

Bellevue College Connection







Overview

Effective transit can make a community more livable, more accessible, more sustainable, and enhance local quality of life. When complete, the Bellevue College Connection Project will combine regional and local transit enhancements with pedestrian, bicycle, and trail infrastructure improvements and private and non-profit investments to dramatically improve mobility options and spur redevelopment along the I-90 corridor.

Project Benefits

Supporting the all-day transit market.

Frequent transit service depends on transitsupportive land use to remain viable, and more compact urban neighborhoods depend on transit to be livable. Bellevue College is a major asset not only for the I-90 corridor but for the regional transit network as a whole. With some 36,000 students enrolled annually, Bellevue College is the third largest higher education institution in Washington State serving a continually growing demand for higher education. Transit is the primary mode of travel for 30% of students commuting to campus, up 10% from 2010. The Bellevue College Connection project supports both the campus' evolution, including planned international housing on campus, and connections for commuters to major employers in the area, including T-Mobile and Expedia, among others.





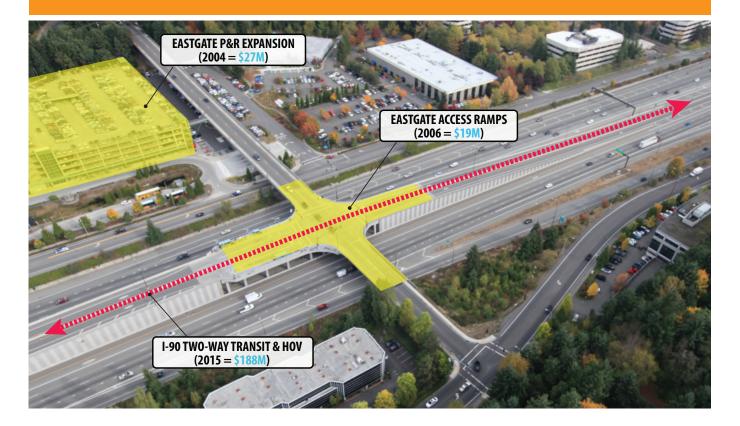
Enhancing regional connections.

The Bellevue College Connection project will significantly improve mobility along the north-south High Capacity Transit (HCT) corridor through East Bellevue between two major Bellevue hubs: Eastgate and Crossroads. This would more directly connect Eastgate and Bellevue College to the broader regional transit network.



Leveraging existing transit investments.

The Bellevue College Connection maximizes the return on investment of existing and anticipated public transportation projects in the I-90 corridor by coordinating with local and regional transit efforts to identify the types of service and capital features required to meet Bellevue's future mobility needs.



Improving transit speed and reliability.

Enhancing the transit connection between the Eastgate Park & Ride and Bellevue College – both major transit hubs – and points beyond will significantly improve transit operations and service delivery in the region. At present, the Park & Ride and Bellevue College are less than a half mile apart as the crow flies. Unfortunately, terrain and the road network make this a very difficult connection. Coaches travel out to 148th Avenue and turn onto Eastgate Way; this requires three signalized left turns in the northbound direction, in addition to significant added distance. The Bellevue College Connection project will dramatically improve the average speed of coaches in the Eastgate area, resulting in improved provision of cost-efficient and effective bus transit service and potential for increased ridership.















Collaborating with our partners.

Developing a successful transit corridor requires new funding sources, strong partnerships among public agencies, and increased involvement of non-profit and private sector entities. When partnerships coalesce around a project like the Bellevue College Connection, opportunities are realized to enhance connectivity between different modes of transportation and to contribute to a positive community identity. Over the last two years, the City of Bellevue invested in planning, preliminary design, and environmental work for the Bellevue College Connection project. A local match of near-term capital funding is available to advance this priority project.





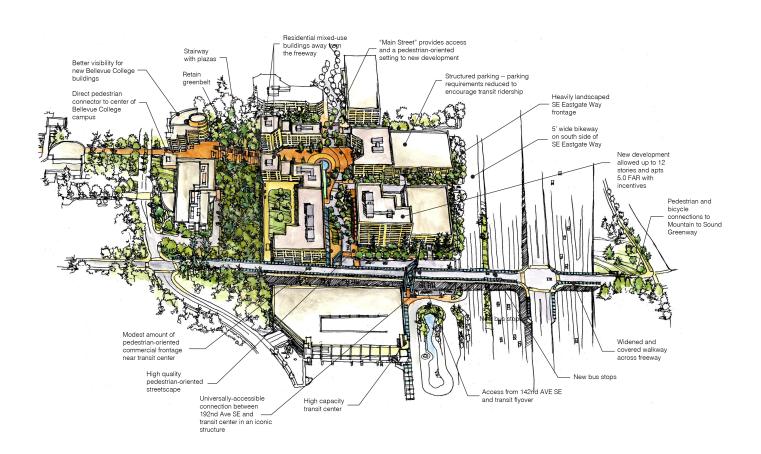


Catalyst for Transit Oriented Development.

