As communities grow, more vehicles are added to the road causing higher traffic volumes. One area this has become apparent is on 140th Street NE between 23rd Avenue NE and 34th Avenue NE. To address this issue, Snohomish County Public Works is planning to improve the roadway to current standards, constructing left and right turn lanes, shoulders and installing a traffic signal at 23rd Avenue NE.

Although construction isn’t expected to occur for several years, a design is being developed to meet current and projected traffic levels, along with environmental studies on the area. To ensure the community is informed about this project, we want to share the current status and what you can expect to see in the near future.

**Proposed Improvements**

This project is currently in the early stages of the design phase. Some of the improvements being considered include:

- A traffic signal and turn lanes at the intersection of 140th Street NE and 23rd Avenue NE
- Widening of 140th Street NE to include a two-way left turn lane and wider shoulders throughout the corridor
- Replacement of Bridge 582 over the West Fork Quilceda Creek
- Possibly realigning and enhancing a portion of the stream that flows south along 23rd Avenue NE and east on the north side of 140th Street NE
- Replacement of the culvert just west of 29th Avenue NE with a fish passable culvert and possibly enhancing a portion of the stream downstream of the culvert
- Construction of new stormwater facilities to provide treatment and flow control

Stormwater runoff is a complex challenge in the area due to the region being relatively flat and a high concentration of water already in the ground. The county will study and consider the drainage needs of the West Fork Quilceda Creek sub-basin in its plan to help address stormwater issues; however, no specific strategies have been decided at this time.

As part of this project, Snohomish County may need to acquire right of way from parcels adjacent to the road. Where required, the county will meet with property owners, which could be as early as 2016. For more information about right of way, visit www.snooco.org and search “Before we Build” for a pamphlet about the process.

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**Timeframe**

The design and permitting work on this project is anticipated to be completed in late 2017. Construction depends on funding availability and is tentatively planned to begin as early as 2018.

**Help Us Help You**

This summer, residents and business owners will receive a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) postcard notice by mail and may see signs posted on the road. This provides an opportunity to send us comments on the proposed project early in the design phase. Visit the project page at [www.snohomishcountywa.gov/2695](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/2695) to review project details and SEPA information, and share your feedback and questions with us.

Under SEPA, we are required to complete an environmental checklist about the proposed construction and its potential impacts on the environment. The checklist includes both the natural environment (earth, air, water, plants and animals, energy and natural resources) and the built environment (environmental health, land and shoreline use, transportation, public services and utilities).