

Prepared for:



Community Outreach Summary

May – October 2019
Proposed Solution

Prepared by:



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Project overview

The City of Federal Way relaunched its City Center Access Project in 2017 to address increasing congestion in the City Center and surrounding areas. In 2018 and 2019, the City evaluated ways to reduce congestion in the City Center and make it easier for people to travel into, out of and around the City Center.

The City evaluated solutions in the area of the S 320th Street corridor between SR 99 (Pacific Highway) and Military Road S with the goal of improving quality of life and economic vitality for the City Center.

After evaluating improvements to local streets, the project team concluded they need to change access to the City Center from I-5 to achieve the project's goals. The project team is now refining a proposed solution at S 324th Street, selecting an option from a wider range of possible solutions we identified earlier in the project. Community outreach and continuous traffic modeling is helping the project team fine tune a solution to present to City Council for approval in late 2019.

Project background

The Federal Way City Center is comprised of both the City Center Core, an urban center/regional growth center, and the City Center Frame, which is a mixed-use zone that surrounds and supports the core. Together, they complement each other to create a "downtown" area as outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan. The City Center is bounded by I-5 to the east, S 312th Street to the north, 11th Place S to the south, and 13th Avenue S to the west.

The project team analyzed past, current, and future traffic trends, expected needs for residents, commuters, and businesses in the area. The project team also evaluated the environmental impacts that are associated with:

- Improving nonmotorized mobility access.
- Increasing safety and efficiency.
- Improving and enhancing transit operations.
- Coordinating with other local transit projects.
- Improving travel around, rather than through, the City Center core.
- Improving access to and from I-5.

This evaluation process is identified in the City of Federal Way 6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) as an environmental documentation study. The City used the study to identify plans to modify access at S 320th Street and S 324th Street along I-5, and other local infrastructure improvement needs.

Report summary

From May to October 2019, the project team held a series of community outreach events including tabling at community festivals, hosting briefings for project neighbors, businesses and organizations serving environmental justice populations, stakeholder interviews, and an online and in-person open house. The project team incorporated the feedback gathered from these events into their evaluation of solutions to reduce congestion in the City Center.

This report summarizes the City’s community outreach efforts and feedback we received from local residents, businesses, and other key stakeholders.

Approach

Project team members used various outreach methods to inform the public and invite participation to help narrow down possible solutions. The project team used outreach methods to target both narrow and broad audiences, based on specific community interests, issues or known concerns. Community members communicated with the project team in-person at events, online and over the phone.

By the numbers

| | Date | Attendees |
|---|------------------------|---------------|
| Open houses | | |
| In-person open house | Oct. 10, 2019 | 38 |
| Online open house | Oct. 1-14, 2019 | 434 |
| Stakeholder briefings | | |
| Project area businesses | May 21, 2019 | 2 |
| Project area neighbors | May 14 & 20, 2019 | 35 |
| Belmor Park | Aug. 20, 2019 | 110 |
| Federal Way Chamber of Commerce | Oct. 8, 2019 | 8 |
| Stakeholder interviews | | |
| Target stakeholders | July 24 - Oct 10, 2019 | 6 |
| Environmental Justice (EJ) Briefings | | |
| Community Connections Roundtable | July 2, 2019 | 15 |
| Sea Mar Community Health Centers | Sept. 20, 2019 | 2 |
| Build the Bridge (BTB) | Oct. 1, 2019 | 5 |
| Multi-Service Center (MSC) | Oct. 15, 2019 | 40 |
| Social media | | |
| City of Federal Way Facebook | Oct. 3, 2019 | 2,040* |
| Sound Transit Facebook | Oct. 3, 2019 | 32,229* |
| | Total | 34,958 |

*Number of Facebook followers on the page

Key themes

- Traffic congestion
- Interchange modification recommendations
- Local impacts
- Multimodal options and safety
- Project coordination
- Open space and environmental impacts

Traffic congestion

Residents and local business representatives shared that they are experiencing more congestion entering and leaving the City Center. Participants shared concerns about traffic backing up onto local surface streets and problems with current infrastructure. Most participants agreed that congestion in the City Center, and Federal Way, is a growing concern the City should address.

Interchange modification recommendations

Most individuals did not oppose changing the S 324th Street interchange. They generally understood why the City is pursuing this option. A majority of commenters supported building roundabouts to access S 324th Street from I-5, but suggested the City educate people on how to use roundabouts safely. Most participants were unfamiliar or knew little about diverging diamond interchanges so either did not provide feedback or did not think it was a good idea.

Local impacts

Most participants did not oppose local improvements at S 320th and S 324th streets. However, several participants expressed concern about losing parking at the park and ride near the future Sound Transit light rail station, and potential roadway improvements near Steel Lake Park. Participants at the neighborhood briefings in May shared significant concerns about local street improvements impacting the rural neighborhood character east of I-5 at S 312th Street and 32nd Avenue S.

Construction and property acquisition

Several neighborhood briefing attendees shared concerns about construction, including property acquisition and project funding. Business representatives and some residents were concerned businesses will face an economic burden because already underperforming shopping centers in the area will have less business during the construction from major transit projects.

Multimodal options and safety

Many commenters supported the City creating pathways for people walking and biking, and better access to transit. Participants supported pedestrian bridges to separate people walking from vehicle traffic. Participants would like to see more sidewalks within the City Center on both sides of the road, and longer crosswalk times for people walking and biking across major roads.

Project coordination

Many participants urged the City to coordinate with other major transit projects, such as the Federal Way/Tacoma Dome Link Extension project, to reduce impact and disruption to the community. Participants were concerned building these projects at the same time could increase congestion and lead to longer commute times. Other participants expressed concern about potential impacts to their homes and the relocation process.

Open space and environmental impacts

Many participants feared possible solutions would compromise green space and parks and said preserving these spaces is a priority. These participants do not oppose the project so long as construction of roads remains outside of parks or recreational spaces such as golf courses. Many participants expressed concern about potential impacts to the environment, including wetlands, natural water sources, and trees. Community members encourage the City to preserve these resources.

