



**MONROE CITY COUNCIL**

**Agenda Bill No. 20-037**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b><i>Authorize the Mayor to Sign Resolution No. 003/2020; Supporting a Capacity Study of US Highway 2 from State Route 9 to State Route 207 in Chelan County</i></b>
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<b>DATE:</b>	<b>DEPT:</b>	<b>CONTACT:</b>	<b>PRESENTER:</b>	<b>ITEM:</b>
02/25/2020	Executive	Deborah Knight	Deborah Knight	New Business #3

- Discussion:** 02/25/2020  
**Attachments:**
  1. Resolution No. 003/2020
  2. US 2 FAQ
  3. WSDOT Legislative Proviso

**REQUESTED ACTION:** ***Authorize the Mayor to Sign Resolution No. 003/2020; Supporting Funding a Capacity Study of US Highway 2 from State Route 9 to State Route 207 in Chelan County.***

**POLICY CONSIDERATION**

*The City Council has authority to pass resolutions expressing the opinion or mind of the official body concerning a particular item of business.*

*Resolution No. 003/2020 expresses support for funding a capacity study of US-2 from State Route 9 in Snohomish County to State Route 207 in Chelan County.*

**DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND**

US Highway 2 (US-2) is an east-west United States federal highway spanning from Everett, WA in the west to St. Ignace, MI in the east. US-2 bifurcates the City of Monroe separating the historic business district from new residential development to the north of US-2.

More than 56,000 vehicles a day pass through Monroe on US-2. The highway is frequently at capacity during peak hours, on holidays, and weekends.

The City Council recognizes the important economic benefit US-2 provides to the City of Monroe and neighboring cities along the US-2 corridor in Snohomish County. The highway must meet the state’s freight mobility needs, provide access to recreation lands, and serve local residents who community to job centers in King County.

The city’s 2020 legislative agenda includes support for US-2 capacity improvements for economic development.



## MONROE CITY COUNCIL

### *Agenda Bill No. 20-037*

The City of Monroe has been working with the City of Sultan, the Washington State Department of Transportation, and the City of Wenatchee to develop a scope of work and cost estimate for a capacity study of US-2 from State Route 9 to State Route 207.

The Washington State Department of Transportation developed draft proviso language supporting a \$1.4 million legislative appropriation to conduct a corridor study of US 2 (Attachment 3). The study will examine corridor performance and identify needed practical solutions to keep US-2 functioning as safely and efficiently as possible now and into the future.

Resolution No. 003/2020 formalizes the City Council's support for the project.

#### **IMPACT – BUDGET**

This action does not have a direct budget impact. Support for US-2 may result in advocating for capital budget funding from state and federal representatives.

#### **TIME CONSTRAINTS**

Mayor Thomas will be in Washington DC in March 2020 with representatives from the cities of Snohomish, Lake Stevens, and Sultan to advocate for funding capacity improvements on US 2 in Snohomish County. Participating cities are working together to pass similar resolutions to express support for funding a US-2 capacity study.

#### **ALTERNATIVES TO REQUESTED ACTION**

The City Council may have questions or concerns regarding Resolution 003/2020. The City Council may choose not to pass Resolution 003/2020 or direct the Legislative Committee to review the resolution and make a recommendation to the full council prior to taking action.

**CITY OF MONROE**  
**RESOLUTION NO. 003/2020**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
MONROE, WASHINGTON, SUPPORTING FUNDING FOR A  
CAPACITY STUDY OF US-2

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WHEREAS, US Highway 2 (US-2) is an east-west United States federal highway spanning from Everett, Washington in the west to St. Ignace, Michigan in the east; and,

WHEREAS, US-2 is one of three all-season mountain passes serving east/west statewide travel, with high levels of freight and recreational mobility demands from the Port of Everett to Wenatchee, Spokane and beyond; and

WHEREAS, US 2 is primarily a two-lane highway from State Route 9 in Snohomish County to State Route 207 in Chelan County; and

WHEREAS, US 2 is a "Main Street" highway in multiple locations, serving the cities of Sultan, Gold Bar, Index, Skykomish, Leavenworth, Cashmere, Wenatchee and others; and

WHEREAS, during peak capacity, local residents between Monroe and Skykomish are unable to leave their homes due to the level of congestion on US-2; and,

WHEREAS, US-2 was not built to sustain the population growth experienced in the Greater Puget Sound region and accompanying increase in travelers; and,

WHEREAS, major improvements are needed to US-2 to increase capacity for freight mobility; and

WHEREAS, safety is also a key need on this section of US 2, with approximately one-third of crashes over the past ten years occurring in and around Monroe; and

WHEREAS, there are also a considerable number of crossover crashes on this stretch of US 2, with a number of crashes resulting in fatalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

THAT, the City of Monroe supports the goal to bring much needed attention and funding to address capacity improvements on US Highway 2 from State Route 9 to State Route 207 in Chelan County; and

THAT, the City of Monroe supports the request by the Washington State Department of Transportation and the US 2 Safety Coalition for \$1.4 million to identify capacity and

safety improvements in partnership with the cities of Snohomish, Sultan, Gold Bar, Index, Skykomish, Leavenworth, Wenatchee, and other communities along the corridor; and,

THAT, the City of Monroe supports the proposed goals of the US-2 Study to:

- Identify improvements to increase accessibility and safety,
- Improve multimodal efficiency of the highway system,
- Improve freight mobility and economic vitality, and
- Protect and enhance the natural environment

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Monroe, at its regular meeting thereof, and APPROVED by the Mayor this 25th day of February, 2020.

