



**I-5, Mounts Rd. to Center Dr.
Northbound Auxiliary Lane Extension**

**1.5 mile Extension
of Northbound
Auxiliary Lane**

Why is WSDOT extending the auxiliary lane on northbound Interstate 5 between Center Drive and Steilacoom-DuPont Road one and a half miles south to Mounts Road?

Traffic volumes on Interstate 5 between Mounts Road and Steilacoom-DuPont Road have increased substantially over the past 10 years. Traffic flow through this 2-mile area is subject to several pressures, including the uphill grade from the Nisqually River valley, entering traffic from Mounts Road, trucks using the weigh station, exiting and entering traffic at the Center Drive interchange and exiting traffic to the Steilacoom-DuPont Road interchange and JBLM's DuPont Gate.

By extending the auxiliary lane south about 1.5 miles to start at the Mounts Rd. bridge, trucks approaching the weigh station along with entering and exiting traffic will use this lane while the majority of traffic uses the adjacent three through lanes.

To accommodate the auxiliary lane, northbound I-5 will be widened into the center median. The final lane configurations will include three 11-foot-wide lanes, one 12-foot-wide lane and 8 feet on the inside shoulder.

The End Result

The extended auxiliary lane will ultimately become part of the fourth general purpose lane that is being built in the I-5 Mounts Road to Thorne Lane I/C Corridor Improvements project.

Project Benefits

- Reduce congestion by providing a supplemental lane for trucks and traffic entering and exiting I-5.
- Higher center median safety barrier.