Conclusion

The community members we engaged during this process generally support the modifying the S 324th Street interchange to help ease congestion into, out of, and around the City Center. Participants wanted to stay informed and understand how the City plans to implement the solution. As the project progresses into design and environmental review, the City will continue to engage the community and share information.

Stakeholder summary

The City of Federal Way conducted community outreach in spring and summer 2019 to evaluate possible solutions. Our goal was to understand community sentiments about the interchange modification solutions and local roadway improvements that would change the way people enter and exit the City Center from I-5.

The project team collected community feedback through the following activities:

- Targeted neighborhood briefings in the project area
- A briefing for City Center businesses
- An in-person and online open house open to the public
- Briefings to service providers targeting environmental justice communities
- Interviews with stakeholders previously engaged in 2018

Outreach methods

The project team announced these activities using the following methods:

- Tabling events
- Door-to-door outreach
- Emails to project listserv

| Stakeholder outreach by the numbers | Total |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Tabling event contacts | 124 |
| Emails | 315 |
| Door-to-door outreach – businesses | 284 |
| Door-to-door outreach – residences | 253 |
| Total | 976 |

Tabling events

The project team hosted information tables at two major events in Federal Way: The Red White and Blues Festival on July 4 and the Summer Sounds Music Festival on Aug. 20. The project team provided fact sheets in English, Spanish, and Korean as well as display boards featuring the proposed solutions. Visitors to the project booth won prizes by spinning a wheel and left contact information to receive project updates.

Emails

The project team emailed updates to community members to share the latest project information and promote outreach events. Emails included a brief description about the solutions, the evaluation criteria, public outreach recaps, and opportunities for community members to provide input.

Flyer distribution

On May 16 and May 17, 2019, project staff visited 273 businesses in downtown Federal Way to invite business owners or their representatives to a briefing on Tuesday, May 21, 2019. They spoke with managers and employees at businesses at the Gateway Center, The Commons Mall, the Celebration Center, Pavilion Centre, Pavilion Centre II and businesses along 23rd Avenue S, Pacific Highway, S 316th Street, and S 320th Street about the project.

Project staff gave each business invitations to the briefing. We engaged people at most businesses in conversations about the project. Many of the managers and employees were unaware of project and agreed traffic in the City Center is a growing concern.

| Business groups | Number of businesses |
|--|----------------------|
| The Commons | 72 |
| Pavilions Center | 23 |
| Pavilions Center II | 27 |
| Celebration Center | 35 |
| Gateway Center | 21 |
| Hwy 99 to Reichbauer Way; 316th and 320th (49), Reichbauer Way and 23rd Avenue S Ave; S 316th Street and S 320th Street (33), 23rd Ave and I5 (13) | 95 |
| Total | 273 |

Key findings

The City of Federal Way interviewed six commercial property owners and business leaders and participated in four briefings with residents and businesses from May through Oct. 2019. Most participants did not oppose the City’s proposed interchange modification at S 324th Street and agreed congestion in the City Center is growing and disruptive.

General

- Participants take alternate routes to avoid S 320th Street
- Participants were concerned about the potential changing traffic patterns which may divert traffic into their neighborhoods
- Participants were worried the solutions may increase commute times
- Participants suggested more proactive communications from the City through more frequent email updates, social media event reminders or reader board signs

S 324th Street interchange solution

- Participants generally agreed this is a reasonable solution
- Stakeholders agreed a couplet along S 320th and S 324th streets west of I-5 negatively impacts businesses

Local street improvements

- Participants appreciated the east to west connection created by expanding S 324th Street to Weyerhauser Way S
- Participants shared concerns about potential impacts to the natural environment including the removal of trees and potential damage to pipelines
- Some stakeholders were concerned that HOV lanes will not be effective and may make it harder for travelers to access businesses along S 320th Street

Stakeholder interviews

The project team interviewed six commercial property owners and business representatives during July, August, and October 2019. We have previously engaged with these stakeholders and followed up with them to share our proposed solution. We will consider their input as we finalize the proposed solution. These stakeholders shared their experience of heavy traffic within the City Center and agreed that solutions that will ease congestion to help people get around the area are necessary.

| Name | Organization | Interview date | Audience/Property Represented |
|------------------|--|----------------|---|
| Blaine Burnett | The Hynes Group | July 24, 2019 | Belmor Park |
| Lindy Goodling | Harsch Investment Properties | July 31, 2019 | Celebration Centre, Pavilions Centre II, and SeaTac Village (manage only) |
| Dana Ostenson | Industrial Realty Group | Aug. 12, 2019 | The Greenline (Former Weyerhaeuser Campus), East Campus Tech Center |
| Rich Schokley | Federal Way Chamber of Commerce and Highline College | Aug. 15, 2019 | Federal Way Chamber current and future businesses and college students |
| Daryl Reichstein | Rosen Properties | Aug. 15, 2019 | Hillside Shopping Center, Fountain Plaza |
| Loretta Messick | MJR Development | Oct. 10, 2019 | Federal Way Center, Heron Building, Talon Building |

The majority of commercial property owners and business participants we spoke to agreed the City needs to ease congestion within the City Center. Participants also said the City needs to understand traffic impacts related to the future light rail station and temporary impacts during construction. A participant also commented the City needs to remain aware of how changes in the way people move around the city may affect residents in nearby communities by creating longer commute times, adding more traffic to residential streets, and affecting safety for people walking and biking.

Half of the stakeholders suggested the City research how other nearby cities, including Seattle, Renton, and Bellevue, are addressing congestion. Participants also wanted more sidewalks, bike paths and access to public transit.

