

**East-West Corridor Project
Final Alignment Alternatives Study**

**Appendix G
Project Web Site**



Project Updates

Please view our [document library](#) for corridor maps and project updates, available in PDF format. If you have questions or comments that aren't covered by this brochure, please click the "Comments and Feedback" link at the top of the page to contact us.



[View the Corridors »](#)

About the Corridor

Welcome to the Yakima East-West Corridor homepage. This page is your gateway to information and updates on the selection of a preferred corridor for the East-West Corridor. This new roadway will reduce traffic congestion on Terrace Heights Drive, help connect the City of Yakima with the Terrace Heights neighborhood, and provide improved access across the Yakima River.



Why is this project necessary?

The Yakima River is a natural barrier to travel between the City of Yakima and the Terrace Heights neighborhood. Currently, east-west traffic has only one option for travel between these two locations: the Yakima Avenue/Terrace Heights Drive corridor.

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When will the County decide on a final corridor?

The County has developed four (4) corridor alternatives and is in the process of weighing the pros and cons of each. In the spring of 2011, the County will begin conducting a series of reviews for the preferred corridor(s) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

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What about properties that may be in the path?

No decisions regarding property acquisition can be made until after the NEPA is approved and the final design is completed. This will be in 2012 (at the earliest). With the current four (4) corridor alternatives, the County's design team has tried to minimize private property impacts while also keeping down total project costs.

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Project Overview

Why is this project necessary?

The Yakima River poses a natural barrier to travel between the City of Yakima and the Terrace Heights neighborhood. Currently, east-west traffic has only one option to travel between these two locations: the Yakima Avenue/Terrace Heights Drive corridor. As the population of Terrace Heights continues to keep pace with projected growth rates, this existing corridor will continue to suffer increased congestion and delays. The East-West Corridor will reduce this problem by offering drivers an alternative river crossing for east-west travel.

When will the County decide on a final corridor?

The County has developed four (4) corridor alternatives and is in the process of weighing the pros and cons of each. In the spring of 2011, the County will begin conducting a series of reviews pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The NEPA process will help the County determine the preferred alignment, offering an opportunity for area residents, businesses, government agencies, irrigation districts, and other interested parties to comment on the potential impacts of the project.

What will happen to properties that may be impacted by the new corridor?

No decisions regarding property acquisition can be made until after the NEPA is approved and the final design is completed. This will be in 2012 (at the earliest). With the current four (4) corridor alternatives, the County's design team has tried to minimize private property impacts while also keeping down total project costs. After the environmental review process is completed, the County will acquire the necessary properties under the Federal Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policy Act (URA) of 1970 as Amended.

When will construction start?

Currently, the East-West Corridor project is funded only through the preliminary planning phase. The County will begin the NEPA process in the spring of 2011. Construction likely will not begin before 2016.

How much will this project cost, and who is paying for it?

The total cost and funding sources for the design and construction of the East-West Corridor are not yet known.

How will construction affect my daily commute?

The County will make every effort to ensure that people, goods, and services can continue to flow through the project area safely and with minimal delay during the new road's construction. A detailed traffic plan instructing the contractor how to provide each property owner access to the roadway system will be prepared.

Alternatives



The Project Team has developed four (4) potential corridor alternatives for the East-West Corridor. To view them, click the link below.

[View Corridors»](#)

Project Update



Please view our project updates, available in PDF format. If you have questions or comments that aren't covered by this brochure, please click the "Comments and Feedback" link at the top of the page to contact us.

[Download the Project Update»](#)

[Actualización del proyecto en español»](#)

Corridors

Yakima County has identified four potential corridors for construction of the new East-West Corridor. These corridor alternatives are preliminary. The County will recommend a preferred corridor following public review and direction from the Yakima County Commission. Click on each map below to view a larger version. You may download and print copies of each map by going to the [document library](#). Please let us know your opinion of each corridor by clicking the Thumbs Up or Thumbs Down buttons below each illustration. You may also open the [project comment form](#) to provide additional comments.

Corridor 1 "Ridge Top" (click image to enlarge)



This corridor features a curved Yakima River Bridge that turns north sharply as it crosses the Yakima River and floodplain. The route intersects Marsh Road and immediately begins a steep rise up the Yakima Ridge. Once the roadway reaches the top of the first hill, it crosses the Roza Canal prior to the 11-mile Diversion of Wasteway #2 and skirts the tops of several hills before tying into the established eastern terminus for the East-West Corridor.

