, Wilburton and East Main light rail station areas planned to grow by **100%** by adding an I-405 interchange in south Downtown Bellevue. Improvements along I-405 and on local streets for people walking, rolling, biking, and driving to support **economic development and transportation policies.**

Language

ESPAÑOL

简体中文

РУССКИЙ

日本語

한국어

Who's listening

Marie Jensen

Public Involvement Manager
City of Bellevue, Department of Transportation



Phone: 425-452-2064

Email: mjensen@bellevuewa.gov

Study website

South Downtown I-405 Access Study

Documents

Preliminary interchange alternatives (1.75 MB) (pdf)

Study fact sheet (2 MB) (pdf)

I-405 Master Plan (link)



City of Bellevue

Public input highlights

- Shared both support for, and concern about each alternative
- Prioritize and maintain access for people walking, biking and riding transit
- Coordinate the new interchange with other city initiatives, including Grand Connection
- Concern about “induced demand”, contribution to climate change
- Concern about impact to traffic on local streets
- Concern about adding congestion on I-405

Initial alternative concepts

No new access
(baseline)



NE 2nd - NE 4th
Street one-way
couplet with on-
and off-ramps



SB on-ramp/NB
overpass at NE
2nd Street



NE Second
Street Extension
to Wilburton



Initial alternative concepts cont'd

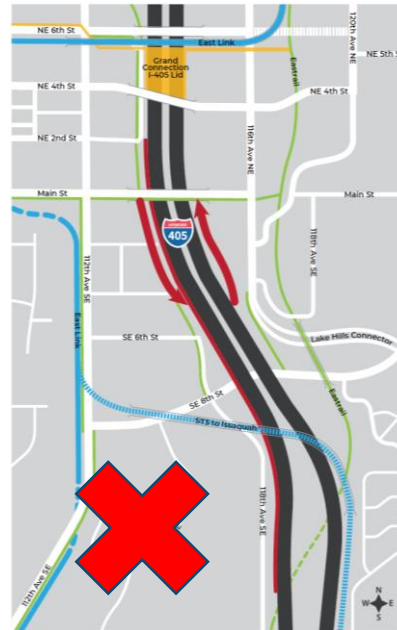
Half diamond at NE 2nd Street with extension



WB to SB on-ramp at NE 2nd Street with extension



Half diamond at Main Street



SB on-ramp at SE 5th Street with extension



Initial alternative concepts cont'd

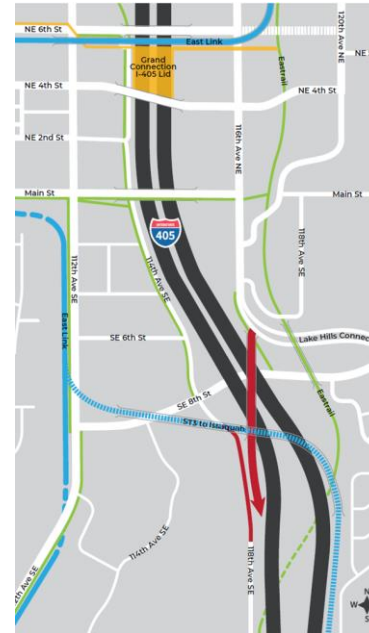
Express toll lane access to/from south at SE 6th Street



