

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PLAN FOR THE COOK ROAD CORRIDOR PROJECT

Project Description

The Cook Road Corridor Project evaluates existing and future impacts in the Cook Road Corridor. As part of the study, a recommended solution will be selected to address vehicle delay and queuing at the at-grade rail crossing on Cook Road and nearby intersections, including the I-5 northbound off-ramps and the intersection of Cook Road and Old Highway 99.

Public Interest

This project is of particular interest to property owners within and near the immediate project study area, as well as residents of Sedro-Woolley, Skagit County, and other nearby cities. Cook Road provides the fastest connection between Sedro-Woolley and I-5 to and from the north. Agency stakeholders include WSDOT, City of Sedro-Woolley, Skagit County, City of Burlington, Upper Skagit Tribe, Port of Skagit, and Skagit Transit. BNSF is also a stakeholder.

Opportunities for Public Participation

Opportunities for public participation include the following:

Winter Open House

An open house will be held on February 7, 2017 between 6:00-7:30 PM at the Allen Elementary School Library. The open house will:

- Provide the public with information about the Cook Road Corridor Project
- Allow public input on existing challenges and potential solutions
- Provide the public with information about next steps and continued engagement for the project

Notification of the open house was advertised through:

- Postings in the newspaper
- Flyers posted at the Skagit Council of Government's Office
- Flyers handed out at Skagit County's Burlington Northern Overpass Project Open House on January 25th, 2017
- Communications with agency stakeholders
- Flyers handed out to nearby property owners

Spring Open House

An open house will be held in Spring 2017. The open house will:

- Provide the public with information on the representative improvement concept that will become the project description for seeking Federal and/or State grant funding

- Allow public input on the representative improvement concept
- Provide information on next steps and continued engagement for the project

Notification of the open house will be advertised through:

- Postings in the newspaper
- Flyers posted at the Skagit Council of Government's Office
- Communications with agency stakeholders
- Flyers handed out to nearby property owners

Transportation Policy Board Meeting

Findings of the Cook Road Corridor Project will be presented to the Transportation Policy Board in Spring 2017. Transportation Policy Board meetings are open to the public, and public comments can be submitted both verbally at the meeting, and in writing.

Stakeholder Coordination

Primary agency stakeholders, including Skagit County, Sedro-Woolley, and WSDOT, will have the opportunity to provide input on draft deliverables throughout the project. Direct communications and meetings will be held to gather feedback.