

# Whatcom I-5 Operations Survey

## How is I-5 Working for You?

Please take a moment to tell us what you think. Help us better understand issues around I-5 in Bellingham and Whatcom County that are important to you.

More at: [www.wcog.org/i-5survey](http://www.wcog.org/i-5survey)

## Welcome and Introduction

Learn more about our work before you begin.

### A Need to Relieve Congestion and Manage Crashes on I-5

In a recent analysis, WSDOT has found significant congestion and motor vehicle crashes on I-5 in Whatcom County.

As the region's population grows over the next 25 years more travelers will use the local and state transportation network, including I-5, to get where they need to go.

Your input helps the Whatcom Council of Governments (WCOG) and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) plan for the future of I-5 in Bellingham.

- Whatcom Council of Governments (WCOG) is working with WSDOT to plan for future traffic and safety investments on I-5. We value your input.
- WSDOT recently finished the I-5 Whatcom Operations & Transportation Demand Management Analysis.

This analysis found that many I-5 trips in Bellingham are only a couple miles long!

- The analysis also found that crashes increase when there is more traffic congestion (generally property damage only crashes).

By helping traffic flow more smoothly on I-5, we can also reduce these crashes on the freeway.

- The Whatcom I-5 Operations & Transportation Demand Management Analysis developed 3 focus areas of strategies to relieve traffic congestion and reduce crashes on I-5.

WCOG is working to begin the next stage of planning for the future of I-5, and we want your input.

- To learn more about the I-5 Operations & Transportation Demand Management Analysis, please visit our webpage at: [www.wcog.org/i-5survey](http://www.wcog.org/i-5survey)

Thank you for taking the time to provide your input.

## How do you use I-5?

### The Reason You Travel

What is the most frequent reason you travel on I-5?

Commuter to Work

Commuter to School

Shopping

Recreation & Social Trips

Medical Trips

Other

I don't travel on I-5

What is the most important trip you make on I-5?

Commuter to Work

Commuter to School

Shopping

Recreation & Social Trips

Medical Trips

Other

I don't travel on I-5

## Trip Length

How far are the most frequent trips you typically take using I-5? (for example, commute to work)

0-5 miles

5-10 miles

10-20 miles

20-50 miles

50+ miles

I don't know

I don't travel on I-5

How much time does it take you to get where you need to go?

0-5 minutes

5-10 minutes

10-20 minutes

20-45 minutes

45+ minutes

I don't know

I don't travel on I-5

## Your Travel Choice

For the trips you make using I-5, could you use any of the following types of transportation on I-5 or on different routes to get there?

Carpool or Rideshare

Bus

Train

Bicycle

Walk or Roll

Taxi, Uber, or Lyft

Other

If you chose "Other" please describe below:

Which of the following types of transportation would you use if it were more available?

Carpool or Rideshare

Bus

Train

Bicycle

Walk or Roll

Taxi, Uber, or Lyft

Other

If you chose "Other" please describe below:

If you mostly use your own vehicle for your I-5 trips, what challenges or preferences lead to this choice rather than another type of transportation?

## Map your I-5 Trip

How do you use I-5?

Please list at least 3 locations to add to a map to give your input. For a "home" location, choose a nearby street intersection if you prefer.

List "transportation challenge" locations where you experience challenges traveling on I-5.

## Approximate Home Location

Describe the Location(s):

How do you get on I-5 from here?

250 - SR 11/Old Fairhaven Pkwy.

252 - Samish Way

253 - Lakeway Dr.

254 - Iowa St.

255 - Sunset Dr.

256 - SR 539/Meridian St.

257 - Northwest Ave.

258 - Bakerview Rd.

Other

I don't travel on I-5 for this trip

Optional Comment:

## Work

Describe the Location(s):

Which I-5 exit do you take to get here?

250 - SR 11/Old Fairhaven Pkwy.

252 - Samish Way

253 - Lakeway Dr.

254 - Iowa St.

255 - Sunset Dr.

256 - SR 539/Meridian St.

257 - Northwest Ave.

258 - Bakerview Rd.

Other

I don't travel on I-5 for this trip

Optional Comment:

## School

Describe the Location(s):

Which I-5 exit do you take to get here?

250 - SR 11/Old Fairhaven Pkwy.

252 - Samish Way

253 - Lakeway Dr.

