



156th Street NE

Railroad Overcrossing

Total Request: \$17,700,000

Project Background

The 156th Street NE Railroad Overcrossing project in Marysville proposes to reinstate the public railroad crossing with an overcrossing at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) mainline track at 156th Street NE just west of Interstate 5. This crossing was once a public at-grade road crossing that was closed by BNSF and the WUTC in the early 2000s without recognition of future growth needs west of I-5. Reinstating this crossing will support future development and provide much-needed expanded public access to and from I-5 for north Snohomish County residents and businesses.



Former at-grade RR crossing closed in early 2000s

Access

Current access to and from the freeway in this vicinity occurs at the interchange of I-5 and State Route 531 (172nd Street NE). A future I-5 interchange at 156th Street NE is funded under Connecting Washington (\$42M, 2025-31). Once the interchange is complete, the west leg will not fully function as traffic west of I-5 will essentially be landlocked by the parallel railroad line. While the City has planned connections through the developing Lakewood Triangle, a railroad overcrossing at 156th Street NE will better accommodate traffic circulation and growth in the region.

Development

The City of Marysville, in partnership with adjacent property owners, constructed the overcrossing at 156th and I-5 in 2013 to spur development and provide access to the newly designated regional Cascade Industrial Center and the Lakewood Triangle. Tremendous commercial and industrial growth is underway in the Cascade Industrial Center and within the Lakewood Triangle. With full buildout expected within the next 20 years and continued growth in unincorporated Snohomish County west of I-5, the area will see increased congestion and significant daily traffic impacts along SR 531 (172nd Street NE) and I-5.

Improvements

Total project cost for the 156th Street NE Overcrossing project that would span the BNSF Railway track is estimated at \$17.7M including design, permitting, right-of-way and construction. This estimate is based on a preliminary design completed in 2019. The project is supported by BNSF, WSDOT, Snohomish County and other local agencies. The City's request of \$17.7M would fully fund the project.



Overcrossing at I-5 & 156th Street NE