SR 20 and SR 525 – Island County Concurrency
Intersection Analysis

The RTPO, including Island County, has long-established goals and policies that emphasize a multimodal approach to address mobility needs. Strategies that reduce vehicular traffic, particularly during peak demand periods, will enable better utilization of the existing transportation system, and may delay the need for costly intersection capacity improvements. Funding for our transportation system is extremely limited today, and will be even more difficult to obtain in the future.

The intent of the SR 20 and SR 525 Island County Concurrency Intersection Analysis is to provide information needed for broader regional planning discussions that weigh the cost and effectiveness of pursuing intersection capacity improvements in the context of a broader set of multimodal alternatives – such as improving transit and non-motorized transportation, and reducing travel demand – that may be more cost effective.

Island County, WSDOT and RTPO staff are working together on an analysis of ten intersections on SR 20 and SR 525 to determine if, or when, they will experience vehicle delays that exceed the adopted level of service (LOS) standard for concurrency, and to provide an estimate of the cost to increase intersection capacity. We have completed our traffic analysis. Two intersections currently do not meet the LOS standard, and five more will fail to meet the LOS standard by or before 2035.

We are working on conceptual cost estimates and layouts for capacity improvements at those intersections that fall below the LOS standard. We will have more information available in Spring 2012. Island County will use this information in its multi-modal planning for the Transportation Element update, scheduled to begin later this year.

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