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STANWOOD- SR 532 Bypass Virtual Open House

Stanwood, north Snohomish County, and Camano Island are beautiful places to live, work, and play. Our community is growing and will continue to grow over the next 30 years. With growth comes traffic. While increased traffic causes driver frustration, it also brings economic vitality to a community. The question becomes: how to manage traffic while promoting economic development and preserving community identity.

The City of Stanwood, in partnership with the Washington State Department of Transportation, Snohomish County, and Island County, is studying how to improve traffic flow and multimodal infrastructure to provide for all travelers on SR 532 within Stanwood and connecting communities from Island, Skagit, and Snohomish Counties. The goal of the project is to determine how best to improve transportation for our Stanwood / Camano community while ensuring that Stanwood maintains its historic downtown character and sense of place.

In 2020 the city conducted an origins and destinations study to better understand traffic flow on SR 532. The study showed that approximately 20% of the daily traffic on SR 532 heads north to Skagit County via 102nd Avenue or Pioneer Highway.

A new bypass road connecting SR 532 north to Skagit County has been suggested as a method to better distribute traffic volumes from SR 532 to I-5 and points north. A bypass road provides an opportunity to reimagine SR 532 through downtown Stanwood for all modes and users within the existing right of way. A multimodal SR 532 corridor will help to continue distributing traffic and alleviating congestion while maintaining an attractive downtown as the community grows.

Stanwood's vision of the future is to create a walkable downtown with wide sidewalks, walking trails, and bicycle paths. As part of this project, the city is considering how roundabouts placed in strategic locations along SR 532 can help improve traffic flow as well as improve pedestrian and bicycle mobility in the downtown core helping to preserve the city's historic downtown character and livability of its residents.

We want to hear from you. A community survey will be held online between June 21 and July 19, 2021. Click on the SR 532 Study link on the City's website (www.stanwoodwa.org) to learn about the project and take a short survey. With your help, we can collectively, as a community, make more informed decisions on how best to manage traffic and preserve our way of life.

For more information or to receive a printed copy of the survey, contact Patricia Love, Community Development Director, City of Stanwood at patricia.love@ci.stanwood.wa.us or call 360-454-5206.