Stakeholder briefings

The City hosted seven business and community briefings about the City Center Access project during May, August, September, and October 2019. The City invited neighborhood leaders and property owners via email and distributed flyers door-to-door. The project team also invited Chamber of Commerce members to a briefing via the Chamber's newsletter. About 190 community members attended the five briefings.

| Business Briefing | Date | Location | Attendees |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Project area businesses | May 21, 2019 | Federal Way City Council Chambers | 2 |
| Federal Way Chamber of Commerce | Oct 8, 2019 | Federal Way Chamber of Commerce | 8 |
| South King Fire and Rescue | Oct 8, 2019 | South King Fire and Rescue | 10 |
| Project area bankers | Sep 27, 2019 | Federal Way PAEC | 10 |
| Project area business owners | Sep 26, 2019 | Federal Way PAEC | 15 |
| Community Briefing | Date | Location | Attendees |
| Project area neighbors | May 14 & 20, 2019 | Federal Way City Council Chambers | 35 |
| Belmor Park | Aug 20, 2019 | Belmor Park Clubhouse | 110 |
| Total | | | 190 |

Many attendees wanted the City to create better east to west connections and support a new interchange at S 324th Street. Attendees supported local improvements as long as those improvements do not make it harder for residents to get to surrounding neighborhoods. Attendees asked about how the City is funding design and construction and if funding requires voter approval. In addition, all meeting attendees encouraged the City to coordinate with Sound Transit and expressed concern about how construction could affect their homes and businesses. Although most attendees considered an interchange at S 324th Street a viable option, some were confused about the project’s purpose.

Many viewed the City Center as a pathway for people to travel home and not necessarily a destination for shopping. The connection between placing an interchange at S 324th Street and reducing congestion in the City Center core did not connect for some attendees since many do not spend time in that area. A few attendees asked about ways to connect with City staff to voice future questions or concerns. Many attendees also asked for more frequent communication from the project team especially related to local street improvements and work impacting surrounding neighborhoods.

Environmental justice briefings

The project team conducted four environmental justice (EJ) briefings in 2019 to a total of 22 attendees.

Project team members briefed attendees about the possible interchange modifications and local street improvements, collected feedback to inform the evaluation, and discussed the project timeline and opportunities for public involvement moving forward.

Key findings

- Concerns about displacing vulnerable community members as a result of the project.
- Concerns about mobility for older adults and those living with disabilities in the City Center core.

- General support for the project and interest in the potential options for the proposed solution (e.g. diverging diamond v. roundabouts, pedestrian and bicycle improvements, etc.).
- Concerns about emergency service access to the roads in the couplet alternative.
- Questions and concerns about project funding and approval process.
- Questions about a lack of an interchange modification at S 288th Street, especially since high levels of congestion are present in that area.
- Questions and concerns about access to jobs and resources and if any aspects of the proposed solutions will negatively impact these things.
- Question about the impact the construction of Sound Transit’s future light rail station and the proposed interchange modifications will have on traffic moving through the City Center

EJ briefing summary

The City Center Access Project team presented to four organizations and coalitions as part of its environmental justice work.

| Environmental Justice Briefing | Date | Attendees | Location |
|--|----------------|-----------|--|
| Korean Quarterly | June 27, 2019 | 40 | Federal Way City Hall |
| Federal Way Community Connections Roundtable | July 2, 2019 | 15 | Federal Way Public Library |
| Sea Mar Community Health Centers | Sept. 20, 2019 | 2 | Sea Mar Federal Way Medical Clinic |
| Build the Bridge (BTB) | Oct. 1, 2019 | 5 | Federal Way City Hall in the Hylebos room, 2nd floor |
| Multi-Service Center (MSC) | Oct. 15, 2019 | 40 | Multi-Service Center, Federal Way |
| Total | | 102 | |

The organizations represented at these briefings include:

- CHI Franciscan
- Multi-Service Center
- Puget Sound Educational Service District
- City of Federal Way Department of Community Development
- SoCo Culture
- Federal Way Library (King County Library System)
- Federal Way Public Schools
- Korean Women’s Association

- Urban League of Seattle

Project team members presented the project purpose and need, including accommodating planned growth in the City Center, addressing more traffic delays and backups onto I-5, improving access to emergency services, and planning for long-term needs. They reviewed how they evaluated local street improvements and discussed their conclusion that the City needs to modify the interchange to reduce congestion on S 320th Street.

The City Center project team explained why the City is no longer considering the S 312th Street interchange option and other interchanges. In September, the presentation included the interchange modification at S 324th Street the team identified as its proposed solution, and in October, included a walkthrough of the online open house. Visuals relating to the possible interchange modifications and bicycle and pedestrian connections under evaluation were in all briefings. All briefings concluded with the presenter discussing next steps and noting how the project team is encouraging broader community participation with an online and in-person open house.

Attendees asked questions, voiced concerns, and shared comments as a full group throughout the briefings.

Conclusion

About 298 people gave feedback on the City's solutions through stakeholder interviews and community and business briefings. Overall, participants do not oppose the project or the proposed solution, however some attendees expressed concern about a lack of public input. Concerns often included issues related to Sound Transit's plans for the area and coordination with the City Center Access Project. Others voiced concerns about impact to mobility and transit access for those from vulnerable populations, such as the elderly and disabled. Many attendees and interview participants wish to receive more frequent updates from the City.

Open house summary

The project team hosted an online and in-person open house in October to share the proposed solution at S 324th Street and gather public feedback on the solution and three major design questions:

- Ramp configurations
- Intersection controls
- Nonmotorized connections

The project team received 41 written comments and interacted with 452 participants.

| Date | Channels | Comments | Attendees |
|--------------|-------------------------|----------|-----------|
| Oct. 1-14 | Online open house | 35 | 434 |
| Oct. 10 | In-person open house | 10 | 38 |
| Oct. 3 | Social media | -- | 2,040* |
| Oct. 1 | Postcards | -- | 24,244** |
| Sept. 20, 27 | Print media circulation | -- | 29,167*** |
| Total: | | 25 | 55,923 |

*Number of Facebook followers

**Households receiving postcard

***Households receiving Federal Way Mirror

Outreach methods

The City used diverse tactics to reach a broad group of community members, including

- Email updates
- Newspaper notice
- Postcards
- Flyers to community gathering places
- Social media
- Telephone hotline

Email

On October 1, the project team emailed 280 members of the project's listserv to announce the selection of the proposed solution as well as the launch of the online open house.

