

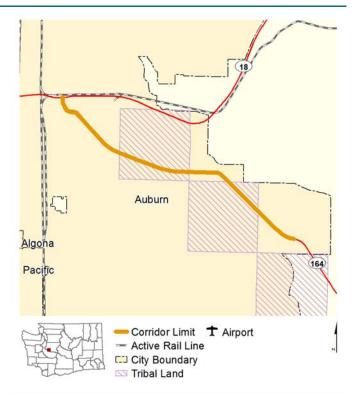
Corridor Sketch Summary

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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 164: SR 18 Jct (Auburn) to Academy Dr SE

This four-mile long, east-west corridor is located in southern King County. This corridor runs along State Route 164 within the city of Auburn between the SR 18 junction and Academy Drive SE near Auburn's city limits. The corridor is situated between the White and Green rivers which are south and north of the corridor, respectively. A portion of the corridor runs through the Muckleshoot Indian Reservation and the Muckleshoot Casino is near the middle of the corridor. The corridor is mainly suburban in character with residential and commercial developments being the most common land use throughout. The homes along the corridor become more concentrated and the density increases closer to SR 18. There are also significant industrial uses near the western end of the corridor. There are several schools on or near the corridor such as the Auburn Adventist Academy at the southeastern end. The corridor is primarily flat and there is a mix of coniferous and deciduous trees throughout the length of the corridor.



Current Function

SR 164 provides connection between SR 18 and SR 410 in the cities of Auburn and Enumclaw, respectively, and serves as a major rural access route for southern King County. This segment of SR 164 functions as an urban commuter, recreational, and freight corridor. The corridor also provides access to the Muckleshoot Indian Reservation including the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe's Casino and Whitewater Amphitheatre, located southeast of Auburn. Major traffic generators for the corridor include employment centers, such as the industrial areas in Auburn and Kent and commercial areas which include the Muckleshoot Casino. Recreational traffic uses the corridor to access the Lake Tapps area and the Mount Rainier National Park and Chinook Pass. King County Metro provides transit along the entire corridor and Auburn Station provides access to Sound Transit's Sounder commuter rail service which also helps accommodate demand during major events such as Mariners and Seahawks games. Bicyclists and pedestrians are present on the corridor, particularly where there are sidewalks.

Future Function

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

Highlights and Performance

For the southern half of this corridor, between Auburn's southeastern city limits and the Muckleshoot Casino, SR 164 is a two-lane, undivided highway with a center turn lane at major intersections. Between the Muckleshoot Casino and SR 18, the corridor becomes a generally four-lane, undivided highway with a center left turn lane. The annual average daily traffic on this corridor is highest at the SR 18 interchange in Auburn and lowest near the Auburn city limits.

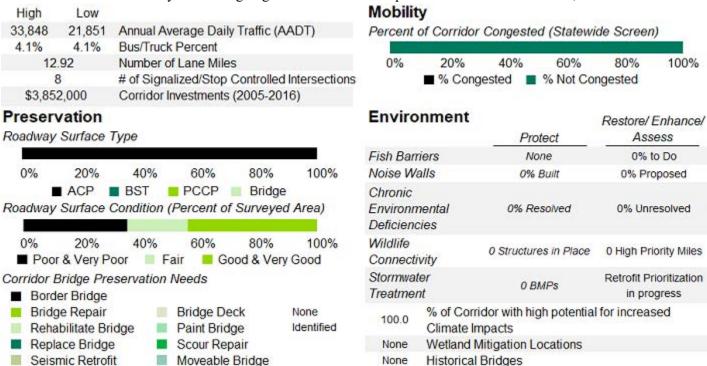
What's working well?

- The entire corridor performs above WSDOT's congestion threshold.
- There are no chronic environmental deficiencies or fish passage barrier present on the corridor.
- King County Metro provides transit on the entire corridor with access to Auburn Station which serves as a transit hub and transfer station.

What needs to change?

- Roughly 35% of surveyed pavements on the corridor are in poor to very poor condition.
- The corridor has minimal accommodations for nonmotorized traffic.
- Non-recurring congestion does occur at the SR 18 intersection and with events at the White River amphitheater.

WSDOT monitors the state system in ongoing efforts to track asset performance. For this corridor, WSDOT finds:



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 collected feedback from agency partners. Key themes included:

- Desire to widen SR 164 from Hemlock Street SE to Academy Drive SE to five lanes with a center turn lane.
- Auburn would like a new off-ramp from eastbound SR 18 in the vicinity of the Muckleshoot Casino as part of an Auburn Bypass connecting SR 18 to SR 164 as identified in their comprehensive plan.
- Desire for a new east-west grade-separated crossing of the BNSF rail yard between C Street SW and A Street NE as identified in their comprehensive plan.

Strategies

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 sweeping and cleaning.
Pavement	WSDOT has identified one Pavement action in the next six years encompassing 23% of the corridor.
Safety	
Investment	WSDOT has identified one Safety Investment action in the next six years encompassing 22% 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.

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