This corridor affects the fewest homes and avoids both the US Bureau of Reclamation property and the Skyline Mobile Estates. However, this corridor will have considerably higher construction costs due to the large hillside cuts and fills—some of which are over 75 feet high—and extensive slope stabilization efforts required to correct the natural geologic instability of the Yakima Ridge.

+10

Corridor 2 "Rest Haven Bench" (click image to enlarge)



This corridor spans the Yakima River on a straight tangent, then moves east through the floodplain and north to intersect Marsh Road. The corridor skirts the western edge of the US Bureau of Reclamation property, rising steeply to the natural bench halfway up the ridge. East of this point, the corridor follows the existing Rest Haven Road footprint just beyond its intersection with Cut Off Road. As the roadway moves further east, the corridor begins a gentle rise up the Yakima Ridge and crosses the Roza Canal to tie in with the established eastern terminus for the East-West Corridor.

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Corridor 3 "Ridge Base" (click image to enlarge)



This corridor lies further south and sits lower in elevation at the base of the ridge. This corridor is complicated by the oblique angle of intersection with Marsh Road and the breadth of the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) property. Consequently, the County has explored a number of different options here, including the partial relocation of Marsh Road and/or a bridge over the USBR property. East of this area, the corridor traces the northern fringe of the Skyline Mobile Estates before rising sharply up the Yakima Ridge and crossing the Roza Canal to tie in with the established eastern terminus for the East-West Corridor.

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Corridor 4 "Lowlands" (click image to enlarge)



This corridor lies still further south, running parallel to the Columbia Basin Railroad tracks all the way to the existing intersection of Marsh Road and Butterfield Road. Between this intersection and the existing intersection of Keys Road and Butterfield Road, this corridor has a greater degree of interaction with the existing local roadway network than any of the other corridors. Consequently, the County has explored a number of different options to connect the new roadway to the existing streets, such as road relocations, grade separation viaducts, and/or intersection roundabouts. East of these intersections,

the corridor swings north to begin an immediate rise up the Yakima Ridge and crosses the Roza Canal to tie in with the established eastern terminus for the East-West Corridor.

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Comments?

Please see our [comment page](#) to make additional comments on the alternatives.

Sign up for project updates

Name: Email:

Project contact information

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Para información en español por favor llame a (509) 574-1000
[Download the Project Update](#) | [Actualización del proyecto en español](#)

Document Library

The following list is a compilation of downloadable PDF files containing pertinent project information. If you have questions or comments that aren't covered by these links, please feel free to click the "Comments and Feedback" link at the top of the page to contact us.

[Project Update, November 2010](#) (.PDF 556kb)

[Actualización del proyecto en español», Noviembre 2010](#) (.PDF 564kb)

[Corridor 1 "Ridge Top"](#) (.PDF 4kb)

[Corridor 2 "Rest Haven Bench"](#) (.PDF 4kb)

[Corridor 3 "Ridge Base"](#) (.PDF 4kb)

[Corridor 4 "Lowlands"](#) (.PDF 4kb)

[Project Update Frequently Asked Questions, May 2010](#) (.PDF 572kb)

[Este-Oeste Corredor Proyecto de Actualización Preguntas Hechas con Frecuencia, May 2010](#) (.PDF 576kb)

[Project Corridor Map, May 2010](#) (.PDF 264kb)

Get Involved



Yakima County will update this site when new information is available. The project team anticipates selecting a preferred corridor or corridors in early 2011. The preferred corridor(s) will then undergo an extensive environmental review starting in the Spring of 2011. This environmental review will extend into at least 2012.

Sign up for updates to stay informed about this work as it progresses. You are welcome to submit comments or ask questions at any time.

If you would like to participate in the corridor selection process, you can attend an upcoming event or submit a comment online. Don't forget to add your name to our email list if you would like to receive project updates.

Sign up for project updates

Name:

Email:

Project contact information

Yakima County Public Services Department

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Write A Comment

Want to share some information, ask a question, or offer a comment about the East-West Corridor Project? Just fill out the form below and submit. Be sure to include your email address so we can reply to your questions. Your comments will help guide selection of a preferred corridor for the new roadway. Thank you.

Name (required)

Email (required)