



The intersection of state Route 3 and Log Yard Road, also called Belfair Yard Road, will be the site of Belfair's first roundabout.

Herald file photo by Dana Kampa

INSIDE: WSDOT to update residents on SR3 Freight Corridor. See Page A-23

MTA OKs \$2.4M contract for Belfair roundabout

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Plans to construct Belfair's first roundabout solidified last week when Mason Transit Authority's Board of Directors awarded a \$2.4 million contract to Tacoma-based Active Construction Inc.

The roundabout will be at the intersection of Log Yard Road and state Route 3 in Belfair near the fu-

ture Mason Transit Authority park-and-ride lot. Mason Transit Authority received eight bids for the project. The board selected Active Construction's bid of \$2,422,172 — the lowest bid. Seven of eight bids were less than \$3 million, and one was \$3.5 million.

Danette Brannin, MTA general manager, said in an interview that work will begin later this month, but weather could affect the timeline. The contractor

has 120 days to complete the project. "I'll be pushing for it to get done as soon as possible," Brannin said.

A new park-and-ride lot on Log Yard Road is also in the works. Brannin said the lot would feature more than 100 parking spots, about eight stalls for bus storage, nine parking stalls for MTA use, a

Roundabout: Done in 2020

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car-charging station and a pedestrian overhang for people to stand underneath.

Bids for the park-and-ride project could go out by Jan. 1, Brannin said, but the endeavor could require more than three weeks for bidding — the usual timeframe — due to its scope.

“The expectation is that we’d have it under contract by March 2020,” Brannin said. “It’s about a 10-month project, so we would want to get that done by the end of 2020. Last I knew we were very close to being ready for bid.”

Crews could start building the park and ride in the spring, she said.

The bid also includes site work for the park-and-ride lot, including a stormwater pond that will be shared.

MTA board chair Randy Neatherlin, also a county commissioner whose district covers Belfair, pointed out the roundabout will go where the county’s Urban Growth Area begins “whether people like it or not.”

“That is where people are supposed to start slowing down,” Neatherlin said during the meeting.

Board member Kevin Shutty, Board of Mason County Commissioners chair, said lots of public meetings and outreach was done in the area.

“Thanks to staff for getting this turned around,” Shutty said.

According to MTA, an engineer estimated the work would cost about \$2.5

million.

Active Construction’s bid includes:

- \$600,000 for surfacing
- \$450,000 for paving
- \$443,672 for mobilization
- \$215,000 for grading
- \$200,000 for an illumination system
- \$150,000 for traffic control
- \$125,000 for stormwater management systems
- \$75,000 for clearing and grubbing
- \$40,000 for permanent signing
- \$35,000 for pavement markings
- \$35,000 for erosion control
- \$35,000 for roadway surveying
- \$10,000 for demolition
- \$8,500 for cleanup

The roundabout is the latest road construction project in Belfair. In 2017, the county completed its state Route 3 widening project, which provided new sidewalks along the highway in downtown Belfair and added a turning lane.

Officials still plan to have the SR 3 Freight Corridor project — also called the Belfair Bypass — completed by 2025. That long-awaited plan would create a new route east of Belfair to “improve travel times for regional traffic, reduce the volume of regional traffic in Belfair, and help reduce the potential for collisions,” according to Washington state Department of Transportation.

WSDOT estimates the SR 3 Freight Corridor project will begin in summer 2022.

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