Proposed Road Improvements
May 2006

Public Meeting to Discuss Proposed Road Improvement Projects

Snohomish County Public Works is proposing several road improvements in your neighborhood. Improvements are proposed for the intersections of Lockwood Road, Locust Way and Carter Road. This area is experiencing rapid residential growth and increased traffic.

You are invited to attend a public meeting/open house at Lockwood Elementary School on June 7 to discuss the proposed projects. Public Works staff will open the evening with a short presentation with time for questions and answers. Following the presentation an open house format of “stations” will also be set up to provide one-on-one discussion with staff members.

Below is a brief description of the proposed projects:

A Lockwood Road and Locust Way intersection realignment

This intersection is proposed to be realigned to improve traffic safety and mobility. Lockwood Road forms a severely skewed intersection as it slopes up to meet Locust Way. The three-legged, all-way stop does not meet current safety and operational standards for a Collector Arterial. The proposal is to extend Locust Way and create a new “T” intersection with Lockwood Road about 300 feet south of the existing intersection. Problems at the intersection include:

- Drivers on Locust Way approaching from the south cannot see traffic on the other road until they are at the intersection due to the acute angle of Locust Way and Lockwood Road.

Drivers on Lockwood Road approaching northbound must stop on a steep incline and look back over their shoulder, which is difficult for many drivers.

To drive onto Lockwood Road from northbound Locust Way, a driver must make a sharp turn to the right, down a steep grade onto Lockwood Road. This maneuver often requires vehicles to cut into the opposing lane to complete the turn and can be extremely difficult for larger vehicles.

The timing of Project A may be tied to Project D (see back page) to encourage northbound traffic to continue using Locust Way until the 14th Ave. West connection is completed.

B Lockwood Road and Carter Road Intersection Improvement

The intersection of Lockwood Road and Carter Road is also proposed for improvement to increase school pedestrian safety and traffic operation. This intersection currently operates as a 4-way stop. Public Works is considering several options here including the addition of turn-lanes with a traffic signal or a roundabout. Sidewalks and crosswalks would be included in either option.

C Swamp Creek Bridge Replacement

Swamp Creek Bridge (Bridge #546), which carries Carter Road over Swamp Creek, has been identified for replacement within the next three to six years. The plan is to remove the two-lane, 40-foot long structure and replace it with a longer bridge.
Extension of 14th Ave. W

Public Works also plans a future extension of 14th Ave. West from its northern terminus near 220th St. SW to Locust Way in the vicinity of 213th Pl SW. This connection has been proposed to create an additional north-south road and improve traffic circulation for this area.

The proposal would extend the existing roadway, including bike lanes and sidewalks. Some right-of-way for this extension has been dedicated to the County by residential developments, although additional right-of-way will have to be acquired by Public Works to complete the road. This northerly connection has been proposed as a separate project and will require additional environmental review.

History of Proposed Improvements

In 1985 an extension of 14th Ave. W to Locust Way was proposed to provide a safer and more efficient road network. Several alternative alignments were studied in an Environmental Impact Statement. A preferred alignment was chosen; however, funding was not available at the time for construction.

In 2002, County staff again considered options for the Lockwood Road and Locust Way intersection due to the increase in development in the area. A preliminary design was proposed and closer examination was made of the area. An environmental review of the proposal was completed in July 2002 which provided information about the natural and constructed environment in and around the proposed project. A public notice was mailed to residents and a comment period followed.

At that time, the County received approximately 12 letters in response to the environmental review of the Lockwood Road and Locust Way intersection realignment. County staff met with members of the Lockwood Elementary PTA and several adjacent home owners to discuss the proposal. Residents in the area told us they are particularly concerned with the lack of sidewalks, potential for increase traffic on Lockwood Road in front of the school and lack of parking for the school. A preliminary design for the intersection was prepared; however, the final design and construction were not completed due to limited funding and other road priorities in the County.

In the past year, Public Works has continued to analyze both the Locust Way and Carter Road intersections on Lockwood Road. Preliminary designs have been prepared for these intersections and will be discussed at the public meeting.

For more information:

Locust Way–Lockwood Road–Carter Road Intersections:
- Project Manager, Sam Filetti, 425-388-6698
- Environmental Planner, Mary Auld, 425-388-3488, x4510
- Communications Specialist: Tina Hokanson, 425-388-3789

14th Avenue West extension:
- Project Manager, Sam Filetti, 425-388-6698
- Environmental Planner, Mary Auld, 425-388-3488, x4510
- Communications Specialist: Tina Hokanson, 425-388-3789

Swamp Creek Bridge:
- Project Manager, Larry Brewer, 425-388-3488, x4219
- Environmental Planner, Julie Highton, 425-388-3488, x2341
- Communications Specialist: Tina Hokanson, 425-388-3789