The project listserv includes:

- Briefing attendees
- Community members, organizations, and business representatives who opted-in to the Project's contact listserv
- Commercial property owners and managers who participated in stakeholder interviews

The email provided a brief description of the proposed solution, the dates for the online and in-person open house, and invited readers to attend both to leave final comments for consideration



The study team mailed 24,244 postcards to invite the community to an in-person open house on Oct. 10, 2019.

before the project team presents the final proposed solution to City Council on November 5. The email closed with the phone number for the project hotline where members of the community can call and provide feedback over the phone.

Print media

The City posted a legal notice in the Federal Way Mirror newspaper advertising both online and in person open houses. The notice highlighted project partners, as well as the importance of collecting input for further evaluations before presenting a final proposed solution to City Council on November 5. The newspaper ran the legal notice in physical publications on September 20 and 27.

Direct mail

The City mailed postcard invitations to 24,244 addresses which arrived in their mailboxes on October 1. The postcard included a brief project overview, a link to the online open house, and details about the in-person open house. The City mailed the postcard to addresses from the northern boundary of S 272nd Street south to SR 18 to ensure people who frequently use those interchanges could provide feedback. To increase the input from residents and business owners who use S 320th Street and other City Center roads, the City included addresses west to First Avenue and east to the Auburn city limits.

PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL WAY CITY CENTER ACCESS PROJECT
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Federal Way will host an Open House:
updated time
Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019: 5:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Federal Way Community Center
876 S 333rd Street, Federal Way, Washington

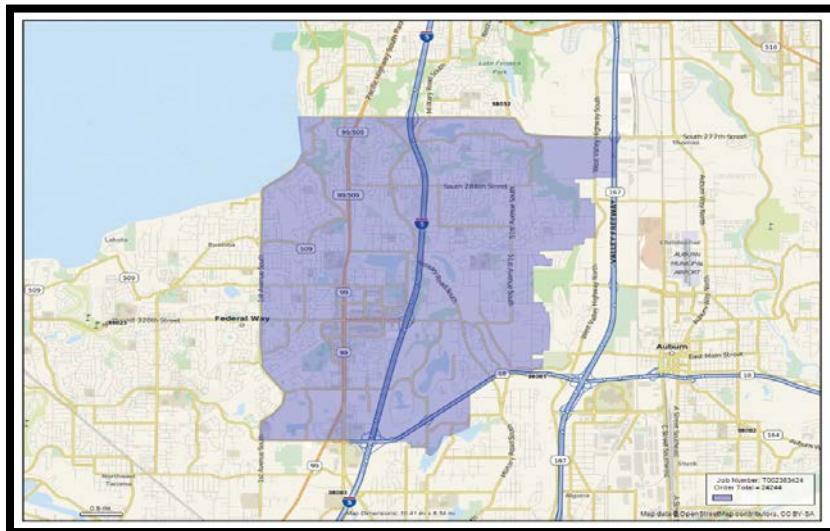
The City of Federal Way is leading the City Center Access Project, which is proposing solutions to improve access to the City Center and surrounding areas around the S 320th Street corridor near I-5. The City is proposing solutions in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), Sound Transit, Pierce Transit, South King Fire and Rescue, and King County.

Attendees at the open house will learn about the preferred solution at S 324th Street to reduce congestion in the City Center including local roadway and non-motorized improvements, learn how community input shaped these solutions, meet the project team and ask questions, and weigh in on the preferred solution before the City Council meeting on November 5 and vote in late 2019. Residents can participate in person on October 10 or through our online open house from October 1-14, 2019 at www.federalwaycitycenter.org.

PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED during the in person and online open house.

#872763
9/20/19, 9/27/19

The Federal Way Mirror ran a public notice on Sept. 20 and 27 notifying community members of the Oct. 10 in-person open house.



The project team mailed postcards to addresses in the project area, including addresses west to First Avenue and east to the Auburn city limits.

Flyer distribution

On October 1, we distributed flyers to 28 Federal Way community gathering places, including churches, the Federal Way Transit Center, Federal Way Senior Center, Korean Women's Association, and nine grocery stores frequented by residents in the project area. We gave someone at each location a flyer or poster and talked with them, sharing project information, describing ways for interested community members to participate, and answering questions.

We reached out to places where limited English proficient populations gather, such as ethnic grocery stores or churches offering services in non-English languages. We distributed flyers, encouraged them to attend the open house and assured those who spoke Spanish and/or Korean that interpreters would be available at the open house.

The study team also posted multiple flyers at the Federal Way Transit Center near busy bus stops.

Social media

The City created an event on Facebook announcing the launch of the City Center Access project online open house as well as the date of the in-person open house. The posting included start and end dates and times for both and invited the public to visit and leave comments based on the information shared by the project team.

Telephone hotline

The City of Federal Way created a project hotline for the City Center Access project to address in a timely manner the public's questions, comments, and concerns. The hotline is available, after callers select their language, in Spanish, Korean, and English. No exchanges occurred between callers and project team staff checking the hotline.

