

Apple Capital Loop Trail Property Transfer Budget Proviso

June 30, 2013 Report to the Legislature

ESHB 2190, Supplemental Transportation Budget, Section 213 (4) states:

“The department shall report to the transportation committees of the legislature by June 30, 2013, and annually thereafter, on the status of the transfer until complete.”

Following is the June 30, 2013 status report addressing the transfer of property containing the “Apple Capital Loop Trail” from the Washington State Department of Transportation to Douglas County and the City of East Wenatchee. The transfer was complete as of June 17, 2013.

Background:

The 2012 Legislature directed (ESHB 2190, Section 213 (4)) the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to transfer portions of property containing the Apple Capital Loop Trail to Douglas County and the City of East Wenatchee.

ESHB 2190 Sec. 213(4):The legislature recognizes that the trail known as the Apple Capital Loop, and its extensions, serve to separate motor vehicle traffic from pedestrians and bicyclists, increasing motor vehicle safety on existing state route number 28. Consistent with chapter 47.30 RCW and pursuant to RCW 47.12.080, the legislature declares that transferring portions of WSDOT Inventory Control (IC) Nos. 2-09-04537 and 2-09-04569 to Douglas county and the city of East Wenatchee is consistent with the public interest. The legislature directs the department to transfer the property to Douglas county and the city of East Wenatchee. The department must be paid fair market value for any portions of the transferred real property that is later abandoned, vacated, or ceases to be publicly maintained for trail purposes. Douglas county and the city of East Wenatchee must agree to accept responsibility for trail segments within their respective jurisdictions and sign an agreement with the state that the transfer of these parcels to their respective jurisdictions extinguishes any state obligations to improve, maintain, or be in any way responsible for these assets. The department shall report to the transportation committees of the legislature by June 30, 2013, and annually thereafter, on the status of the transfer until complete.

Accomplishments over the past year:

- The department made provisions for all known utilities and established easements for their continued existence. Those were recorded, June 14, 2013.
- On June 17, 2013, the official documents transferring control of the property necessary for the operation, maintenance, and planned improvements to the “Apple Capital Loop Trail” to Douglas County and the City of East Wenatchee, were recorded.
 - 43.7 acres were transferred to Douglas County
 - 23.7 acres were transferred to the City of East Wenatchee
 - 16.7 acres were held for existing or planned WSDOT stormwater treatment facilities
 - 16.7 acres within the Columbia River proper are planned to be reverted to the Department of Natural Resources.
 - 77.1 acres scattered over the 5 miles, in 10 areas will be sold as surplus property per RCW 47.12.063

Current and Future work:

1. Completion of reversion documents to DNR.
2. The City of East Wenatchee is interested in potentially acquiring 3 parcels adjoining the trail that are now surplus. The department has appraised those parcels to enable purchase negotiations to proceed.
3. Prospective buyers have begun to approach WSDOT about acquisition of the acreage that is now surplus. This process will take time given necessary boundary revisions, questions of subdivision, appraisal, etc.

For further details and additional information, please contact Dan Sarles, North Central Regional Administrator, (509) 667-3001.