



NE 10th Avenue Bridge & Roadway Improvements

Clark County proposes to connect and improve NE 10th Avenue along the west side of Interstate 5 from NE 149th Street to NE 164th Street, including building a new bridge over Whipple Creek.

Existing sections of NE 10th Avenue do not meet current county road standards. In several areas, the road is 10 to 20 feet wide, with no shoulders, sidewalks or bicycles lanes. There is no roadway from NE 155th Circle to about NE 159th Street, through the Whipple Creek canyon.

The project would build a bridge across Whipple Creek and improve the existing roadway to include two 11-foot-wide travel lanes, a center turn lane, bicycle lanes and sidewalks. The road would be 46 feet wide, curb to curb. The project also would include facilities to collect and treat polluted storm runoff.



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- Reasons for building this project
- Bridge and roadway design
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- Public involvement

www.clark.wa.gov/publicworks/roads/10th.html

Open House
Sept. 12, 2013
4-7 p.m.

Clark County will host an open house from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, September 12, in the Public Safety Complex, 505 NW 179th St., near the Clark County Fairgrounds.

County staff will be available to discuss different aspects of the project, from the reasons why the county is considering building this improvement to the type and appearance of the bridge over Whipple Creek.

Drop by any time during the three-hour event to learn more about the project and get answers to your questions.

Reasons for building the NE 10th Ave. improvements

Improve traffic circulation and mobility

- Close a gap in the existing transportation grid system and complete a north-south corridor between the Salmon Creek and Fairgrounds areas.
- Upgrade a substandard road to county standards. Existing sections of NE 10th Avenue are narrow, with little or no shoulders and no curbs, bicycle lanes or sidewalks.
- Improve access to recreational facilities, such as the Clark County Fairgrounds, the Sleep Country Amphitheater and Fairgrounds Community Park.

Enhance public health and safety

- Provide an alternate route for police, fire and other emergency responders and potentially improve response times. Emergency responders sometimes must take Interstate 5 or NW 11th Avenue to reach fires, medical emergencies, accidents and other 911 calls.
- Create a secondary access to the Clark County Fairgrounds. The fairgrounds is the biggest primary logistics staging area in Washington State Homeland Security Region 4, which covers Clark, Cowlitz, Skamania and Wahkiakum counties.

The fairgrounds also is a locally designated Key Emergency Planning Location that can be used as a school reunification point and for other purposes during disasters.

- Construct safe pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Sidewalks and 6-foot bike lanes would be built where none currently exist.

