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I-405, Renton and Tukwila Project Update Easing congestion and putting people to work



Crews pour concrete for a new safety barrier along northbound I-405 in Renton.



Crews pour concrete for the new I-405 bridge over Oakesdale Avenue SW.



Crews place new asphalt for the new lanes on northbound I-405 in Tukwila.

The commute on I-405 in Renton is about to get a whole lot easier. WSDOT crews are preparing rebar, laying down asphalt and building retaining walls to open new lanes on I-405 between I-5 and SR 167 as part of our first stage of Renton improvements. Our goal is to open the new lanes this fall and will help ease congestion and increase travel speeds on the drive in and out of Renton and Tukwila, one of the worst bottlenecks on I-405.

With construction starting this summer, the Renton Stage 2 Project will help reduce traffic congestion and improve safety and access to Renton from I-405. When complete the two projects will add capacity on I-405 from I-5 to SR 169.

Putting People to work

The I-405 projects in Renton will provide living wage jobs to hundreds of Washington workers. Both projects deliver crucial transportation improvements in the Renton and Tukwila area and put people to work to stimulate our economy.

Work scheduled for 2009

- Open a new lane in both directions on I-405 between I-5 and SR 167.
- Open a new lane on southbound SR 167 between I-405 and SW 41st Street.
- Begin construction on a new on-ramp to northbound I-405 from SR 515 (Talbot Road).

Work scheduled for early 2010

- Begin construction on noise walls along northbound I-405, east of the I-405/SR 167 interchange.

Springbrook Creek Wetland Mitigation Bank complete



A blue heron is one of the species of habitat that can be found in the Springbrook Creek Wetland Mitigation Bank.

This summer, we celebrated the opening of the Springbrook Creek Wetland and Habitat Mitigation Bank. The bank creates a high-quality habitat for plants and animals. The approximately 130 acres of wetland area is a partnership with the City of Renton to address the effects of development within the city and from WSDOT transportation projects.

Renton area residents will benefit from a boardwalk trail that runs through one of the sites from SW 27th Street between Oakesdale Avenue SW and Lind Avenue SW. The trail provides environmental education and recreation opportunities for the public.

A new interchange and better access for Renton



A view of the existing I-405 near Sam's Club from the roof of Renton City Hall.



A conceptual view from the same vicinity of the new I-405 interchange at Talbot Road.

As part of the Renton Stage 2 project, crews will build a new half-diamond interchange at SR 515 (Talbot Road) will consist of an on-ramp from Talbot Road to northbound I-405 and an off-ramp from southbound I-405 to Talbot Road. Crews will open the new interchange to traffic by summer 2011. The new interchange:

- Provides enhanced access to Renton from I-405, resulting in reduced congestion-related collisions.
- Reduces congestion at the I-405 interchanges at SR 169 and SR 167.

What will the projects improve?

Safety

The new lanes and improved ramps will reduce congestion-related crashes such as rear-end and side-swipe collisions.

Traffic Congestion

- Metered on-ramp signals will relieve congestion in problem areas
- Variable message signs (VMS) will provide real-time information, allowing drivers to make informed travel decisions.
- The projects will reduce congestion by adding capacity for more vehicles on I-405 between I-5 and SR 169.
- Interchange improvements at I-405 and I-5, SR 167, SR 181, SR 515 and SR 169 will help alleviate bottlenecks and improve the drive in and out of Renton and Tukwila.
- The new interchange at SR 515 will give drivers an option to and from Renton and will relieve congestion on the SR 167 and SR 169 interchanges.

Travel Speeds

- Drivers should see travel speeds on I-405 increase by up to 20 miles per hour.

Project Timeline		
	Stage 1	Stage 2
Construction begins	fall 2007	summer 2009
Construction complete	summer 2010 *	summer 2011

*We anticipate opening the lanes this Fall.



- Renton Stage 1
- Renton Stage 2
- Springbrook Creek Wetland and Habitat Mitigation Bank.

The I-405 projects in Renton increase capacity on I-405 and improve safety for drivers. The completion of the new interchange at SR 515 will improve access to Renton and complete a first step in reducing congestion in the Renton area. The additional lanes on I-405 will increase the I-405 general purpose roadway capacity by 50 percent. The projects:

- Build a new lane on I-405 between I-5 and SR 169.
- Build a new lane on southbound SR 167 between I-405 and SW 41st Street
- Build a new on-ramp from SR 515 to northbound I-405.
- Build a new off-ramp from southbound I-405 to SR 515.
- Reconstruct the Benson Road bridge over I-405.