



## MEDIA INFORMATION

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – JULY 19, 2007**

Contact: Jackie R. Cronk, City Clerk/Public Information Officer

City of Covington

253-638-1110, Ext. 2234

206-423-3709 Cell

[jcronk@ci.covington.wa.us](mailto:jcronk@ci.covington.wa.us)

### **SE 256TH STREET/164TH AVENUE SE INTERSECTION TO BE CLOSED AUGUST 6 THROUGH 19 – BETWEEN HOURS OF 7 AM AND 4 PM**

Covington, Wash. – **Beginning Monday August 6<sup>th</sup> and ending Sunday August 19<sup>th</sup>, R.W. Scott Construction crews will be closing the intersection of SE 256<sup>TH</sup> Street and 164<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE each day between the hours of 7 AM and 4 PM.** The closure will allow crews to construct the much anticipated two lane roundabout as part of the Street Construction Project (CIP 1034) that began last summer.

Signs will be placed to warn motorists of the “Road Closed Ahead” and that the roadway is for “Local Access Only”. Those signs will be at the following major arterial intersections:

- SE 272<sup>nd</sup> Street and 164<sup>th</sup> Ave SE (Kent-Kangley);
- SE 256<sup>th</sup> Street and 180<sup>th</sup> Ave SE;
- SE 240<sup>th</sup> Street and 164<sup>th</sup> Ave SE; and
- SE 256<sup>th</sup> Street and 156<sup>th</sup> Ave SE.

In addition, flaggers will be placed at all four legs of the closure, in the vicinity of the 164<sup>th</sup> Ave SE and SE 256<sup>th</sup> Street intersection, in order to facilitate traffic and the closure as well as any emergency vehicles (please see map of intersection below).

The closure will allow crews to excavate the roadway down 3 feet in order to remove old concrete panels as well as lower the final elevation of the roadway. The crews will then begin building the roadway back up. The final grade of the roundabout will be 18 inches lower than the existing grade of the intersection. The lowering of the intersection is necessary in order to maintain an acceptable uniform grade for the operational safety of the roundabout. The closure will also allow for the roundabout to be constructed and operational prior to school starting on September 4<sup>th</sup>, thereby alleviating any increased traffic delays for parents, students, faculty and staff trying to access the schools.

At the end of each day (approximately 4:00 p.m.) the roadway will be reopened to traffic. However, motorists should use caution since the intersection will likely be in different conditions each day and at times motorists will be required to drive on gravel.

At the completion of the closure motorists can expect that the roundabout will be in an operational state, however not totally completed. The roundabout will be paved and striped but will require additional work such as landscaping, completion of the median islands approaching the roundabout, and the installation of the stamped colored concrete crosswalks.

Additional work is also needed on the remainder of the project that includes median curbing, landscaping, final lift of asphalt, and final striping.

### CONTACTS:

Covington City staff will continue to provide updates regarding this project (and other projects) through articles in the Covington Monthly Update distributed in the Covington Reporter, official news releases, and the project's website: <http://www.g-o.com/covington/main.html>. Citizens are encouraged to periodically view the website for updates and to provide feedback to the City staff regarding the project. Specific comments may be addressed through the Covington Connection link on the project website, or the City's main web page at <http://ci.covington.wa.us/connection.cfm>.