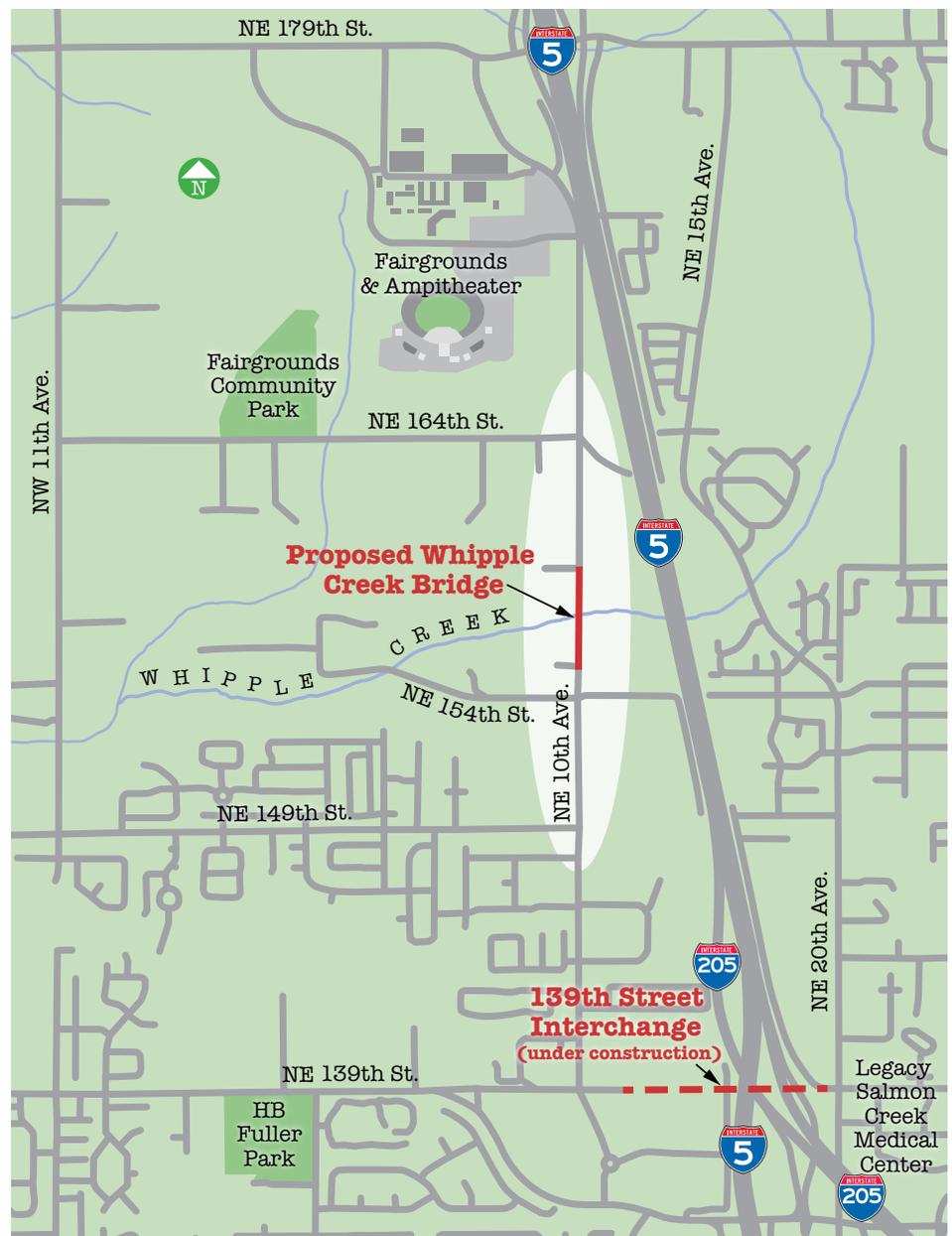
Support existing land uses and zoning

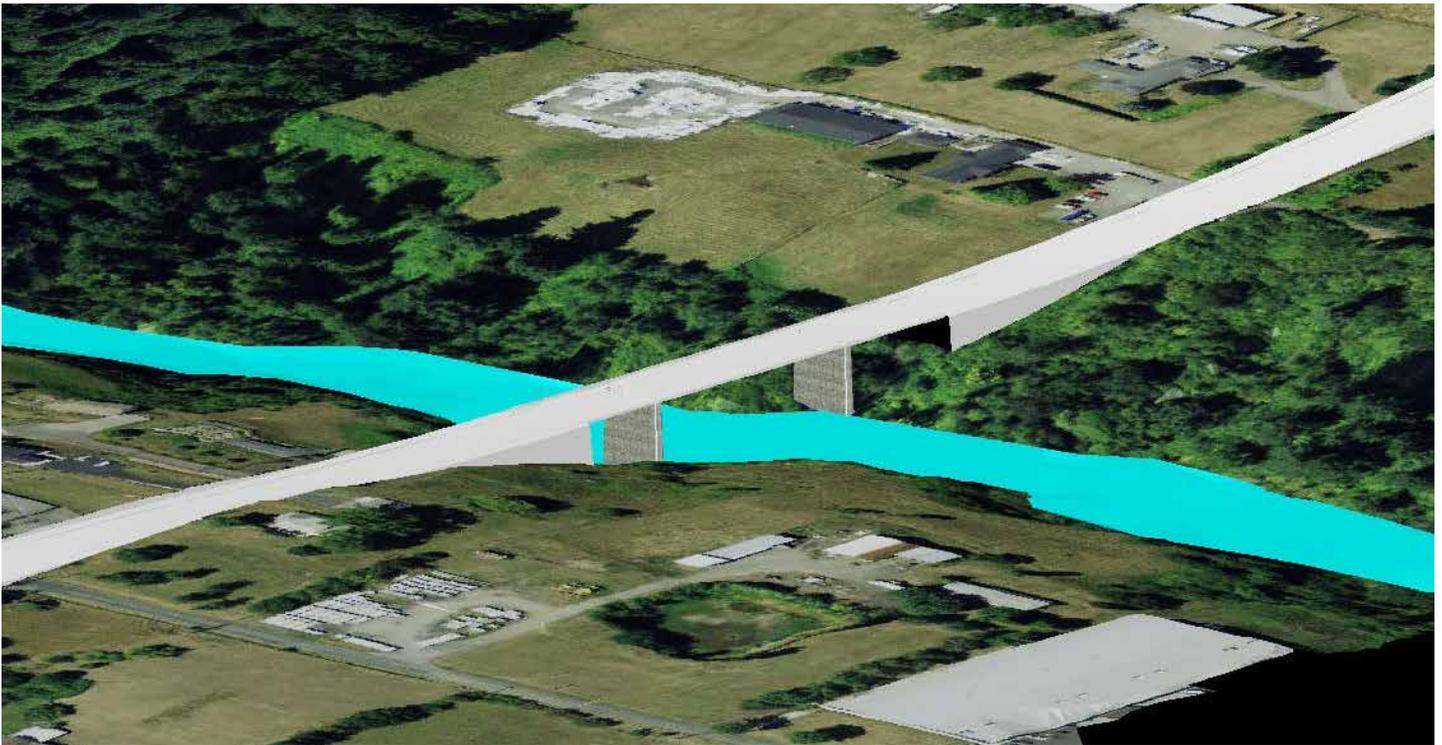
- Provide an opportunity to extend sanitary sewer and other utility lines across Whipple Creek to continue infrastructure improvements, such as the NE 139th Street interchange and improvements to NE 10th Avenue, from NE 141st Street to NE 149th Street.
- Improve access to existing commercial and industrial properties.

