

NOTICE OF NEPA EIS SCOPING AND EIS PUBLIC MEETING

for
KING COUNTY SITE WORK
and
WASHINGTON STATE CONVENTION CENTER ADDITION

Project: Actions are proposed by two public agencies -- **King County** and the **Washington State Convention Center** (WSCC) – relative to use and development of property in downtown Seattle. The approximately 4.8-acre site that is the subject of these actions is bounded by Olive Way, Boren Avenue, Interstate 5, Pine Street, and Ninth Avenue. Specifically:

- King County Metro’s Convention Place Station (CPS) is scheduled to close and King County intends to prepare the site for possible sale. As part of that process, actions would need to occur relative to: closure of the transit-only ingress/egress associated with the I-5 Pike Street express lane ramp to CPS, closure of the passenger facilities at CPS, and removal of the existing Metro flyover ramp that extends over WSDOT property. This break-in-access and removal of the ramp would require authorization from the Federal Highway Administration.
- Washington State Convention Center proposes an addition of approximately 1.5 million square feet on the CPS site. Portions of the proposed WSCC Addition would extend over WSDOT property and require both a ground lease and an air rights lease.

Previous Environmental Analysis: Scoping for the SEPA EIS associated with the proposed *Washington State Convention Center Addition* occurred in the February to May 2015 timeframe; an EIS Scoping meeting was held on March 3, 2015. Based on scoping, the range of alternatives and environmental issues to be analyzed in the SEPA Draft EIS were determined. The SEPA Draft EIS was issued February 26, 2016, and the Draft EIS comment period concluded April 11, 2016. It is expected that the SEPA Final EIS will be issued autumn 2016.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration – Washington Division, reviewed the SEPA Draft EIS and determined that FHWA approval would be needed for the proposed break-in-access and the ground and air rights lease. In light of that, the proposed project (King County Site Work and WSCC Addition) must be evaluated in accordance with requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and a NEPA EIS must be prepared for this project.

The Federal Highway Administration will serve as the lead federal agency for this NEPA EIS and the Washington State Convention Center will be a joint lead agency.

Scoping: Agencies, affected Tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on the scope of the NEPA EIS. All comments are due no later than **July 29, 2016**. Methods for presenting your comments are described below.

- **EIS Public Scoping Meeting:** An EIS Scoping Meeting is scheduled for **July 20, 2016**, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Washington State Convention Center, 705 Pike Street (Room 206), Seattle, WA.
- **Submit written comments via U.S. mail to:**

Ms. Jane Lewis
Washington State Convention Center Addition
c/o Pine Street Group L.L.C.
1500 Fourth Avenue, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98101

- **Submit Written Comments via E-mail to:**

wsc@pinest.com