



Public Hearing on Scope of Environmental Impact Statement

SKAGIT COUNTY JAIL

August 13, 2013

4:00 pm to 6:30 pm

Purpose and Need

Purpose

- Provide jail infrastructure to serve the residents and cities of Skagit County over the next 15 to 20 years

Need

- Existing jail is over-crowded, resulting in:
 - safety concerns for staff and inmates
 - inmates to be turned away
- Population growth has led to increase in inmate population
- Average length of stay is increasing



Proposed Project

~90,000 square foot jail including:

- 400 inmate beds
- administrative facilities
- medical facilities to treat and house inmates with minor medical issues
- inmate rehabilitation programs
- courtroom
- staff and public parking
- Potential future expansion of 400 additional beds, depending on:
 - incarceration rates
 - policy changes

Alternative Site Evaluation

- **County evaluated 13 potential new sites between 2006-2012 and renovation of the existing jail**
- **Evaluation criteria:**
 - **Distance from services**
 - **Location**
 - **Site access**
 - **Site character, size, and use**
 - **Site acquisition and costs**
 - **Agency/public support**
 - **Utilities**
- **All but 2 sites eliminated**

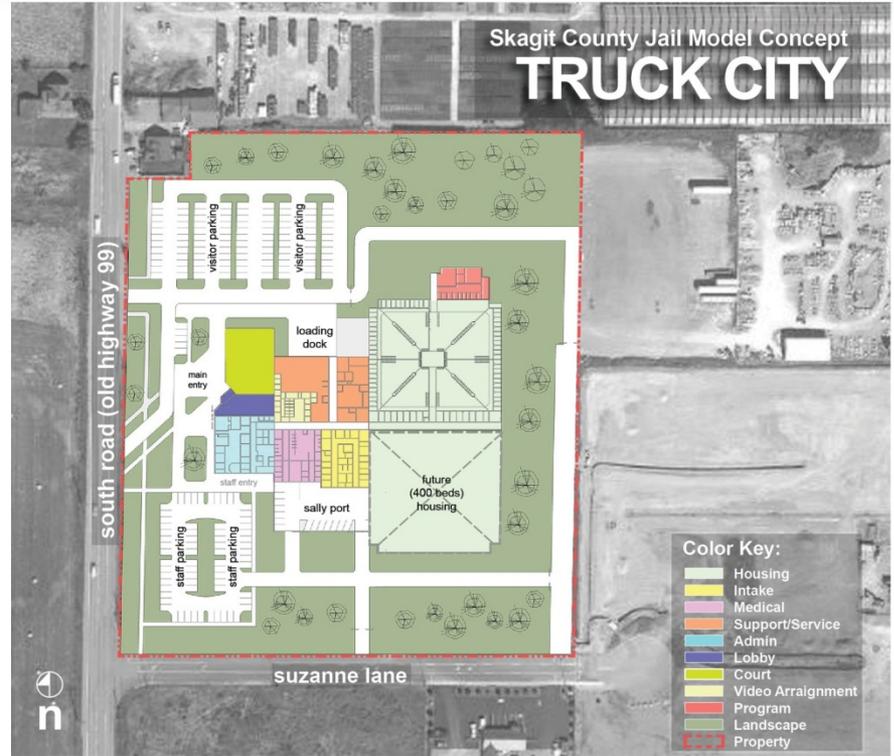
Alf Christianson Seed Site



*Site layout is for illustrative purposes only and is subject to change

- 21 parcels, 1 property owner
- 8.2 acres (including portions of vacated S 6th Street)
- Commercial-Industrial (CI) comprehensive plan designation
- General Commercial (C-2) zoning designation
- Existing use: vacant commercial and undeveloped
- A0 Flood Zone Designation

Truck City/Suzanne Lane Site



- 5 parcels, 3 property owners
- 10.4 acres
- Commercial-Limited Industrial (C-L) comprehensive plan/zoning designation
- Existing use: commercial and undeveloped
- Access to eastern half of P29546 to be provided through P119267
- A0 Flood Zone Designation

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Permitting Processes for Jail

Land Use Process

- Compliance with State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)
- Land use designation change to “Public”
- Essential Public Facility (EPF) Conditional Use Permit

Decision-Maker

- City of Mount Vernon & Skagit County
- City of Mount Vernon
- City of Mount Vernon

Permitting Processes for Jail

	Timing	Description	Public Participation
SEPA PROCESS	Complete	The City and County are co-leads for the SEPA process. A DS and Scoping Notice are issued initiating the EIS Process	Scoping Notice Published
	August 13, 2013	EIS Scoping Public Hearing	Public Comment Opportunity
	July 22 to August 20, 2013	Public comments accepted on the scope of the EIS (i.e., what elements of the environment will be studied).	Public Comment Opportunity
	Late August to December 2013	Environmental analysis begins on the elements of the environment that will be studied through the EIS process.	
	December 2013	Draft EIS (DEIS) issued. Public hearing will be held on the DEIS and additional public comments accepted.	Public Comment Opportunity
	February 2014	Final EIS (FEIS) issued addressing the comments and concerns submitted through the processes outlined above.	
LAND USE CHANGES	March 2014 to June 2014	Comprehensive Plan amendment and Associated Rezone Process through the City	Yes, Public Participation Opportunities
EPF PROCESS	June 2014 to September 2014	Essential Public Facilities Process through the City.	Yes, Public Participation Opportunities

SEPA Process: Purpose of the Scoping Hearing

Provide input on issues to be evaluated in the limited-scope EIS, including:

- **Range of alternatives**
 - No action
 - Alf Christianson Seed Site
 - Truck City/Suzanne Lane Site
- **Areas of impact**
 - land use
 - aesthetics
 - cultural resources
 - soils
 - transportation
- **Potential mitigation measures**

SEPA Process: How to Comment

What do YOU think? Let us know by....

- Making a verbal statement tonight to the court reporter
- Filling out a comment form tonight
- Submitting written comments by 5 pm on Tuesday, August 20th to:

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