

Information sheets are prepared and maintained for each project currently approved by IMTC Program organizations for their 2013 list of shared priorities for Cascade Gateway border improvements. Information sheets are updated as needed and thus include a version-date. Current copies, inclusive of any changes to information below, are available in the future-projects section at theIMTC.com.

Peace Arch – Douglas Completion of Pedestrian Improvements

Overview

In 2009 and 2010 respectively, Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP) completed full replacements of their inspection stations at the Peace Arch-Douglas ports-of-entry (POE). Both new facilities include improved infrastructure for border arrivals by pedestrians. These border stations are at the north and south ends of Peace Arch International Park which is jointly maintained by the state of Washington and the province of British Columbia. Additionally, both adjacent municipalities; Blaine, WA and Surrey, BC; have robust pedestrian and bicycle routes which the Peace Arch-Douglas POE is a connection point for.

Along with the completion of their Douglas station, CBSA extended a section of paved pedestrian sidewalk along the east edge of the arch field (annotated photo below). In response to initial IMTC efforts to address needs for better pedestrian connectivity at this location, BC Parks extended the sidewalk to the international boundary. Attempts to fund the remaining section along the U.S. half of the arch-field have been unsuccessful. This project, once funded, will complete this section as well as improve pedestrian and bicycle route signage in the relevant areas of the park, the POE facilities, and the adjacent sections of Blaine and Surrey.

Location



Why this project is needed

- Pedestrian and bicycle border crossings, while not as voluminous as vehicle traffic, should be fully supported with appropriate, safe, and well-marked routes.
- A completed walking surface along the arch-field will be an important improvement, especially in wet conditions, for cross-border pedestrians, park visitors, and the many people who conduct transactions with both POEs as well as inspection agency personnel who regularly walk between both facilities.

Results

- A complete, station-to-station paved walking surface through Peace Arch Park.
- A comprehensively reviewed and improved system of bicycle and pedestrian routing in and around the inspection stations, park, and adjacent portions of Blaine and Surrey.

Estimated project Schedule

This project can be done in two phases.

- Completion of the remaining section of walkway could be completed in one week.

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- Coordinated review, formation, and installation of improved route signage could be completed over the course of three to four months.

Cost

This project is estimated to cost \$79,000 (\$43,000 for the remaining portion of walkway, \$26,000 for the option of an ADA path to the Peace Arch monument, and \$10,000 for route signing improvements).

This project is not currently funded.

Administration, funding, and partnerships

Washington State Parks has prepared the cost estimates and would also be the lead on installations in the park. Through the IMTC Program, this work would be coordinated with affected agencies especially U.S. CBP, the International Boundary Commission, BC Parks, and CBSA. Review and formation of a signage plan would be coordinated with all involved agencies and jurisdictions through IMTC. Sign approval and installation will be handled as required by individual agencies with ownership of specific locations.

Additional information

For additional information, please contact:

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