

West Side Highway Shoulder Widening and Overlay

Project Details



What is the project?

The project will restore the roadway surface and increase the shoulder widths throughout the two miles of project area. Culverts will be replaced, as needed, through the project area.

Why is the project needed?

The existing road surface is rutted, up to 1 inch deep in some locations. Additionally, the shoulders are narrow with steep fill slopes in some areas. The project improves safety for the traveling public by grinding down the existing pavement to remove ruts and overlaying with asphalt to restore a smooth driving surface and increasing the shoulder widths.

How does this impact me?

Traffic delays of up to 20 minutes may be possible at times. Check the weekly traffic delay details at www.co.cowlitz.wa.us/publicworks.

More Questions?

Roger Maurer P.E., Project Manager/Engineer, is available to answer additional questions at (360) 577-3030 ext. 6530 or mauerr@co.cowlitz.wa.us.



Project Timeline

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|  | Summer 2013 Mobilize, clear and grub, excavate shoulder and replace culverts as designed. |
|  | Summer–Fall 2013 Grind existing roadway surface and replace with asphalt, to be chip sealed in 2014. |
|  | Fall 2013 Finalize road improvements and demobilize. |

West Side Highway, from the Castle Rock city limits to milepost 2.69, is characterized by rutted pavement and narrow shoulders. The project will increase shoulder widths and grind down and replace the roadway surface.

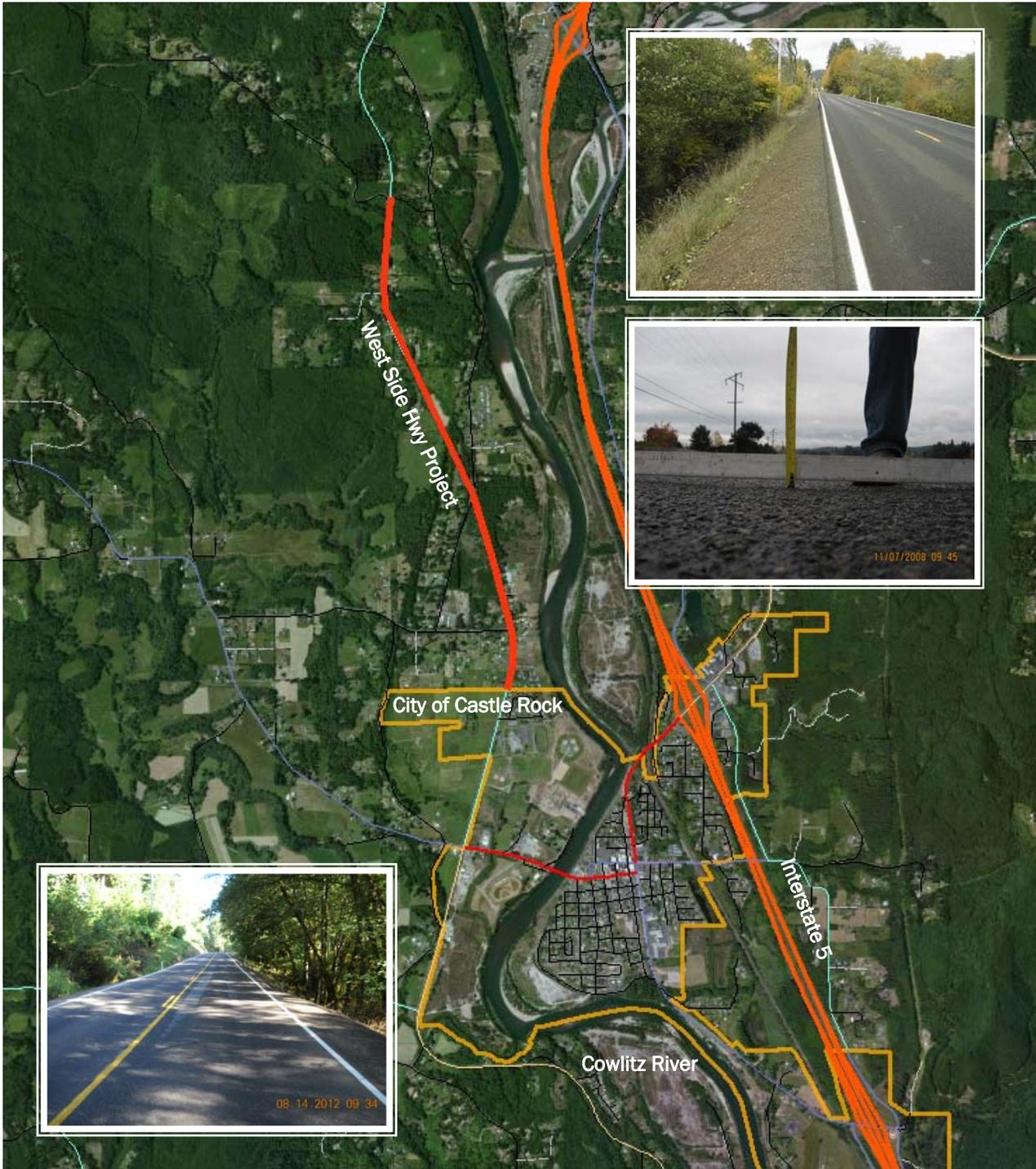


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Project Images

The existing road surface is rutted along the existing wheel paths. The top left photo illustrates the depth of ruts, shown here at over 1/2" deep. Roadway rutting can increase the risk of hydroplaning during rain storms. Ruts also increase the likelihood of potholes and other defects that impact driver safety and control.

The second targeted project action is to increase the shoulder widths through the area. Existing shoulders are narrow with some areas having steep slopes adjacent to the shoulder. The wider shoulders will increase the margin of safety for drivers.



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