



SKAGIT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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January 7, 2019

RE: Use of an Unopened County Right-of-Way on South Shore Drive

Skagit County Public Works has completed the review of an application submitted by West Side Logging LLC to utilize a section of unopened County right-of-way for their access connection to South Shore Drive. This unopened right-of-way provides the only access to the parcel from a public road. The review is only to address the impacts for work performed within the right-of-way, and does not address impacts resulting from logging and other work performed under the jurisdiction of Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on the private parcel.

Staff have received numerous calls and electronic submittals of comments and concerns regarding the planned project. Many of the comments raised were concerns about drainage and slope stability resulting from the proposed logging activities on the parcel. For these issues, review and approval authority for the road building and logging activity proposed by West Side Logging LLC lies with DNR for those areas outside of County right-of-way.

Skagit County Public Works is issuing the applicant an approval letter to construct an access within a section of unopened right-of-way. The County can only review the application for compliance with existing regulations, and cannot deny access as long as appropriate mitigation is constructed as required in the Skagit County Road Standards Manual. The following conditions must be met prior to the applicant being able to start construction of the driveway.

1. An engineered drainage analysis addressing water quantity and quality will be required. The analysis shall be prepared in accordance with 2014 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington and Skagit County Code. Any increase in runoff must be mitigated in the unmaintained right-of-way or be able to demonstrate the downstream conveyance is adequate.
2. The applicant will need to submit an application and receive approval under the "Tree Cutting" policy. The County shall be reimbursed for the removal of trees within the right-of-way.
3. The proposed driveway will need to meet applicable engineering standards as set forth in the Skagit County Road Standards Manual.
4. Prior to start of construction, the applicant will be required to provide the necessary liability insurance to perform construction within the County right-of-way.

Once the applicant has satisfied the above conditions, they will receive final authorization to proceed with building the access to their parcel. County staff will inspect the construction of the access road to ensure that the required mitigation measures are constructed in accordance with all applicable engineering standards.

Paul A. Randall-Grutter P.E.
Skagit County Engineer