Access would be further enhanced by widening NE 10th Avenue and adding a center turn lane.

- Support Clark County's 20-year comprehensive plan that designates land for different urban uses, including light industry and business parks. Development will proceed as envisioned in the plan and as market conditions dictate.

Map of NE 10th Avenue bridge and roadway improvements.





Sketch of the proposed bridge over Whipple Creek.

Bridge and roadway design

Building a bridge over Whipple Creek will be a sizable undertaking. The bridge itself is expected to be more than twice as long as the Highway 99 bridge over Salmon Creek and almost twice as high.

The bridge will be designed to meet traffic needs for the next 75 to 100 years. Although the bridge will have only a single travel lane in each direction (along with sidewalks and bicycle lanes), it will be designed so two more travel lanes could be added in the future if traffic conditions require additional road capacity.

The county is considering two-way stop signs or roundabouts at NE 154th Street and NE 164th Street because projected traffic volumes do not warrant traffic signals. The county has received favorable feedback regarding roundabouts from some property owners, but it wants to hear from additional community stakeholders.

Funding and schedule

Current estimates place the total project cost, including design, property acquisition and construction, at \$35 million.

Clark County expects to tap a number of different sources, including the County Road Fund, traffic impact fees, grants and low-interest loans. The county also will seek partnerships with property owners and developers.

Due to the high cost, construction is expected to be phased and may begin in 2016.

Public involvement

Clark County is in the early stages of preparing an environmental assessment under the National Environmental Policy Act. There will be a formal comment period once this document is completed.

The county will go beyond legal requirements and encourage early and ongoing public participation. The county already has met with two neighborhood associations, North

Salmon Creek and Fairgrounds, and has had smaller meetings with property owners, along with one-on-one discussions.

The Sept. 12 open house will allow community members to learn about the project and discuss any concerns they might have.

There will be comment forms at the open house where community members can submit comments that will become part of the record kept for this process.

For more information, contact:

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Si usted necesita esta información en español, por favor llame al (360) 397-2446.

Если Вам нужна эта информация на русском языке, пожалуйста, позвоните по телефону (360) 397-2446.

www.clark.wa.gov/publicworks/roads/10th.html



For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office:

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**Thursday,
Sept. 12, 4 to 7 p.m.**
Public Safety Complex
505 NW 179th St.

NE 10th Avenue
bridge and roadway
improvements
Come to the Sept. 12 open house

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