



July 13, 2018

The Honorable Steve Hobbs
Chair, Senate Transportation Committee
PO Box 40444
Olympia, WA 98504-0444

The Honorable Judy Clibborn
Chair, House Transportation Committee
PO Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

David Schumacher
Director, Office of Financial Management
P.O. Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

RE: Implementing Practical Design Connecting Washington Project Title and Scope Change Request

Dear Senator Hobbs, Representative Clibborn and Director Schumacher,

The Washington State Department of Transportation requests legislative approval for scope changes for a project consistent with the process outlined in RCW 47.01.480(1)(a). The statute states practical design-related changes to the scope of a Connecting Washington project may be proposed by the department for legislative approval "... if the projects intended performance is substantially unchanged and the local governments and interested stakeholders impacted by the project have been consulted and have reviewed the proposed changes." Consistent with the process established by the Office of Financial Management and the Legislature, the Washington State Department of Transportation is submitting the required documentation (see attachment) for review and legislative approval of the proposed changes. The following is a summary of this proposal:

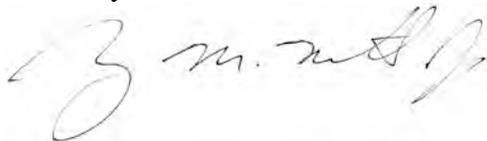
Project List ID	LEAP Document 2018-1 Title	Proposed Project Title
L1000120	SR 18 Eastbound Off-Ramp	SR 164 East Auburn Access Project

Senator Hobbs, Representative Clibborn and Director Schumacher
Practical Design Connecting Washington Project Title and Scope Change Request
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Project List ID	LEAP Document 2018-1 Project Description	Proposed Project Description
L1000120	Constructs an eastbound SR 18 off-ramp with connection to SR 164.	Due to growth and development, the western portion of SR 164 experiences congestion exceeding capacity resulting in an increased rate of pedestrian and vehicle collisions. The project will provide congestion relief, enhance safety, improve travel reliability for people and goods, and address travel demand. The improvements will support the population growth, well-being, and economic development of the local communities.

Please contact Jay Alexander at (360) 705-7121 or alexanja@wsdot.wa.gov if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,



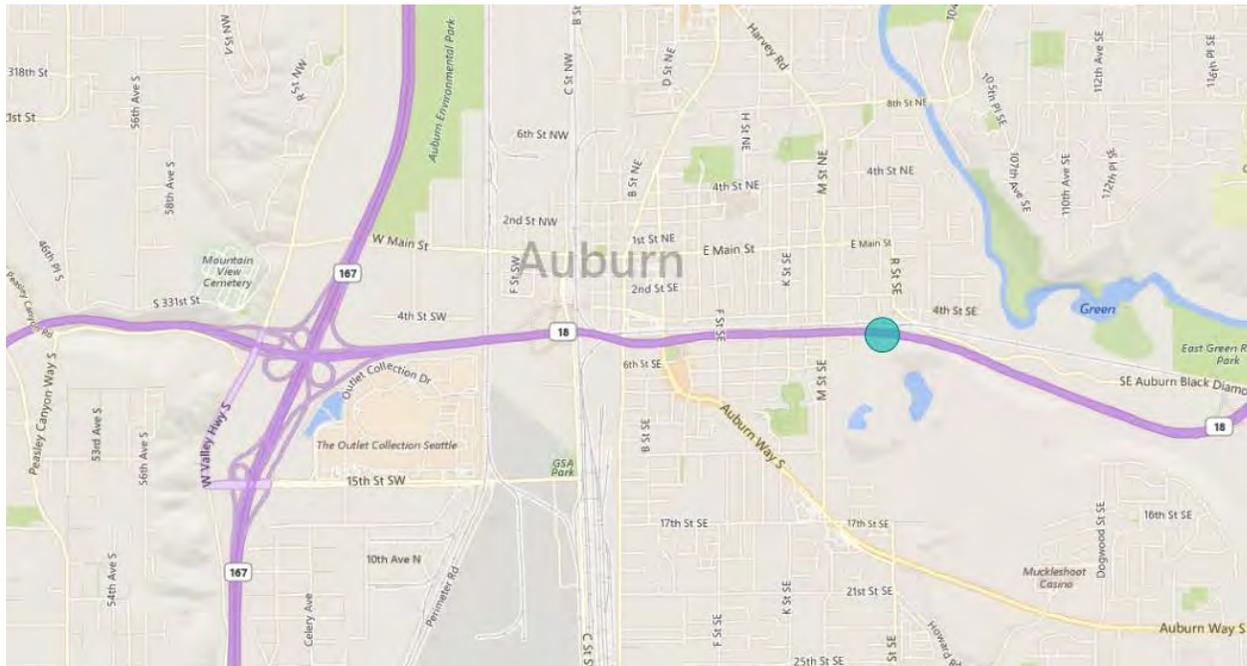
Roger Millar, PE, FASCE, FAICP
Secretary of Transportation

