Corridor Sketch Summary

WSDOT's Corridor Sketch Initiative is a collaborative planning process with agency partners to identify performance gaps and select high-level strategies to address them on the 304 corridors statewide. This Corridor Sketch Summary acts as an executive summary for one corridor. Please review the User Guide for Corridor Sketch Summaries prior to using information on this corridor:


This 44-mile long corridor is located in eastern Washington, east of Sprague. The corridor runs between the unincorporated town of Steptoe and the city of Sprague. The route passes through the towns of St John and Lamont, and the unincorporated community of Ewan. The corridor’s character is predominantly rural as it passes through rolling landscape. Land uses include single-family residential, manufacturing, wholesale retail, commercial, and recreation within Steptoe and St John with agriculture, some single-family residences, and open space outside of those communities. Within Sprague, land uses include single-family homes, manufacturing, commercial, open space, and utilities. The corridor crosses over multiple creeks and passes Folsom, Crooked Knee, Rock, and Sheep lakes. Three railroads, Palouse River and Coulee City, Union Pacific, and BNSF, are located throughout the corridor, two of which are in Sprague and St John.

**Current Function**

State Route 23 traverses Whitman and Lincoln counties and extends between US Route 195 in the town of Steptoe and SR 28 in the city of Harrington. This corridor is a rural-principal arterial and is not a designated freight economic corridor. At the US 195 junction with SR 23 is a popular recreational tourist attraction “Steptoe Butte” State Park Heritage Site that draws many visitors, and the corridor is one of the two state routes to travel to the destination. A segment of this corridor through St John has been identified as a state highway operating as the community's main street. This is a corridor of importance or significance for the Colville and Spokane tribes. There is no fixed route transit service on the corridor. Bicycle and pedestrian usage is permitted on shoulders and sidewalks in St John.

**Future Function**

Based on the projected population, land use, and economic trends, the future function of this corridor is expected to remain the same.
Highlights and Performance

This corridor is mainly a two-lane, undivided highway. The annual average daily traffic on this corridor is highest at the outskirts of Sprague and lowest in the community of Ewan.

What's working well?
- The entire corridor performs above WSDOT's congestion threshold.
- The entire corridor is rated low for climate vulnerability impacts.

What needs to change?
- The entire corridor’s pavement conditions have not been surveyed.
- One bridge preservation need has been identified on the corridor.
- There is limited vertical clearance under the abandoned railroad bridge near Lamont.
- One fish passage barrier is present on the corridor.

WSDOT monitors the state system in ongoing efforts to track asset performance. For this corridor, WSDOT finds:

### Mobility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of Corridor Congested (Statewide Screen)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0% - 20% % Congested</td>
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<td>40% - 60%</td>
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### Environment

- Fish Barriers: 87.5% Passable, 12.5% to Do
- Noise Walls: 0% Built, 0% Proposed
- Chronic Deficiencies: 0% Resolved, 0% Unresolved
- Wildlife: 0 Structures in Place, 3 High Priority Miles
- Stormwater Treatment: 0 BMPs, Retrofit Prioritization in progress
- Zero % of Corridor with high potential for increased climate impacts
- None Wetland Mitigation Locations
- None Historical Bridges

What we heard from our partners

WSDOT is interested in collecting feedback from our partners. To provide feedback on this corridor, please contact the office indicated on the last page of this document.

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1) 2015 data unless otherwise noted. 2) For more information see the User Guide for Corridor Sketch Summaries at http://bit.ly/WSDOTcorridorsketch
**Strategies**

WSDOT identified the following strategies and associated actions to keep the corridor working well and address performance gaps. Regional partners collaborated on high-level mobility strategies. The identified strategies are not meant to be all-inclusive, nor an established list of priorities. Further evaluation is needed before any strategy can be recommended as a solution to address performance. Project funding decisions will take place at the programming phase, and are subject to statewide prioritization. For more strategy information, visit the Corridor Sketch Summary User Guide.

<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Policy Goals / Strategies</strong></th>
<th><strong>Description and Near-Term Actions</strong></th>
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| **Economic Vitality**         | *Under Development*  
*WSDOT will continue to work with partners in developing strategies to address economic vitality.* |
| **Environment**               | *Protect and Maintain*  
*Protect and maintain existing assets that provide environmental function (these include WSDOT’s mitigation sites, storm water systems, fish passable culverts).* |
|                               | *Enhance or Restore*  
*Enhance or restore natural areas and environmental functions associated with the multimodal transportation system.* |
|                               | *Fish Barrier Retrofit*  
*WSDOT has prioritized the removal of state-owned culverts that block habitat for salmon and steelhead. See interactive map of uncorrected fish barriers at http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/FishPassage/default.htm.* |
| **Mobility**                  | *Assessment*  
*A mobility performance strategy has not been identified by WSDOT.* |
| **Preservation**              | *Maintenance*  
*Based on expenditure history, it is expected that the top three activities will continue to be maintenance on snow and ice control, ditches, and pavement repair.* |
|                               | *Pavement*  
*WSDOT has identified one Pavement action in the next six years encompassing 100% of the corridor.* |
| **Stewardship**               | *Planning*  
*Under Practical Solutions, the Corridor Sketch Initiative identifies corridor performance, and assesses alternative strategies to improve the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the transportation system.* |
For more information

To find out more information about this corridor or how to get involved, please contact:

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Washington State Department of Transportation’s Corridor Sketch Initiative is a set of planning activities that engage our partners to define the context and performance information for all of the state’s 304 highway corridors. The Corridor Sketch complements and supports regional planning processes in Washington. It is not intended to duplicate, substitute or compete with other planning efforts; nor is it intended to generate lists of projects.

Under 23 U.S. Code § 148 and 23 U.S. Code § 409, safety data, reports, surveys, schedules, lists compiled or collected for the purpose of identifying, evaluating, or planning the safety enhancement of potential crash sites, hazardous roadway conditions, or railway-highway crossings are not subject to discovery or admitted into evidence in a Federal or State court proceeding or considered for other purposes in any action for damages arising from any occurrence at a location mentioned or addressed in such reports, surveys, schedules, lists, or data.

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Este material se puede hacer disponible en un formato alternativo por correo electrónico al equipo de Asuntos de diversidad/ADA WSDOT en wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov o llamando gratis, 855-362-4ADA (4232). Personas sordas o con problemas de audición pueden solicitar llamando el relé de estado de Washington al 711.

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