

INTERNATIONAL WAY GRADE SEPARATION PROJECT



Q. What is the International Way Grade Separation Project?

A. The International Way Grade Separation Project is a proposal to construct an at-grade rail separation (overpass) over the Port of Longview (Port) rail tracks that cross International Way. Anticipated future growth in rail volumes will require the grade separation for efficient and safe cargo movement, vehicular traffic and to ensure unrestricted emergency service access to the Port and industrial and commercial businesses.

Q. Where is the grade separation going to be located?

A. The overpass will be located approximately within the same right of way of International Way and will include a raised intersection at Columbia Way. The proposed alternative is shown below:



Q. How did the Port develop the current grade separation location?

A. The Port engaged in multiple meetings with impacted property owners, the City of Longview and Cowlitz County, as well as hosted an Open House on February 23, 2023 where three alternatives were proposed. Through this public input process, a fourth alternative emerged which was selected as the preferred alternative. The preferred alternative has the least impact on neighboring property owners.

Q. What happens if no action is taken?

A. To better understand the area's traffic flow, the Port commissioned a transportation study which indicated that without improvements to the current at-grade rail crossing, traffic delays would significantly increase due to projected rail demand. Rail traffic at International Way is driven by Port neighbors and tenants, and arranged by BNSF/UP, so the Port cannot take operational steps to reduce intersection impacts. The traffic study concluded that intact unit trains moving through the crossing would typically block vehicle traffic for 15 minutes. These blockages would cause traffic arriving to the Port to queue back onto SR 432 and likely result in unacceptable delays for vehicular traffic.

Q. What is the project schedule?

A. The preliminary schedule (subject to change):

Preferred Alternative Selected:	2023
30% Design:	2024
Funding Applications:	2025
Design and Permitting:	2026 - 2027
Property Acquisition:	2027 - 2029
Construction:	2030 - 2032

Q. How do I stay updated on the project?

A. Visit the Port's website or scan the QR code below to learn more about the project, share your comments and receive project updates.

