

HCT: Planning Study of BNSF Corridor from Renton to Snohomish (E. King County and Snohomish County)

Project Number	E32 & N46
Subarea	East King/ Snohomish
Primary Mode Impacted	TBD
Facility Type	TBD
Version Number	1.0
Date Last Modified	5/24/2007

Project Locator Map



Short Project Description

Conduct a planning study to evaluate the potential for high capacity transit modes on the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad right-of-way between Renton and Snohomish, including examining opportunities for integration with a proposed bicycle/pedestrian trail. The study will include developing conceptual costs, ridership, potential station locations, and integration with existing and planned high capacity transit.

Project Purpose: Conduct a planning study to evaluate the potential for high capacity transit modes on the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad right-of-way between Renton and Snohomish, including examining opportunities for integration with a proposed bicycle/pedestrian trail.

Cost

in Millions of 2006\$

	Low	High
Agency Admin		
Environmental Clearance and PE		
Final Design, Specs, Permitting		
ROW Acquisition		
Construction		
Vehicles		
Contingency		
Total	\$16.0	\$16.0

Design Basis Planning

Environmental Documentation Required

- Environmental Impact Statement Required
- Environmental Assessment Required
- Environmental Checklist Required

Relationships to Other Projects

Relationship	Project
Impacted by	
Impacted by	
Impacted by	

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Project Partners

BNSF
WSDOT
Cities of Renton, Newcastle, Bellevue, Kirkland, Woodinville, and Snohomish
King County
Snohomish County
Community Transit

Long Description

Description: This project would conduct a planning study to evaluate the potential for high capacity transit modes on the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railroad right-of-way between the cities of Renton and Snohomish, including examining opportunities for integration with a proposed bicycle/pedestrian trail. The study will include developing conceptual costs, ridership, potential station locations and integration with existing and planned high capacity transit.

Project Elements Included:

- Review Puget Sound Regional Council's study of the BNSF corridor
- Coordinate with East Link regarding segments under consideration for light rail in Bellevue and Redmond
- Consult with King County regarding plans to acquire the BNSF corridor through the federal rail-banking process
- Coordinate evaluation of modes with King County's plan to develop a pedestrian/bicycle trail in the corridor
- Evaluate high capacity transit modes to serve potential riders
- Identify potential areas to be served and potential station locations
- Develop ridership projections
- Develop conceptual operating plans for modes under consideration
- Develop conceptual engineering for alternative modes
- Identify potential environmental impacts of rail construction and operation on the corridor
- Develop preliminary/conceptual cost estimates for modes under consideration
- Develop information regarding a possible update to the Long-Range Plan
- Identify potential investments for consideration in a future phase of high capacity transit investments in the region

Utilities:

N/A

Right-of-Way and Property Acquisition:

N/A

Mitigation:

N/A

Exclusions:

- Preliminary engineering
- NEPA/SEPA environmental documentation
- Identification of a preferred alternative

Permits Required:

N/A

Agreements Required:

N/A

ST has developed scope definitions for ST2 project proposals for the purposes of developing cost estimates, phasing of investments, a financial plan, and the estimation of project benefits. This scope definition should not be construed as a commitment that all defined features will be included in the final developed project.

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Evaluation Measures

<i>Measure</i>	<i>Measurement/ Rating</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Average Weekday Ridership	N/A	
Capital Cost	\$16.0 - \$16.0	in Millions of 2006\$
Annual Operating Cost	N/A	
Travel Time & Reliability	N/A	
Connectivity & Integration	N/A	
Land Use & Development	High	
Customer Experience	N/A	
Risk Avoidance	High	

Key Issues and Benefits

Issues:

- Although this study could be conducted at any time, most elements would be subsequently re-done during a formal engineering/environmental process, preceding the selection of a preferred alternative.

Benefits:

- Evaluation of potential HCT improvements parallel to a congested Highway of Statewide Significance (I-405).