Approved: February 25, 2020  
Effective: February 25, 2020

CITY OF MONROE, WASHINGTON

(SEAL)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Elizabeth M. Adkisson, MMC, City Clerk

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J. Zachary Lell, City Attorney



# US 2 Corridor Study State Route 9 to Stevens Pass

## Request:

The underlying stakeholders request \$1,000,000 in funding for a corridor study of US 2 from State Route 9 in Snohomish County to Stevens Pass. This corridor is a primary highway for statewide travel, and freight mobility from the Port of Everett to Wenatchee, Spokane and beyond.



## Goals of the US 2 Corridor Study

- Identify improvements to increase safety and reduce congestion
- Reduce congestion and Improve efficiency of the highway system
- Improvement freight mobility and economic vitality
- Protect and enhance our natural environment

### Safety

### Congestion

### Freight Mobility

### Environment

## Why is a US 2 study needed now?

- More investment is needed to identify and fix high collision locations.
- Gridlock on Hwy 2 hinders emergency response provided by police, fire, and EMS creating life threatening circumstances.
- 18,000 vehicles a day travel on US 2 from Hwy 9 to Stevens Pass reaching volumes beyond its capacity during weekends and holidays.
- During peak capacity, local residents between Monroe and Index are unable to leave their homes due to the level of congestion.
- Based on the growth management plans for housing developments and the increased population projections for this region, the capacity and safety issues of Hwy 2 will become significantly more problematic.
- US 2 is a T-1 Freight Corridor carrying more than 10 million tons of freight per year. It is the primary freight corridor when I-90 is closed due to weather conditions or accidents.
- US 2 parallels the Snohomish/Skykomish River one of the primary watersheds for returning salmon and supporting Southern Resident Orcas. Strategies are needed to reduce congestion, fix culverts, limit greenhouse gas emissions, and preserve the environment along US 2.

## Who are the Partners?



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New Business #3  
AB20-037



**Contact Us**

For more information

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Port of Everett  
 Increasing freight capacity



Monroe to Sultan  
 Traffic back ups slow freight



Stevens Pass  
 Winter weather impact traffic

### US 2 Corridor Study – State Route 9 to State Route 207 (draft proviso language)

An appropriation of \$1,400,000 is provided solely to conduct a corridor study of US 2 from State Route 9 in Snohomish County to State Route 207 in Chelan County. This study will be done in partnership with stakeholders and cities of Monroe, Sultan, Stevens Pass, Leavenworth, and Wenatchee, and other communities in the vicinity to examine corridor performance and identify needed practical solutions to keep US 2 functioning as safely and efficiently as possible now and into the future.

Considerable planning work has been accomplished on US 2 between the Leavenworth and Wenatchee. This effort will build upon that work and will focus west of Leavenworth to identify a comprehensive corridor solution that fills in gaps from those already studied. See attachment for related studies and projects.

This corridor serves east/west statewide travel, with high levels of freight and recreational mobility demands from the Port of Everett to Wenatchee, Spokane and beyond. US 2 is primarily a two-lane highway from SR 9 to SR 207, a main street highway in multiple locations, and serves the cities of Sultan, Gold Bar, Index, Skykomish, Leavenworth, Cashmere, Wenatchee and others. Safety is also a key need on this section of US 2, with approximately one-third of crashes over the past ten years occurring in and around Monroe, Washington. There are also a considerable number of crossover crashes on this stretch of US 2, with a number of crashes resulting in fatalities. WSDOT has recently moved forward with safety enhancements to mitigate for these crash occurrences. Last year WSDOT restriped a portion of US 2 to add a narrow median, will be installing median barrier later this year between Bickford Avenue and vic. East of SR 9.

The goals of this US 2 Corridor Study are to:

- Identify improvements to increase accessibility and safety
- Improve multimodal efficiency of the highway system
- Improve freight mobility and economic vitality
- Protect and enhance the natural environment

This study will identify strategies using the WSDOT Practical Solutions approach, which focuses on practical decision-making, asset management, integrated systems and modes, and community engagement and partnerships.

The cost of this study was estimated based on recently concluded studies in the area. We estimate that \$1,400,000 in funding is required to complete a high level planning study for the 80-mile stretch of US 2 corridor (SR 9 to SR 207), including significant public engagement.

### US 2 Corridor Study – SR 9 to SR 207: Study Cost Estimate

1	Project management & coordination	\$260,000
2	Current and future conditions analysis	\$250,000
3	Develop corridor vision	\$30,000
4	Develop and evaluate options	\$176,000
5	Stakeholder and community engagement	\$524,000
6	Identify, refine, and document final plan	\$160,000
	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$1,400,00</b>