Online open house

Online and in-person open house key findings

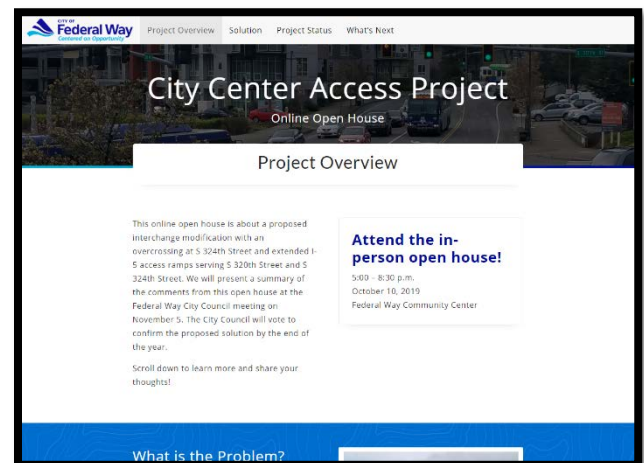
The below key themes emerged from the comments we received from the online and in-person open houses. We asked participants for their thoughts on the proposed solution, whether it addressed their previous input, their preference for intersection controls, and thoughts on nonmotorized elements of the solution. Feedback mirrored these questions closely, centering around nonmotorized access and mobility and proposed intersection modifications.

Key themes include:

- Improving access and mobility for people walking and biking.



On October 3, the City of Federal Way posted a Facebook event advertising City Center Access open house.

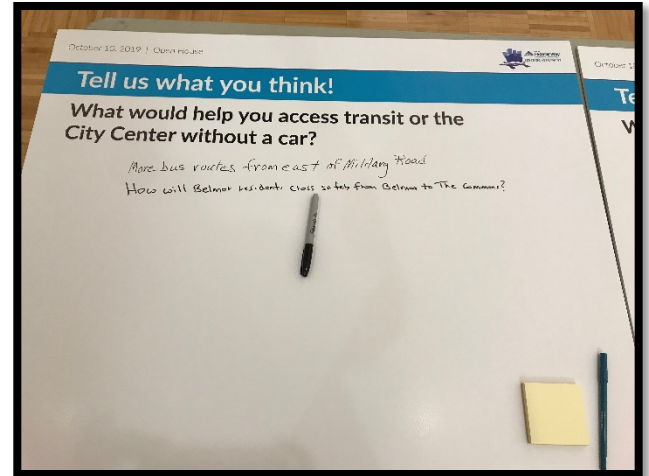


The online open house collected comments from Oct. 1-14, 2019.

- Proposed intersection modifications are acceptable.
- Concerns about additional weave in hybrid option.
- Concerns about local impacts.
- Traffic congestion is a growing concern.

Mobility for nonmotorized users

Online participants commented they are experiencing growing congestion entering and leaving the City Center. Most participants urged the City to develop a plan to improve connections for people walking and riding bicycles. Some participants suggested adding more bike lanes or a shared use path for pedestrians and bicyclists. One participant asked the City to add sidewalks on both sides of arterial roadways leading to and from the City Center—the lack of sidewalks forces people to walk across the street illegally. Some residents expressed that bike lanes are hazardous for drivers. One participant commented that roundabouts would improve pedestrian safety. One participant expressed concern about safely getting to the Commons shopping center from Belmor Park.



Open house attendees provided feedback on boards stationed around the open house.

Proposed intersection controls

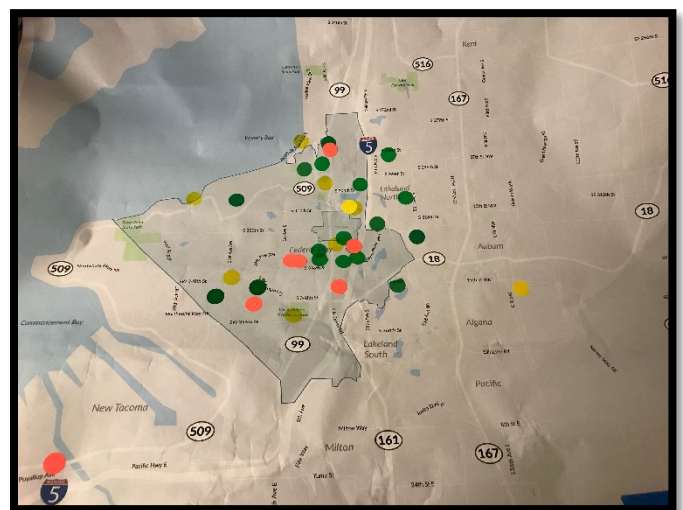
Most participants supported adding roundabouts to ease congestion but asked the City to provide information about how to use roundabouts. The diverging diamond design option concerned several participants. They shared that “weaving” and “cutting across” lanes would confuse drivers and could lead to collisions. Some participants suggested coordinating traffic signals to reduce current congestion. Other participants noted concern about traffic on S 320th Street and potential road widening that may affect power towers in the area.

Local impacts

Several participants gave feedback about impacts to local roadways. They expressed concerns about losing parking at the park and ride near the future Sound Transit light rail station, and potential roadway improvements near Steel Lake Park. One participant shared concern that street improvements would increase traffic near a park at S 312th Street and 32nd Avenue. Another participant suggested moving the project area away from a senior living center at Belmor Park, to limit noise, traffic and access impacts to residents.

Live, work, and play map

Responding to an interactive map, most participants indicated they live inside the Federal Way city limits. Generally, visitors noted their workplaces along the I-5 corridor



Open house attendees placed stickers on a map outlining the City of Federal Way to mark where they live (green), work (orange), and play (yellow).

and mostly outside the City Center. Residents also shared that they recreate along the waterfront, at parks in Federal Way, and within the City Center.


Next steps

The project team will review all comments and use them to help refine the proposed solution before presenting it to City Council on Nov. 5 for a vote in late 2019.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Stakeholder outreach materials

Appendix 1.1: Flyer for neighborhood briefings on May 14 and May 20, 2019



Join us at City Hall to discuss the Federal Way City Center Access Project!

Attend a neighborhood meeting:
 DATE May 14, 2019
 TIME 7-8:30 p.m.

 DATE May 20, 2019
 TIME 7-8:30 p.m.