RM:gl
Enclosure

Type of Change: ✓ Title ✓ Scope

LEAP Transportation Document 2018-1 as Developed March 5, 2018

Project Title: SR 18 Eastbound Off-Ramp (L1000120)
Project Description: Constructs an eastbound SR 18 off-ramp with connection to SR 164.
Program: Improvement **County:** King
WSDOT Region: Northwest **Leg. District:** 31



Source: <http://fiscal.wa.gov/TransportationMaps>
Accessed June 4, 2018

Proposed Project Title:
SR 164 East Auburn Access project

Proposed Project Description:
Due to growth and development, the western portion of SR 164 experiences congestion exceeding capacity resulting in an increased rate of pedestrian and vehicle collisions. The project will provide congestion relief, enhance safety, improve travel reliability for people and goods, and address travel demand. The improvements will support the population growth, wellbeing, and economic development of the local communities.

Justification of Need:**1. What is the requested change to this project description?**

The requested change more clearly describes the goals of improved travel reliability and enhanced safety along the western portion of SR 164. Further, this description, having been discussed more broadly with the Cities of Auburn and Enumclaw, as well as a broad group of stakeholders, is reflective of the desire to improve connectivity to SR 18 while also improving access to the entire Southeast King County region.

The initial project description only addresses the overarching need to improve connectivity between SR 18 and SR 164. However, this description was preliminary in nature and did not have the broad stakeholder involvement conducted during the recent study that identified the necessary associated access improvements along the SR 164 corridor.

2. Why is this change requested and does it impact the intended performance of the legislative scope? Describe the change.

The initial Connecting Washington legislative project title and description were reflective of the acknowledged need to improve access from SR 18 to the SR 164 corridor, but were created without the benefit of ongoing project scoping exercises with a broad range of Stakeholders. These exercises have brought together members of WSDOT, King County, the City of Auburn, the City of Enumclaw, the FHWA, and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe to more clearly define the goals of improved access along this vital corridor.

The requested change allows WSDOT and all Stakeholders the flexibility to pursue a solution that more appropriately meets the regional performance needs and addresses existing issues on both SR 18 and SR 164. Further, the project, as described in the proposed description, considers practical solutions and stretches available funds to the greatest extent possible. Funds could be used for permitting, preliminary design, right-of-way and construction.

3. Have the impacted local governments and stakeholders been consulted and reviewed the proposed change? What are the reactions to the requested change?

The Cities of Auburn and Enumclaw as well as King County, in consultation and partnership with WSDOT, have been engaged as a steering committee to help guide the initial Interchange Justification Report and EIS Scoping process. This Steering Committee has been in place since the fall of 2016 and has provide a forum to discuss the project and obtain feedback from the Committee Agencies.

In general, all Steering Committee members are in agreement that Corridor improvements are necessary and have been engaged in development and review of the purpose and need for the project.