

Seattle, WA 98104-3856

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Name of Proposal: Mount Si Bridge No. 2550A Replacement Project (CIP 200994)

Description of Proposal: King County Road Services Division is proposing to replace the Mount Si Bridge No. 2550A to correct functional, safety, and structural deficiencies associated with the existing bridge. The bridge is load limited, has limited sight distance for vehicles, and the roadway width is substandard and insufficient to accommodate vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrian traffic. The bridge is deteriorated, subject to river scour and structurally deficient.

The existing two-lane bridge is 20 feet wide and 290 feet long, including a 170-foot-long steel truss. It was originally built in 1904 over the Green River and was relocated to its current location over the Middle Fork Snoqualmie River in 1955. It is the oldest roadway bridge in King County, is a King County Landmark and is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Properties.

The new bridge alignment will cross the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River approximately 100 feet downstream (westerly) of the existing bridge. The new steel truss will have a main span of 240 feet, an overall length of 360 feet, and a width of 46 feet. It will include two 11-foot travel lanes, one eight-foot shoulder and a four-foot shoulder with six-foot-wide sidewalk on the east side. Abutments and piers will be built of reinforced concrete on drilled shafts or spread footing foundations outside (landward) of the ordinary high water mark of the Middle Fork of the Snoqualmie River. In addition to the direct roadway-related improvements, the proposed project will include the expansion of parking facilities serving Little Si Trailhead managed by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Under a pending Interagency Agreement, King County will construct a new parking lot north of the bridge, which will be funded by WDNR.

The existing bridge will remain open during construction to accommodate local and recreational access. Pending submittal of a detailed analysis to and approval by the King County Landmarks Commission, and with their issuance of a Certificate of Appropriateness for alterations or demolition of a King County landmark, the existing bridge may be removed and rehabilitated for use as a pedestrian bridge elsewhere or documented and demolished. Rehabilitation and retention of the bridge for pedestrian use at its current location is being considered but is unlikely due to location conflicts with the new bridge.

The project will include a variety of mitigation components to compensate for impacts from the bridge project. As part of this mitigation, KCRSD will conduct mitigation at the future King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Tanner Landing Park. These mitigation actions will include removal of noxious weeds, planting of approximately 300 trees and shrubs, and excavation of soil from the 100-year floodplain of the Middle Fork

Snoqualmie River. Additional floodplain excavation will take place within the construction project area to compensate for floodway capacity impacts at the new bridge site.

Location of Proposal: The proposed bridge replacement and parking lot are located southeast of the City of North Bend in Section 11, Township 23, Range 08 east, W.M. The bridge conveys Southeast Mount Si Road (County Road 86650) over the Middle Fork Snogualmie River approximately four miles above Snoqualmie Falls. The project location is on Thomas Guide page 660.

Proponent and Lead Agency:

King County Department of Transportation

Road Services Division

The lead agency for the proposal has determined that the project does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. The information is available to the public on request (for a nominal photocopying fee) or can be reviewed in the office free of charge.

This Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) is issued under Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for fourteen (14) days from the date of issuance for the DNS per WAC 197-11-502. Any comments regarding this project must be submitted by telephone or in writing by 4:30 PM on November 28, 2005. If you have any questions, concerns, or require additional information, please call the senior engineer or the environmental engineer for the project as listed below.

Responsible Official:

Linda Dougherty

Position/title:

Director, Road Services Division

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Contact Person(s):

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Erick Thompson, Senior Environmental Engineer

206-296-8747

Signature _

Road Services Division

Comments and Appeals: Although there is no administrative appeal of this threshold Determination of Non-Significance (King County Codes 20.20.020 and 20.44.120), the County welcomes your comments. Comments received by November 28, 2005 will be reviewed by the lead agency.

Attachment: Vicinity Map