 Federal Way City Hall
 Council Chambers
 33325 8th Ave S
 Federal Way, WA 98003

The City of Federal Way is studying ways to improve access to City Center. We want to work with you to:

- Discuss and receive comments on the improvements identified.
- Identify community concerns and solutions to manage concerns.
- Discuss the next steps the City will take and how to stay involved.

We heard you in 2018.
 Thank you for helping us define the City Center Access Study purpose and need in 2018 through:




- 21 interviews
- 4 community briefings
- 3 tabling events
- 1 public in-person open house
- 1 on-line open house

We received 169 comments that helped the study team understand public perception of issues and opportunities around City Center.


What's next?
 In Fall 2017, the City re-initiated the Federal Way City Center Access Study. The City has worked with its partners at WSDOT, FHWA, King County, Sound Transit, King County Metro, and more, to identify project issues and potential solutions. The City has considered the following types of improvements:

- Roadway capacity improvements
- Transit and high occupancy vehicle (HOV) priority treatments (such as bus or HOV lanes, or signal queue jumps)
- Pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- New roadway crossings of I-5

The study team has identified several sets of improvements to roadways, including potential new ramps at S 312th or S 324th Streets, to improve access to the City Center and reduce congestion on the S 320th Street corridor.

What is the City Center Access Study?



We need your help to guide our next steps.
 Learn more at:
cityoffederalway.com/page/city-center-access-project

Can't make a meeting? We still want to hear from you!
 Navien - Chandra, P.E.
 Street Systems Project Engineer
 Navien - Chandra@cityoffederalway.com
 253-835-2739

Leave a voicemail on the City Center Access hotline:
 253-835-2714
 Available in Spanish, Korean and English.

Areas that May be Affected

The City of Federal Way's City Center Access Study will identify a solution to traffic congestion in the City Center area (defined as the vicinity of S 320th Street between SR 99/Pacific Highway and Military Road S). The solution could involve changes in a broader area.

The study team is charged with identifying a solution that will improve economic vitality and quality of life in the study area and maintain the integrity of the interstate system. The key goals of the solution are to:

- Improve mobility by decreasing congestion on S 320th Street, reducing the effects of traffic on transit and the general traveling public
- Maintain or improve access to and from the City Center
- Provide opportunities for traffic to travel around rather than through the core
- Improve non-motorized mobility

This study is identified in the City of Federal Way Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) as an environmental documentation study.

The City is conducting the study in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), Sound Transit, Pierce King Fire and Rescue, and King County.

This fact sheet talks about a public meeting about traffic in downtown Federal Way. If you would like to receive this Korean or Spanish version call the project hotline at 253-835-2714.

Take high information to attend project access to center of the City Center Access Study. Please call the project hotline at 253-835-2714.

이 자료(한글/영문)는 커뮤니티 센터 접근성 연구와 관련된 도심부 접근 프로젝트에 대해 이야기하는 것입니다. 당신이 이 문서를 읽고 싶고, 자하는 경우, 253.835.2714에서 프로젝트 핫라인에 문의하시기 바랍니다.

Title W Statement to Public: The City of Federal Way is providing information to the public regarding the City Center Access Study. The City is providing information to the public regarding the City Center Access Study. The City is providing information to the public regarding the City Center Access Study.

Alternative formats: Persons with disabilities may request this information be provided in alternative formats by calling the Title V Coordinator at 253.835.2730. Persons who are deaf and hard of hearing may call Washington State Relay service by dialing 711 and asking to be connected to 253.835.2730.

Appendix 1.2: Email to attendees from May neighborhood briefings.

From: Artie Nelson
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 9:24 AM
To: 'Naveen Chandra' <Naveen.Chandra@cityoffederalway.com>
Subject: Thank you for your feedback!

Dear neighbor,

Thank you for attending the meeting about the [City Center Access Project](#) in May. It is important for us to hear from you as we evaluate ways to ease traffic congestion in Federal Way's City Center. We hosted two meetings for people who live near the directly impacted areas and one for businesses. We focused our outreach for these meetings with door-to-door outreach to ensure we were engaging those neighborhoods that stand to be more directly impacted by the options we are evaluating. We wanted to respect how they might be impacted by giving them the first and early chance to provide feedback.

At each meeting, we showed attendees concepts we think may improve economic health and quality of life without causing more traffic on I-5. We described three possible changes to on and off ramps, plus a group of possible changes to local streets.

We have summarized the questions, comments and concerns we heard from community members in the attached summary. This feedback will inform how we evaluate possible solutions. We may follow up with you if we have additional questions or need more information to inform our evaluation.

After this next stage of work, we plan to share evaluated solutions with the broader community through the fall.

If you have any questions or concerns please email us at Naveen.Chandra@cityoffederalway.com or leave a message on our hotline: 253-835-2714 (available in English, Korean or Spanish).

Regards,

Artie Nelson
City Center Access Project Team

Learn about possible traffic revisions in your area!


Join the City of Federal Way to learn about the City Center Access Project. We'll share information about the solutions we are evaluating to reduce congestion in the City Center, including interchange modifications, local street improvements, and non-motorized upgrades.

Date:
Tuesday,
August 20, 2019

Time:
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Location:
Belmor Park Club House

