

For Immediate Release

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City of Bothell™

State Highway 522 Realignment Opens *Significant Regional Transportation and Downtown Redevelopment Project*

Bothell – August 12, 2013 – Leading the largest municipal downtown project in the state, today the City of Bothell celebrated the success of a significant capital project with the opening of the new State Route 522 (SR 522) alignment.

The \$60 million dollar project, called Crossroads, is the largest single capital investment in the City's history. The project shifts SR 522 one block to the south, decoupling SR 522 from Bothell's Main Street. The project will improve capacity for the 46,000 plus vehicles that pass through the intersection daily, add commercial blocks to the downtown core and increase the Park at Bothell Landing. The project team includes: Perteet, Inc., Parsons Brinckerhoff, HWA GeoSciences, Hough Beck & Baird, Freedman Tung & Sasaki, Atkinson Construction, KLB Construction and Totem Electric.

It also takes downtown redevelopment to the next phase. The old SR 522 alignment will now become an east-west connection with future development that will extend Main Street and complete the City's downtown street grid. By extending Main Street to the west and developing a Boulevard along Bothell Way NE (former SR 527) the City will connect historic Main Street to new development west of Bothell Way NE.

"The Crossroads Project will mean less cut-through traffic in our residential neighborhoods and a quicker commute," said City Mayor Mark Lamb. "This project also represents another major milestone in revitalizing our historic downtown. Crossroads is part of a multi-year effort to redevelop downtown with new residential, retail, office, mixed-use and an expanded park system. Today, that vision is one major step closer."

"This is an exciting time for Bothell," said Bob Stowe, Bothell City Manager. "I am extremely proud of the way the Bothell community has stepped up and responded to some difficult economic times; the way we have leaned into the recession and the future we are now creating. Our community's vision is coming to life as public investments are attracting private vertical development. Bothell's re-imagined downtown will not only create jobs and new

economic opportunities, it will create a sense of place and commons for friends and family to enjoy.”

The City formally started its revitalization process in the spring of 2005 when residents, businesses, schools, and government came together to develop a fresh new vision for Bothell’s future. Economic projections indicated that, over a 25-year period, the City’s public improvements and strategic actions would leverage \$650 million in private investment. Currently, over \$200 million in private investment is in the development pipeline or under construction today.

In looking back over the last eight years, City Manager Bob Stowe recounts the 10 most important actions the City has taken to arrive at Bothell’s current success in transforming its Downtown into a place for people to live, work, recreate, shop and socialize.

City Actions

1. Separated on-going revenues/expenses from one-time revenues/expenses, creating a funding account for downtown investments.
2. Engaged the Bothell community in a multi-year planning process that continues to guide the City’s actions today.
3. Identified infrastructure investments that would achieve the City's targeted ROI.
4. Purchased 25 acres of land within the Downtown to sell strategically under the City’s role as a Master Developer.
5. Relocated/aided 32 businesses and tore down 30 buildings, turning back decades of auto oriented/strip mall development to make way for a re-imagined City.
6. Performing a multi-million dollar environmental clean-up of the Downtown to ready it for development.
7. Launched an initiative to improve how the City processes development permits to improve predictability to those who choose to invest in Bothell.
8. Assumed the role of Master Developer when the recession occurred and shouldered private sector risk by holding property the City assembled, thereby mitigating the cost for development partners.
9. Final stages of the Crossroads project – the largest capital investment in the City’s history.
10. Broken ground on \$90 million of public infrastructure improvements in Downtown Bothell all within an existing 104 year old community. The City’s investment of \$90 million in vital capital projects is part of a \$150 million program of planned infrastructure improvements.

About Bothell

For more information see www.FutureofBothell.com

Images of the Realignment Attached

Photo: Ribbon across SR 522 prior to today's ceremony.

Photo: Bothell City Councilmembers (l-r) Tom Agnew, Andy Rheaume, Del Spivey, and Bill Evans cut the ribbon to open the new section of SR 522 while State Representative Luis Moscoso (far right) looks on.

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To access the Park at Bothell Landing from SR 522, please turn south onto NE 98th Street and proceed to either parking area. The ceremony on August 12 will be held on the southwest corner of 98th and (the future) SR 522 (see red "X").