SE 6th Street extension with SB on-ramp



Lake Hills Connector SB on-ramp



Lake Hills Connector SB on-ramp to inside I-405

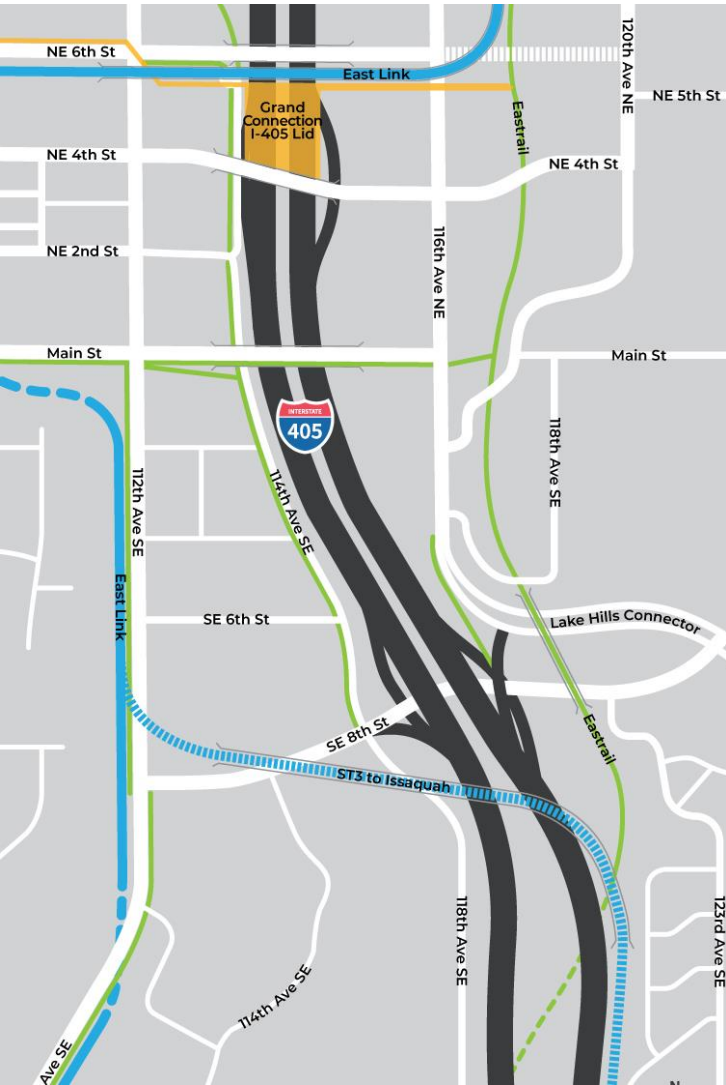


Staff recommendation

Carry forward five alternatives for further evaluation (Tier 2)

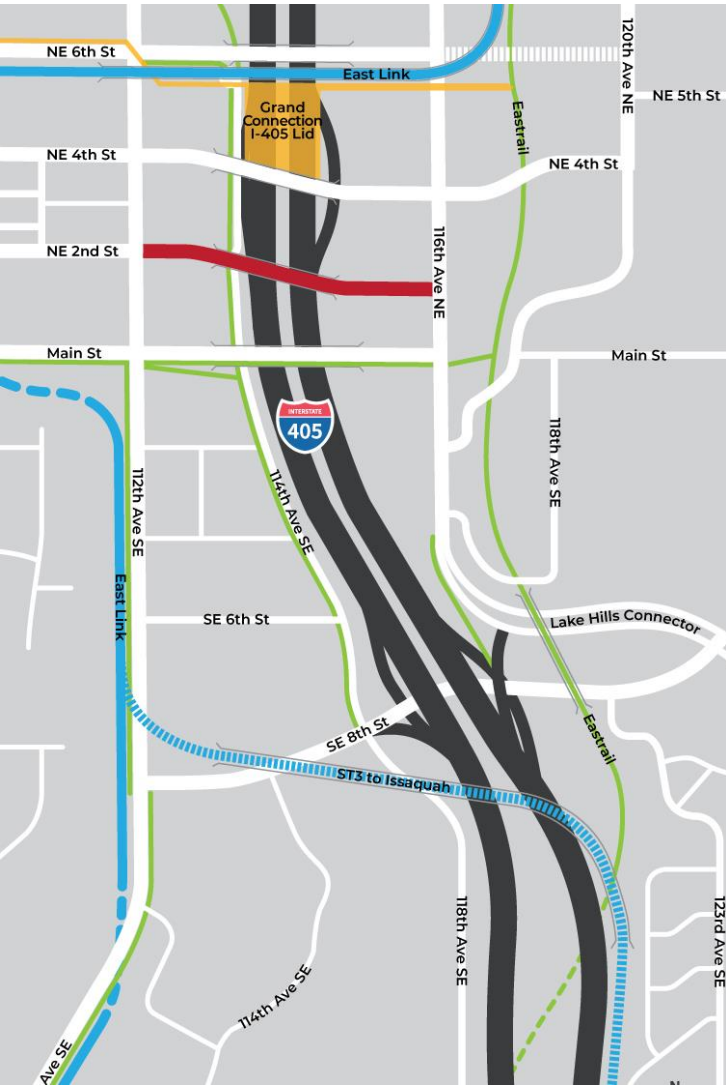


No New Interchange (Baseline)



- Look for improvements to:
- Local streets
- Existing interchanges
- I-405 merge and weave areas





