Why is the city studying I-405 access in south downtown Bellevue?

The City of Bellevue and WSDOT have worked to improve mobility and address congestion on I-405 since the late 1990s. WSDOT’s I-405 Master Plan and the Bellevue Comprehensive Plan envision an I-405 interchange in south downtown Bellevue to improve access to and from south downtown Bellevue.

This year, the City of Bellevue will help identify a preferred alternative for a potential new interchange. The work will position the city for future funding opportunities. This study will also help property owners and developers plan for future development in the area.
Improving I-405 access in south downtown Bellevue

Legend
- Link light rail station
- Link light rail
- Grand Connection
- King County’s Eastrail
- Potential I-405 access
- Main Street linear buffer gateway, Lake to Lake greenway trails
Nearly two decades of planning by the City of Bellevue, WSDOT and Sound Transit have shaped the future of downtown Bellevue, southwest Bellevue and Wilburton. The city envisions a lively area - where people can easily access light rail, future developments, residential areas and more.

- **2002**
  - **I-405 Master Plan:** Included a new half interchange in south Bellevue to improve access to and from the south.

- **2008**
  - **Sound Transit 2:** Included East Link light rail connecting Bellevue to Redmond, Mercer Island and Redmond in 2023.

- **2009**
  - **Bellevue Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan:** Identified more than 400 projects making walking and biking in Bellevue safer and easier, including the Lake to Lake Trail Bicycle Priority Corridor on Main Street and a multipurpose path on the Main Street replacement bridge.

- **2009**
  - **Bellevue Northeast Second Street Preliminary Design:** Guided the expansion of Northeast Second Street and private development. The City of Bellevue conducted a review in 2017.

- **2015**
  - **Bellevue Comprehensive Plan:** Policy guidance for transportation, land use, parks, recreation and open space. Amended in 2019 for Southwest Bellevue policies.

- **2016**
  - **I-405 Master Plan Design - Northeast Second Street and Main Streets:** Documented options to replace Main Street over I-405 in a manner that is compatible with multiple future half interchange concepts in south Bellevue.

- **2019**
  - **Bellevue Comprehensive Plan amendments:** Updated the plan to include policy framework for the southwest Bellevue Subarea Plan and East Main Transit Oriented Development.
Guiding principles of the study:

- Improve access and efficiency
- Encourage safe multimodal connections
- Support economic development
- Align with existing plans and policies
- Engage stakeholders and community
- Manage cost

How to get involved

Visit [bellevuewa.gov](http://bellevuewa.gov) and search “South Downtown I-405 Access Study” to learn more.

Participate in online open houses this summer and fall at [EngagingBellevue.com](http://EngagingBellevue.com).

Contact the study team to learn more or schedule a briefing.

Shuming Yan | Engineering Manager
425-452-7858
syan@bellevuewa.gov

---

### South Downtown Bellevue I-405 Access Study Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Study Process</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study kickoff</td>
<td>Introduce study</td>
<td>Develop and screen alternatives</td>
<td>Evaluate alternatives</td>
<td>Identify preferred alternative</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engagement Process</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online open house</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Online open house</td>
<td></td>
<td>Documentation Community engagement report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder engagement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

The City of Bellevue assures that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin, or sex as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and related statutes, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any City of Bellevue program or activity. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated may file a complaint with the ADA/Title VI Administrator. For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact the ADA/Title VI Administrator at 425-452-6168.