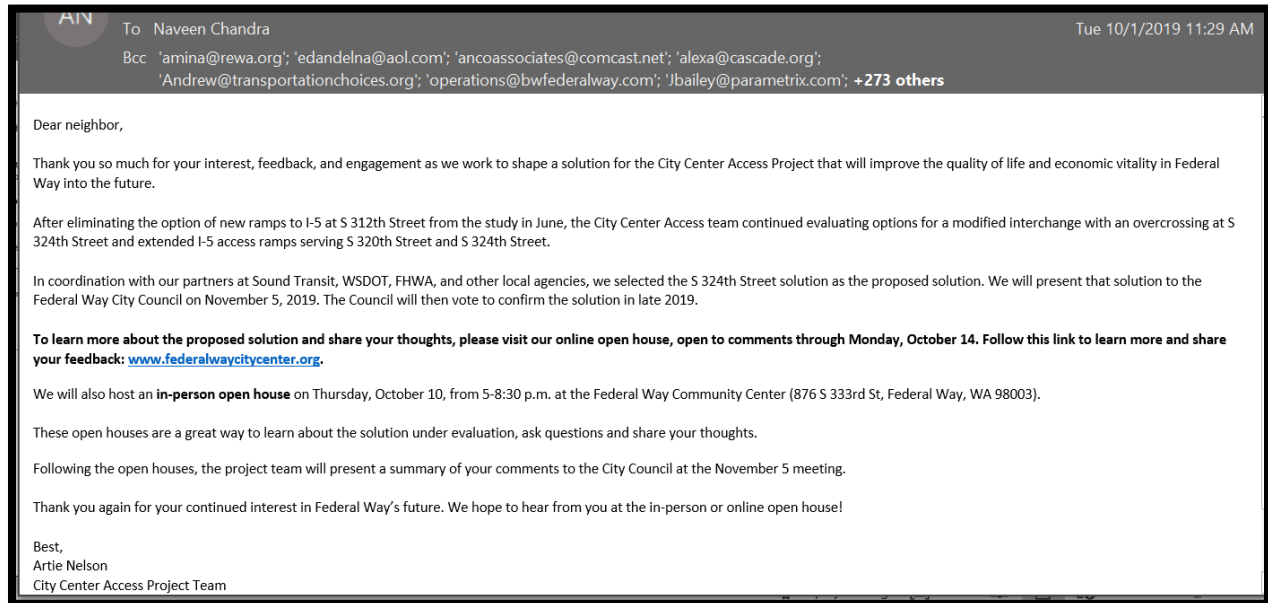
Can't join us? Visit our project page:
cityoffederalway.com/page/city-center-access-project



The image contains a flyer for a neighborhood briefing. At the top, a blue banner reads "Learn about possible traffic revisions in your area!". Below this, a light blue box contains the introductory text. To the right, a dark blue box lists the event details: Date (Tuesday, August 20, 2019), Time (6:00 – 7:00 p.m.), and Location (Belmor Park Club House). At the bottom left, a blue box provides a URL for those who cannot attend. At the bottom right, there are two logos: the City of Federal Way logo with the tagline "Centered on Opportunity" and the "CITY CENTER ACCESS PROJECT" logo, which features a stylized graphic of buildings and a road.

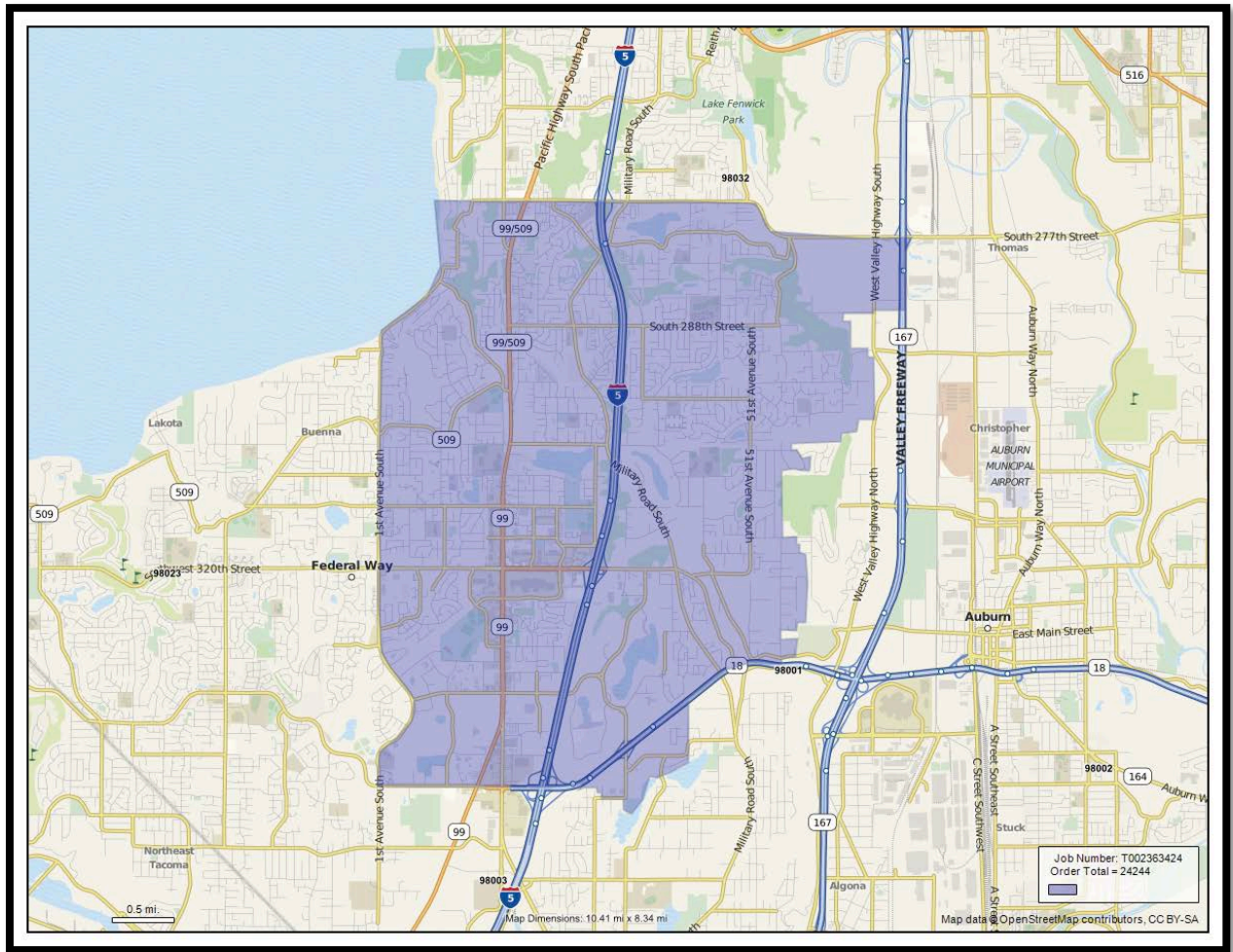
Appendix 2: Open house outreach materials

Appendix 2.1: Email to project listserv announcing launch of online open house



Appendix 2.2: Front and back view of open house postcards delivered to residences in a specified radius within the Federal Way City Center area, delivered Oct. 1.