NE 2nd St. extension to Wilburton

- Provides additional Downtown Wilburton connection
- No new access to I-405



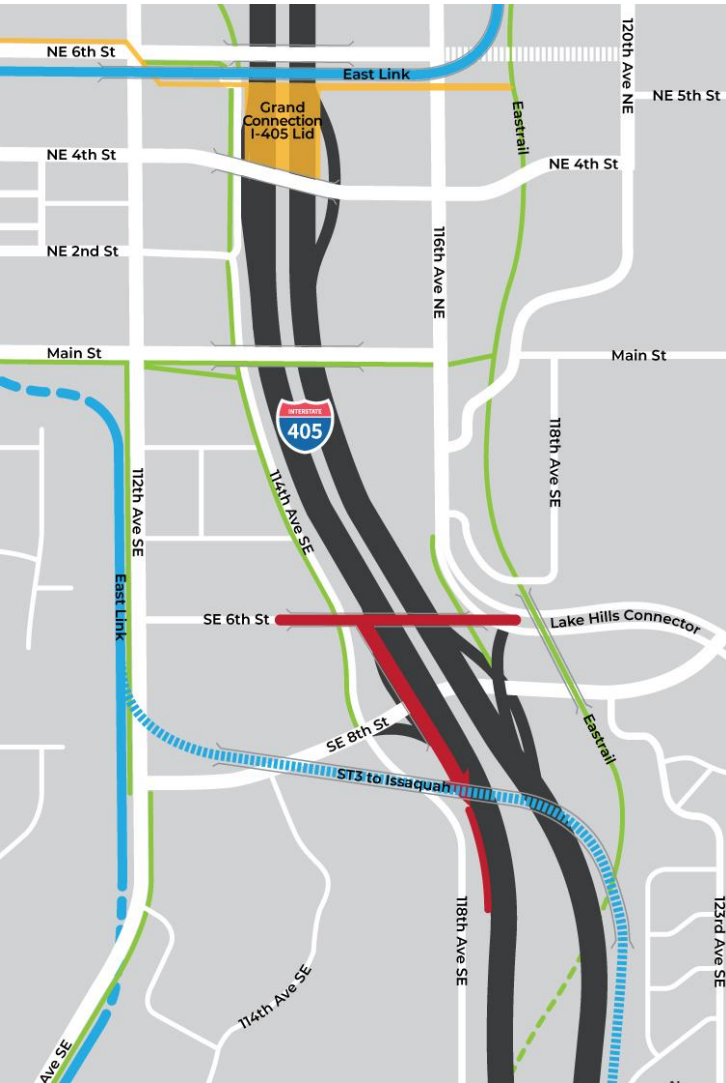
Express toll lane access to/from south at SE 6th St.



- Provides direct access to the express toll lanes
- Provides additional east-west connection
- Farther away from downtown



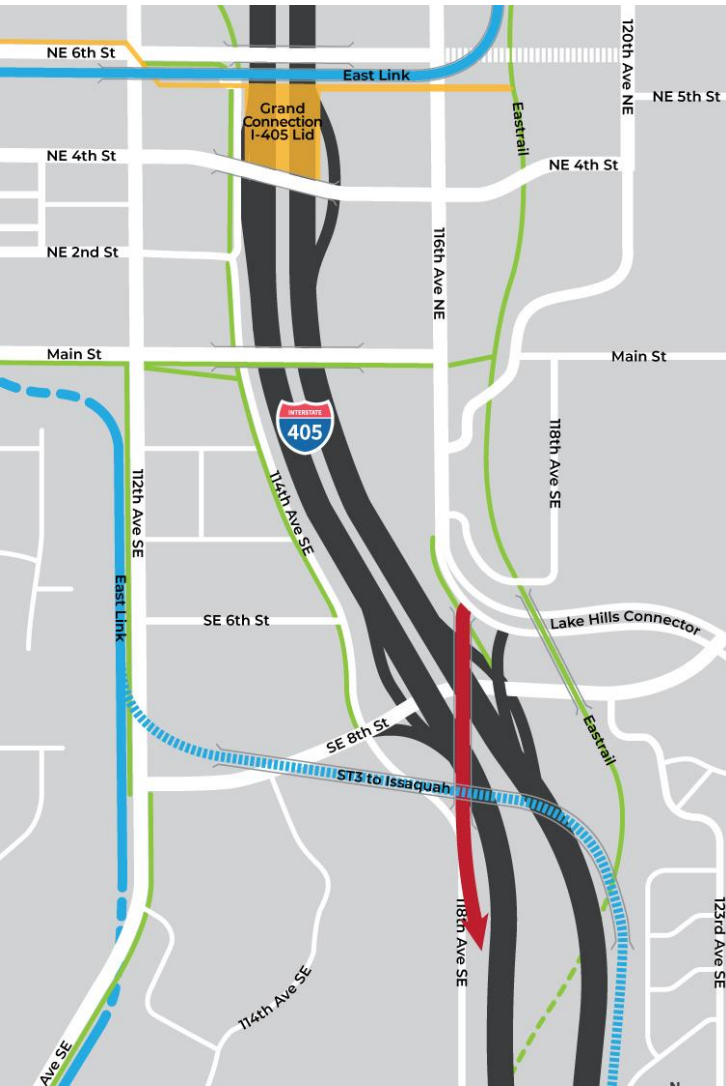
SE 6th St. extension with southbound on-ramp



