



RIDGEFIELD INTERCHANGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Background

In 2005, the City of Ridgefield and Port of Ridgefield began efforts in securing funding to complete the design and construction of a new interchange at I-5 and SR 501 (Pioneer Street) to replace the existing interchange that was built in 1964 to serve a rural community. With the significant growth that had begun in Ridgefield, combined with a large volume of undeveloped land surrounding the interchange that is zoned for employment-based development (approximately 1,500 acres), City and Port officials identified the need to replace the existing interchange with a new interchange of capacity to serve the foreseeable future as the first hurdle in reaching their goal of becoming an employment hub for Southwest Washington. With money secured through the Washington State Legislature in 2005, the City of Ridgefield working in partnership with the Washington State Department of Transportation initiated design, environmental permitting and right-of-way acquisition activities in January 2006.

Design Status

Design and environmental permitting was completed in May 2009. With \$10 million in funding secured through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the construction phase of the project was advertised in June 2009; construction subsequently began in September 2009. To advance the Project to construction, the project has been broken into stages: Stage 1 (\$28 million), which is what is currently under construction consists of the new interchange, on- and off-ramps and widening of Pioneer Street between 56th Place and 65th Avenue; Stage 2 (estimated at \$6 million) consists of the future construction of roundabouts at 56th Place and 65th Avenue.

Current Funding

Total project cost is estimated at \$34 million. To date, nearly \$33.5 million has been secured through the following sources:

- \$10 million has been allocated through the Washington State 2005-2007 Transportation Partnership Funding Budget.
- \$2 million has been allocated as an economic development grant through the Washington State 2005-2007 Capital Budget.
- \$8 million was allocated through passage of the Federal SAFETEA-LU transportation package in 2005.
- \$3 million has been allocated in the Washington State 2007-2009 Capital Budget.
- \$0.5 million in of the City of Ridgefield's Traffic Impact Fees are committed towards the Interchange Replacement project.
- \$10 million has been allocated through passage of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA).

However, the City is currently working with WSDOT and the Federal Highways Administration to insure carryover of surplus funds from Stage 1 construction to Stage 2 of the project.

Future Funding

Dependent upon negotiations with WSDOT and the Federal Highways Administration, the City may be able to maintain current surplus funding from Stage 1 so that Stage 2 may be completed in a timely manner. Should the Stage 1 surplus funding not be available for construction of Stage 2, the City will continue to work with its partners in funding for this project that is estimated to create up to 5,000 family wage jobs serving southwest Washington.