Corridor 403 - SR 260: US 395 Jct (Connell) to SR 26 Jct (Washtucna) Summary

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:

SR 260: US 395 Jct (Connell) to SR 26 Jct (Washtucna)

This 30-mile long east-west corridor is located in south central Washington. The corridor includes 6.5 miles where State Route 261 is coincident with SR 260. The corridor runs between the US Route 395 junction in the community of Connell and the SR 26 junction in the town of Washtucna. The route travels through the Connell, Kahlotus, and Washtucna. The corridor is predominantly rural in character with agricultural land uses between the towns. The natural vegetation includes grasses, sagebrush and other shrub vegetation. There are rock outcroppings in some locations as well. Within the towns, land use consists of single-family homes and a few commercial businesses. This route traverses through the Washtucna Coulee on the scenic Columbia Plateau, passing through dryland farms and ranches and the Missoula floodplain. The Washtucna Coulee is a dry coulee formed by the Missoula flood, and offers geologic views. In addition, between Kahlotus and Washtucna, the corridor parallels the Columbia Plateau Trail, which was transformed from a defunct Union Pacific rail line.

Current Function

SR 260 serves Franklin and Adams counties, and links SR 17, west of Connell, and SR 26 in Washtucna. The corridor functions as a connector to nearby communities and provide a farm to market route with connections to Snake River ports via SR 263 and SR 261. The segment of the corridor, which runs through Washtucna, has been identified as a state highway operating as the community's "main street". The route is a heavily used freight corridor efficiently moving people and goods throughout the region. This route also provides indirect access to recreational areas along the Snake River to the south, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Scooteney Park and Campground to the west, and Palouse Falls State Park south along SR 261. This segment intersects multiple state routes including US 395, SR 21, SR 263, and SR 261, the last one providing a link to a Snake River crossing. There are no separate bicyclist and pedestrian facilities between Connell and Kahlotus. In some locations, a wide shoulder can be used, but in other locations, the shoulders are narrow making it more difficult for pedestrians and bicyclists. East of Kahlotus, the Columbia Plateau Trail provides a non-motorized route.

Future Function

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





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Highlights and Performance

The segment of SR 260 and 261 is a two-lane, undivided, unsignalized highway. The annual average daily traffic on this corridor is highest in Connell at the junction with US 395 and lowest in Kahlotus near SR 263.

What's working well?

- This corridor operates above WSDOT adopted congestion thresholds.
- Roughly 97% of pavements surveyed are in fair or better condition.
- This corridor does not contain any fish passage barriers.

• The corridor is performing above adopted safety standards of Target Zero.

What needs to change?

• Shoulders are narrow and passing is difficult along the corridor.

- · Connections or access to alternate modes of transportation has not been identified.
- The narrow shoulders in some locations make it difficult for pedestrians and bicyclists to travel.

High	Low					Mobilit	y				
1,481	542	Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT)			Percent of Corridor Congested (Statewide Screen)						
26.3%	17.2%	Bus/Truck	Percent								
60.9 Number of Lane		f Lane Miles	5		0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%	
1		# of Signalized/Stop Controlled Intersections			% Congested % Not Congested						
\$2,62	8,000	Corridor Ir	nvestments	(2005-20	16)						
Preservation					Environment				Restore/ Enhance/		
Roadway Surface Type						Protect		otect	Assess		
					3	Fish Ban	riers	N	one	0% t	o Do
0%	0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%				100%	Noise Wa	Voise Walls 0% Built		0% Proposed		
	ACP	BST	PCCP	Bridge	•	Chronic					
Roadway Surface Condition (Percent of Surveyed Area)					Environmental		0% Resolved		0% Unresolved		
						Deficiend	cies				
0%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%	Wildlife		0.01			
Poor & Very Poor Fair Good & Very Good						Connecti	0 Structures in Place		0 High Priority Miles		
Corridor Bridge Preservation Needs					Stormwat	0 BMPs		Retrofit Prioritization in progress			
Border Bridge					Treatmen						
Bridge Repair Bridge Deck None						% of Corridor with high potential for increased				sed	
Bridg	Rehabilitate Bridge Paint Bridge Identified					Zero Climate Impacts					
	abilitate Br	uye	r ann Dhu				Wetland Mitigation Locations				
Reha	abilitate Br ace Bridge	-	Scour Rep			None		and the second	ocations		

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

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.

Strategies

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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.

Policy Goals / Strategies Description and Near-Term Actions

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, pavement repair, and vegetation control.					
Pavement	WSDOT has identified four Pavement actions in the next six years encompassing 83% 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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