- Provides additional access to I-405 southbound
- Provides additional east-west connection
- Farther away from downtown



Lake Hills Connector southbound on-ramp



- Provides I-405 southbound access from Wilburton
- No new downtown - Wilburton connection
- No new access from downtown



Tier 2 alternative evaluation



Travel time



Policy & urban design considerations



Stakeholder Input



Access and barriers to bike, pedestrian travel



Cost: ROW, construction, impact mitigations



Public input

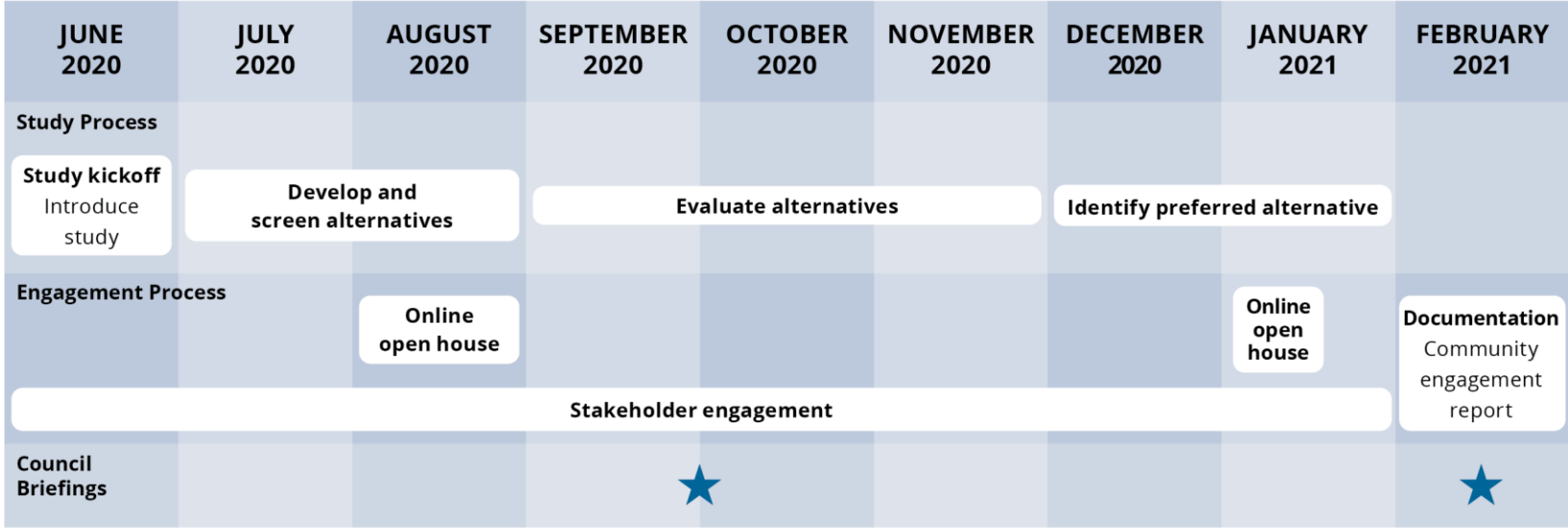


Impact on property development



Study timeline

South Downtown Bellevue I-405 Access Study Schedule





Direction sought from Council

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