



King County

Department of Local Services
Road Services Division

NOTICE OF ACTION TAKEN

NOTICE IS GIVEN UNDER SEPA, RCW 43.21C.080, THAT THE KING COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL SERVICES, ROAD SERVICES DIVISION, TOOK THE ACTION DESCRIBED IN (2) BELOW ON DECEMBER 16, 2022.

1. **Action Deadline:** Any action to set aside, enjoin, review, or otherwise challenge such action on the grounds of non-compliance with the provisions of Chapter 43.21C RCW (State Environmental Policy Act) shall be commenced on or before 4:30 p.m. on December 16, 2022.
2. **Description of Agency Action:** The King County Department of Local Services, Road Services Division (Roads) made a decision to proceed with the SE Covington-Sawyer Road Sightline Improvements Project #1138330. Following this Notice of Action Taken, Roads will obtain required permits and approvals for this project.
3. **Description of Proposal:** The SE Covington-Sawyer Road Sightline Improvements Project #1138330 is presently in the final Design Phase.

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. The project's construction schedule is dependent on acquisition of permits, approvals, and property needs. It is anticipated construction of the project would begin in 2024 and be completed in 2025. Timing for work within critical areas will be limited to what is allowed per the project's permit and approval conditions. Mitigation planting for unavoidable impacts to site vegetation will generally occur in the fall or winter following construction.

4. **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.

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5. **Type of Environmental Review under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA):** Roads, the SEPA lead agency for the proposal, reviewed project information, prepared a SEPA Environmental Checklist, and determined the project does not have probable significant adverse impacts on the environment, which resulted in issuance of a Determination of Nonsignificance on May 19, 2022, with a comment period that ended on June 7, 2022. A SEPA environmental impact statement is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c).

6. **Document Availability:** General project information is available on the project website at kingcounty.gov/Covington-SawyerRoad.

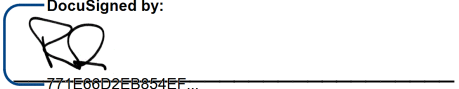
Additional project information on file with the lead agency can be made available by contacting the Roads Communications Manager (contact information below).

7. **Name of Agency, proponent or applicant giving notice:** King County Department of Local Services, Road Services Division

Contact Person:

Broch Bender, Communications Manager
206-263-1189, bbender@kingcounty.gov
King Street Center (Mail Stop: KSC-LS-0315)
201 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104-3856

8. **Person Filing Notice:** This notice is filed by:

Signature:  **Date:** 10/31/2022

SEPA Responsible Official: Tricia Davis

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