INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

INTERIM SAFETY IMPROVEMENT TIMELINE

**SHORT-TERM (LESS THAN 6 MONTHS)**
- Add lights to intersection warning signs
- Convert lighting to LED
- Narrow the lane widths
- Add new lights to side streets on utility pole
- Targeted information campaign
- Install flashing STOP sign
- Trim trees within R/W to clear sight lines
- Trim trees outside of R/W to clear sight lines
- Install intersection conflict warning system

**MID-TERM (LESS THAN 2 YEARS)**
- Community Outreach
- Environmental Permitting & Right of Way Acquisition
- Final Design
- Apply for Construction Funding

**LONG-TERM (GREATER THAN 2 YEARS)**
- Traffic Study & Alternatives Analysis
- Alternative Development
- Preliminary Design
- Spring 2016
- Summer 2017
- Winter 2017
- Spring 2018
- Summer 2018
- TBD

**PROJECT LOCATION**

**PLANS & TIMELINE**

**November 8, 2017**

**YELM HWY AND MERIDIAN RD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS**

**PROJECT CONTEXT**

**INTERSECTION UNDER STUDY**

**We are here**

(Fall 2017)
**Performance Measures**

- **TRAFFIC CAPACITY**
  - Higher
  - Lower

- **SAFETY**
  - Higher
  - Lower

- **FOOTPRINT**
  - Higher
  - Lower

- **MAINTENANCE COST**
  - Higher
  - Lower

- **CONSTRUCTION COST**
  - Higher
  - Lower

- **ADDITIONAL NOTES**

  **ROUNDABOUT**
  - Reduces all accidents by 35%
  - Reduces injury related accidents by 75%
  - Reduces fatality accidents by 90%
  - Slows vehicle speeds down
  - Pedestrians cross one lane of traffic at a time with refuge island between lanes

  **ALL WAY STOP**
  - Must meet all way stop warrants to be installed
  - Drivers familiar with operations/rules
  - No increased footprint
  - Introduces delay on WB/EB traffic

  **SIGNAL CONTROL**
  - Must meet signal warrants to be installed
  - Drivers familiar with operations/rules
  - Provides dedicated phase for pedestrians and/or bikes
  - Smaller footprint than a roundabout
  - Does not operate during power outages
Yelm Hwy SE

Meridian Rd SE

Frequent low-speed gaps available for left turns off Meridian Rd SE

Approach geometry designed to slow vehicles down prior to the intersection, improving safety for all users

Right-in/Right-out access to the EVG improves driver expectations and traffic flow on Yelm Hwy

Roundabout sized to accommodate large trucks and maintain slow entry speeds

Evergreen Valley Grocery

Slow, consistent speeds improve access to the EVG

NOTE: DIAGRAMS ARE FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY AND ARE NOT TO SCALE.
YELM HWY AND MERIDIAN RD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

TURNING MOVEMENTS ANALYSIS

November 8, 2017

NOTE: DIAGRAMS ARE FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY AND ARE NOT TO SCALE.
EXISTING CONDITIONS

PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS
Q1 What is the purpose of the project?
The purpose of this project is to improve safety for all users at the Yelm Highway/Meridian Road intersection.

Q2 What are the planned improvements?
The planned improvements include construction of a single lane roundabout with dedicated pedestrian facilities and safer access to the Evergreen Valley Grocery.

Q3 What are the exact limits of the project?
The limits of project improvements extend approximately 500 feet to the east and west of the intersection along Yelm Highway, and approximately 300-350 feet to the north and south on Meridian Road.

Q4 How does a roundabout work on high speed roadways?
The roundabout approach geometry is designed to gradually slow vehicles down prior to the roundabout entry.

Q5 What are the average traffic volumes on Yelm Highway?
More than 13,000 vehicles per day travel through this intersection.

Q6 Will Yelm Highway or Meridian Road be closed during Construction?
No, but drivers should expect delays due to alternating one lane traffic. Priority will be given for emergency, school and transit services. We very much appreciate the patience of drivers and area residents while this important public safety project is completed!

Q7 What is planned for pedestrians and bicyclists?
Paved shoulders will be provided for pedestrian and bicycle access along each approach. Ramps at the intersection will allow bicycles and pedestrians to exit the shoulder and utilize a combined bicycle/pedestrian facility around the roundabout. Dedicated crosswalks with flashing beacon pedestrian signals will be included to improve driver awareness.

Q8 Will the County need to purchase any of my property?
The intersection improvements will require additional right of way. Impacted property owners will be contacted by County staff.

Q9 Does the project have any environmental impacts?
Environmental investigations are underway, and will be advanced further as the preliminary design progresses. This project will improve stormwater treatment through the project limits.

Q10 What is the project schedule?
Construction costs for the project are not currently funded. See the project website for a current project schedule.

Q11 Is there an on-line source of project information and updates?
Project information can be found online at: http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/publicworks/

For more information, please contact
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