Appendix 2.3: Open house postcard distribution map



Appendix 2.4: City of Federal Way Facebook event for City Center Access open house

Federal Way, WA added an event.
October 3 at 9:54 AM · 🌐

THIS THURSDAY AT 5 PM
City Center Access Open House
Federal Way, WA · Federal Way
17 people interested

★ Interested

👍 4

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

PUBLIC NOTICE

**FEDERAL WAY CITY CENTER ACCESS PROJECT
PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Federal Way will host an Open House:

updated time

Thursday, Oct. 10, 2019: 5:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Federal Way Community Center
876 S 333rd Street, Federal Way, Washington

The City of Federal Way is leading the City Center Access Project, which is proposing solutions to improve access to the City Center and surrounding areas around the S 320th Street corridor near I-5. The City is proposing solutions in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), Sound Transit, Pierce Transit, South King Fire and Rescue, and King County.

Attendees at the open house will learn about the preferred solution at S 324th Street to reduce congestion in the City Center including local roadway and non-motorized improvements, learn how community input shaped these solutions, meet the project team and ask questions, and weigh in on the preferred solution before the City Council meeting on November 5 and vote in late 2019. Residents can participate in person on October 10 or through our online open house from October 1-14, 2019 at www.federalwaycitycenter.org.

PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BE ACCEPTED during the in person and online open house.

#872763
9/20/19, 9/27/19

Appendix 2.6: Flyer for City Center Access online and in-person open house given to businesses in the area to publicly display.

Learn about proposed traffic improvements in the City Center



Attend the open house

Are you frustrated with traffic back-ups through Federal Way? This problem is getting worse as the City grows, with traffic on S 320th Street backing up I-5. Attend an open house to learn about the City's preferred solution to improve access to the City Center and surrounding areas around the S 320th Street corridor near I-5.

Join us at an open house to:

- Learn about the preferred solution at S 324th Street to reduce congestion in the City Center, including local roadway and non-motorized improvements.
- Learn how community input shaped these solutions.
- Meet the project team and ask questions.
- Weigh in on the preferred solution before the City Council meeting on November 5 and vote in late 2019.

ATTEND THE OPEN HOUSE:
Thursday, Oct. 10
5 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
 Federal Way Community Center
 876 S 333rd St.
 Federal Way, WA

QUESTIONS?

Contact us
 Naveen Chandra, Senior Capital Engineer
 Naveen.Chandra@cityof.federalway.com
 253-835-2729

Visit federalwaycitycenter.org

This flyer talks about a public meeting about traffic in downtown Federal Way. If you would like to receive it in Korean or Spanish, please call the project hotline at 253-835-2714.

Esta hoja informativa es sobre el proyecto Acceso al Centro de la Ciudad, relacionado con el tránsito en el centro de Federal Way. Para recibirlo en español, llame a la línea directa del proyecto: 253.835.2714.

Can't make the in-person meeting? Participate online!

Learn about the interchange solutions and comment online from Oct. 1 - 14 at federalwaycitycenter.org

이 자료표(차량보조표)는 페더럴 웨이 시내 교통과 관련된 도심부 접근 프로젝트에 대해 이야기하는 것입니다. 당신이 이를 한국어로 받고자 하는 경우, 253.835.2714에서 프로젝트 핫라인에 문의하시기 바랍니다.



Federal Way
CITY CENTER ACCESS PROJECT



Washington State
Department of Transportation



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Table VI Statement to Public: The City of Federal Way entered into consultation with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 regarding this document against any persons on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, origin, sex, marital status, religion, or national origin. The purpose of this consultation is to identify any potential benefits and services resulting from this project that may be available to all persons.

Alternative formats: Persons with disabilities may require this information. The person and suggest alternative formats by calling the project hotline at 253-835-2729. Persons who are deaf and hard of hearing may call Washington State toll-free toll-free relay service by dialing 7-1-1 and hearing 253-835-2729.

Appendix 3: Online open house

The screenshot shows a webpage for the City Center Access Project. At the top left is the City of Federal Way logo with the tagline "Centered on Opportunity". To the right of the logo is a navigation menu with the following items: "Project Overview", "Solution", "Project Status", and "What's Next". The main header area features a background image of a city street with a bus and cars. Overlaid on this image is the text "City Center Access Project" in a large white font, and "Online Open House" in a smaller white font below it. Below the header is a white box with the text "Project Overview". The main content area is white and contains two columns of text. The left column contains a paragraph of text and a smaller paragraph below it. The right column contains a blue box with the text "Attend the in-person open house!" followed by the date and time "5:00 - 8:30 p.m. October 10, 2019" and the location "Federal Way Community Center". At the bottom of the page is a blue footer bar with the text "What is the Problem?" and a white box to its right.

CITY OF Federal Way
Centered on Opportunity

Project Overview Solution Project Status What's Next

City Center Access Project

Online Open House

Project Overview

This online open house is about a proposed interchange modification with an overcrossing at S 324th Street and extended I-5 access ramps serving S 320th Street and S 324th Street. We will present a summary of the comments from this open house at the Federal Way City Council meeting on November 5. The City Council will vote to confirm the proposed solution by the end of the year.

Scroll down to learn more and share your thoughts!

Attend the in-person open house!

5:00 - 8:30 p.m.
October 10, 2019
Federal Way Community Center

What is the Problem?