



DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: SE Covington-Sawyer Road Sightline Improvements Project #1138330

Date of Issue: May 19, 2022

Description of Proposal: As part of the Countywide High Collision Safety Program, King County Roads is proposing to implement a project to improve sightlines for drivers on SE Covington-Sawyer Road. The project occurs on a sharp curve with an approximate seven percent road slope. Tall trees and shrubs on the inside of the curve limit visibility, creating a minimum stopping sight distance of 134 feet, less than the required safe distance of 227 feet. This portion of roadway has been identified as a high-collision area, and the project goal is to increase the stopping sight distance to reduce the number of collisions that occur, thereby improving roadway user safety.

The project will clear vegetation, partially excavate the hillside on the inside of the curve, and construct a structural earth retaining wall. Following construction, the area above the wall will be planted with native trees and shrubs to compensate for the removal of vegetation necessary to accommodate construction of the wall. The area below the wall will be seeded with low-growing herbaceous vegetation to maintain sightlines. The project will not increase the capacity of the roadway or otherwise change the use of the site. The project will occur within the King County road right-of-way, as well as on two private parcels: 3622059009 and 3622059181. The project area is approximately 15,870 square feet (0.36 acre) in size.

The project is locally funded by King County. The project construction cost is estimated at \$875,000. Construction will be performed by a contractor. Project plans developed at the 60 percent design stage are attached to this checklist.

Location of Proposal: The project is located on SE Covington-Sawyer Road, approximately 200 feet southeast of 164th Place SE, in unincorporated King County. The project occurs in Section 36 of Township 22N and Range 05E, Willamette Meridian. This location can be found in the Thomas Brothers Guide on page 747, grid cell 7D.

Schedule: The project's construction schedule is dependent on acquisition of permits, approvals, and property needs. It is anticipated that construction of the project would begin in 2023 and be completed in 2023. Site restoration plantings will generally occur in the fall or winter following construction.

Proponent and Lead Agency: King County Department of Local Services, Road Services Division

The lead agency for the proposal determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. A State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed SEPA environmental checklist (ECL) and other information on file with the lead agency. A copy of the ECL is available on the project website at kingcounty.gov/Covington-SawyerRoad.

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This 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 issue, per WAC 197-11-502(3)(b).


Comments and Appeals: Although there is no administrative appeal of this threshold DNS (King County Code 20.44.120), the county welcomes your comments. **Any comments regarding this DNS must be received by June 7, 2022.** Comments may be submitted by email (recommended), US mail, or telephone.

All comments received by this deadline will be reviewed by the lead agency. If you have any questions or concerns, or require additional information, please contact Broch Bender, Communications Manager.

Contact Person:

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Signature:

DocuSigned by:

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Date: 5/13/2022

SEPA Responsible Official: Tricia Davis

Position/title: Road Services Division Director
Department of Local Services