Over the next 20 years, the I-90 corridor will experience many improvements that will focus, connect, and enhance the region. In Bellevue, the most extensive and focused development will occur around the Eastgate Park & Ride, Bellevue College, Lincoln Executive Center site, and surrounding parcels. The community's goal is to facilitate the evolution of this area into a walkable, bikable, transit-oriented, multiuse center where people work, live, shop, learn, and recreate. The integration of:

- 1. the Eastgate Park & Ride,
- 2. a cluster of mixed-use residential, retail, and office buildings around a new pedestrian-friendly "main street", and
- 3. a more visually and institutionally prominent Bellevue College

will create a vibrant urban neighborhood supported by a balanced transportation system that emphasizes transit and non-motorized connectivity.



Refining multi-modal connections.

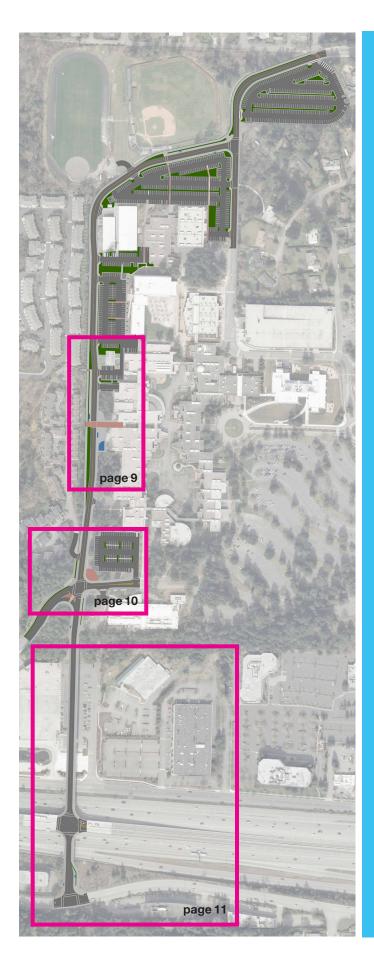
Momentum is building to complete the "Eastgate gap" in the Mountains to Sound Greenway trail – the largest remaining connection linking the Seattle waterfront to Central Washington. The Bellevue College Connection project enhances this facility of statewide significance. Improved walkways and pedestrian cover are added to the 142nd Avenue SE bridge, strengthening the connection between the flyover transit stop, the new main street, and Bellevue College. North of the bridge, improvements would be made on Snoqualmie River Road, which includes upgraded pavement to support buses, sidewalks, accessible bus stops, and the south entrance intersection. Bicycle and walking improvements to Eastgate Way and the MTSG Trail weave the pieces of Eastgate together for non-motorized users. Additional bike routes, sidewalks, and paths throughout the area create a more integrated non-motorized network.











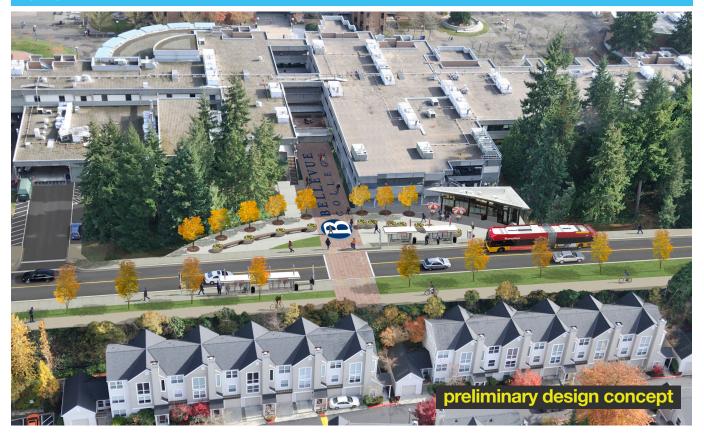
The **Bellevue College Connection** Multimodal

Transportation Corridor is located between the intersection of 142nd Place SE and SE 36th Street on the south end and SE 24th Street and Kelsey Creek Road on the north end. The corridor spans the length of the 142nd PI SE Bridge from SE 36th St to SE 32nd Street, continues north along Snoqualmie River Road to its intersection with Kelsey Creek Road, and proceeds north to SE 24th Street. This multimodal corridor as proposed and reflected in the preliminary design concepts presented here is intended to support pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users.

existing

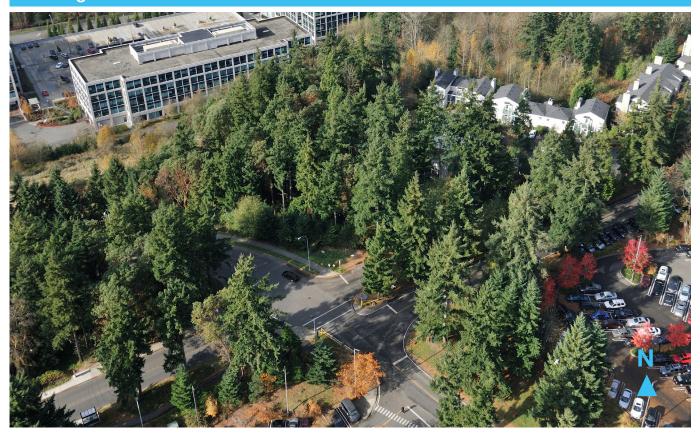


proposed





existing



proposed



existing



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Prepared by: **City of Bellevue** Transportation Department March 2014