

Jon Hutchings
Director



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Memorandum

To: The Honorable Satpal Sidhu, Whatcom County Executive and
The Honorable Members of the Whatcom County Council

Through: Jon Hutchings, Director *JH*

From: James P. Karcher, P.E., County Engineer *JPK*

Date: March 2, 2022

Re: **Ordinance for Establishing Movement Restrictions on E. Hemmi Road at the
Intersection with Hannegan Road**

Requested Action

Public Works respectfully requests that the County Council adopt the proposed ordinance to establish left turn and through movement restrictions on E. Hemmi Road at the intersection with Hannegan Road during the school year.

Background and Purpose

Whatcom County Public Works Director Jon Hutchings was contacted on January 21st, 2020 by the Superintendent of the Meridian School District, Dr. James Everett, with concerns regarding the safety of the intersection during school drop-off and pick-up times. The County Engineer has worked with the Meridian School District to find a solution to the issues raised during their discussions. Establishing these restrictions will lead to a safer and more orderly flow of traffic, lower the conflict with through traffic on Hannegan Road, and reduce the queueing of traffic on E. Hemmi Road until such time as an intersection improvement study can be undertaken and such revisions are determined to be unnecessary. In 2023 this intersection is slated for an Intersection Alternatives Analysis as part of Project R38 *Corridor Intersection Alts Analysis* in the Whatcom County's Six Year Transportation Improvement Program 2022-2027. This ordinance has the support of the Meridian School District Superintendent (see enclosure).

Information

This ordinance will allow for the installation of traffic control signs and is necessary to comply with RCW 46.61.290 to establish vehicular movement restrictions on certain County roads.

Please contact Douglas Ranney II, P.E., Engineering Services Manager at extension 6255 with any questions regarding this ordinance.

Enclosure: Meridian School District Letter of Support