254 - Iowa St.

255 - Sunset Dr.

256 - SR 539/Meridian St.

257 - Northwest Ave.

258 - Bakerview Rd.

Other

I don't travel on I-5 for this trip

Optional Comment:

## Shopping

Describe the Location(s):

Which I-5 exit do you take to get here?

250 - SR 11/Old Fairhaven Pkwy.

252 - Samish Way

253 - Lakeway Dr.

254 - Iowa St.

255 - Sunset Dr.

256 - SR 539/Meridian St.

257 - Northwest Ave.

258 - Bakerview Rd.

Other

I don't travel on I-5 for this trip

Optional Comment:

## Recreation & Other Destination

Describe the Location(s):

Which I-5 exit do you take to get here?

250 - SR 11/Old Fairhaven Pkwy.

252 - Samish Way

253 - Lakeway Dr.

254 - Iowa St.

255 - Sunset Dr.

256 - SR 539/Meridian St.

257 - Northwest Ave.

258 - Bakerview Rd.

Other

I don't travel on I-5 for this trip

Optional Comment:

## Transportation Challenge

Describe the Location(s):

Why is this a challenge?

Traffic backup and congestion

Safety concern

Frequent road work

Hard to merge

Freight concern

Other

Optional Comment

## Rate These Strategies

Please view and give input on each strategy. Please give input on these 3 strategies to manage congestion and crashes on I-5.

### I-5 Ramp Operations & Crashes

Relieve congestion and reduce crashes by making changes to some of the on- and off-ramps to I-5.

Options may include minor traffic revisions, such as restriping on local roads and I-5 ramps. These revisions would help move buses, bikes, pedestrians, freight, and vehicles on the transportation system.

Travel Time on I-5: Slightly better than today

Congestion Relief: Better than today

Transit: Better than today

Bike and Walk: Better than today

**Please Rate This Strategy (0 stars to 5 stars):**

**Optional Comment:**

## Ramp Meters & Messaging Signs

Relieve congestion and reduce crashes by installing ramp meters and travel advisory signs along I-5 through Bellingham.

Ramp meters use a lighted signal to control traffic merging onto I-5. These will improve traffic flow on I-5 and can reduce crashes by up to 30%. Travel advisory signs can help inform drivers of upcoming congestion and crashes.

Travel Time on I-5: Better than today

Congestion Relief: Better than today

Transit: Same as today

Bike and Walk: Same as today

**Please Rate This Strategy (0 stars to 5 stars):**

**Optional Comment:**

## Manage Demand

Improve the transportation system to make it easier for people to choose how they travel - especially by transit, walking, and biking.

Multimodal improvements may include more transit operations and service, creating more transit options on I-5, or improving bike and pedestrian options to cross over & under the interstate. These investments would improve connections for all modes of travel.

Travel Time on I-5: Slightly better than today

Congestion Relief: Better than today

Transit: Much better than today

Bike and Walk: Much better than today

**Please Rate This Strategy (0 stars to 5 stars):**

**Optional Comment:**

## Wrap-Up Questions

Thank you for your input so far! It has been recorded. Please answer a few optional questions. Your information is anonymous and will be kept private.

Please share this survey and spread the word!

Thank You!

Please consider answering the questions below. Your response is anonymous and your privacy is protected.

These questions help us determine how well we are meeting our equity and inclusion goals and reaching all members of our community.

What is your age?

- 0-14 years old
- 15-24 years old
- 25-34 years old
- 35-44 years old
- 45-54 years old
- 55-64 years old
- 65-74 years old
- 75-84 years old
- 85 years and older

What gender do you identify as?

What is your race?

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Some Other Race
- Two or More Races
- Prefer not to answer

Do you identify as Hispanic/Latino?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

Do you identify as having a disability under the ADA?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

What is your household income?

- Less than \$15,000
- \$15,000 - \$24,999
- \$25,000 - \$34,999
- \$35,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$149,999
- \$150,000 - \$199,999
- \$200,000 and above
- Prefer not to answer

What is your home zip code?

## Thank You!

Whatcom Council of Governments (WCOG) and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) appreciate your input.

**For questions or assistance with this survey or to submit a completed survey:**

Please contact Katie Bunge at (360) 757-5982 or [bungek@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:bungek@wsdot.wa.gov).

