

TR-980787 (P)

SERVICE DATE

AUG - 7 1998

# SKAGIT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

1111 Cleveland Avenue, Mount Vernon, WA 98273-4215 (360) 336-9400 FAX (360) 336-9478

July 30, 1998

Mr. Mike Rowswell, Rail Operation Manager  
Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission  
P.O. Box 47250  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7250

Re: W.U.T.C. Crossing No.: 1G94.00U  
D.O.T. Crossing No.: 085104S  
Road Name: Prairie Road, County Road No. 50000

Dear Mr. Rowswell:

Skagit County hereby petitions the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) for an alteration to the existing under-pass referenced above. This alteration is being requested for the following reasons:

- The railroad trestle supports are within the roadway clear zone.
- The railroad trestle's vertical clearance does not meet minimum Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) requirements.
- Skagit County is scheduled to reconstruct Prairie Road (a minor collector at this time) in 1999. The reconstruction may include, but not be limited to, increasing the roadway width, adding shoulders, modifying/supplementing drainage structures and placing guardrail.
- The trestle will present a "choke" point if the road is reconstructed as planned without increasing the horizontal and vertical dimensions of the current trestle configuration.
- Skagit County has experienced a growth rate of approximately 7.5% in the area of Prairie Road. Therefore, Prairie Road needs to be modified to accommodate future traffic volumes.

Attached is a figure showing the current railroad dimensions and the proposed road modifications. In addition, photographs of the trestle are enclosed for your review. In an effort to expedite progress of this project, Skagit County is submitting this petition prior to performing all the necessary design work. Depending on future site evaluations, the proposed dimensions may change. If changes do occur, we will notify you immediately.

In addition to our request for modifications to the current under-pass, Skagit County requests that WUTC apportion costs associated with the railroad trestle modifications.

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Thank you for consideration of our request. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact either Jim Karcher or Luis Ponce at (360) 336-9400.

Sincerely,

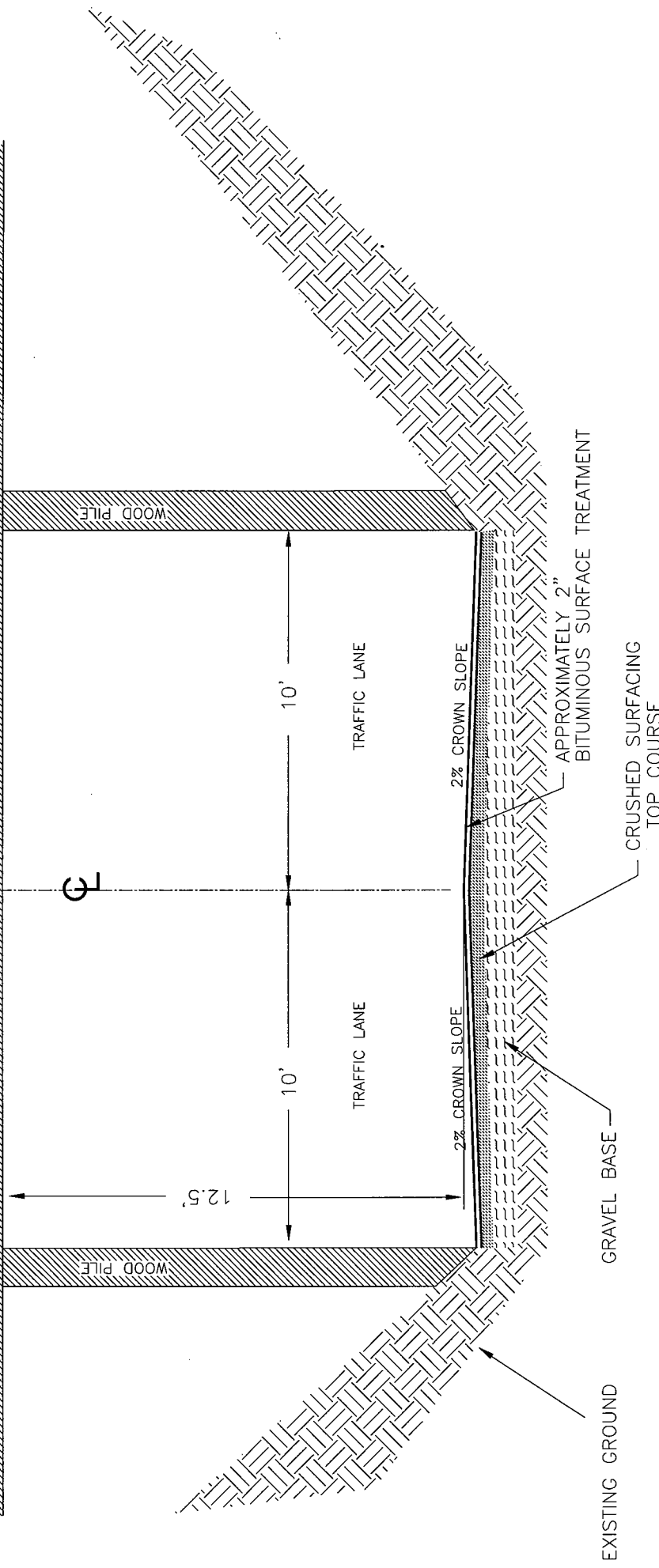
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Flude". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "S".

Steven T. Flude, P.E.  
Assistant County Engineer/Assistant Public Works Director

Enclosures

JPK/lp

# BNSF TRESTLE



EXISTING ROADWAY SECTION

n.t.s.

PRELIMINARY

SKAGIT COUNTY

**PUBLIC WORKS**  
MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON

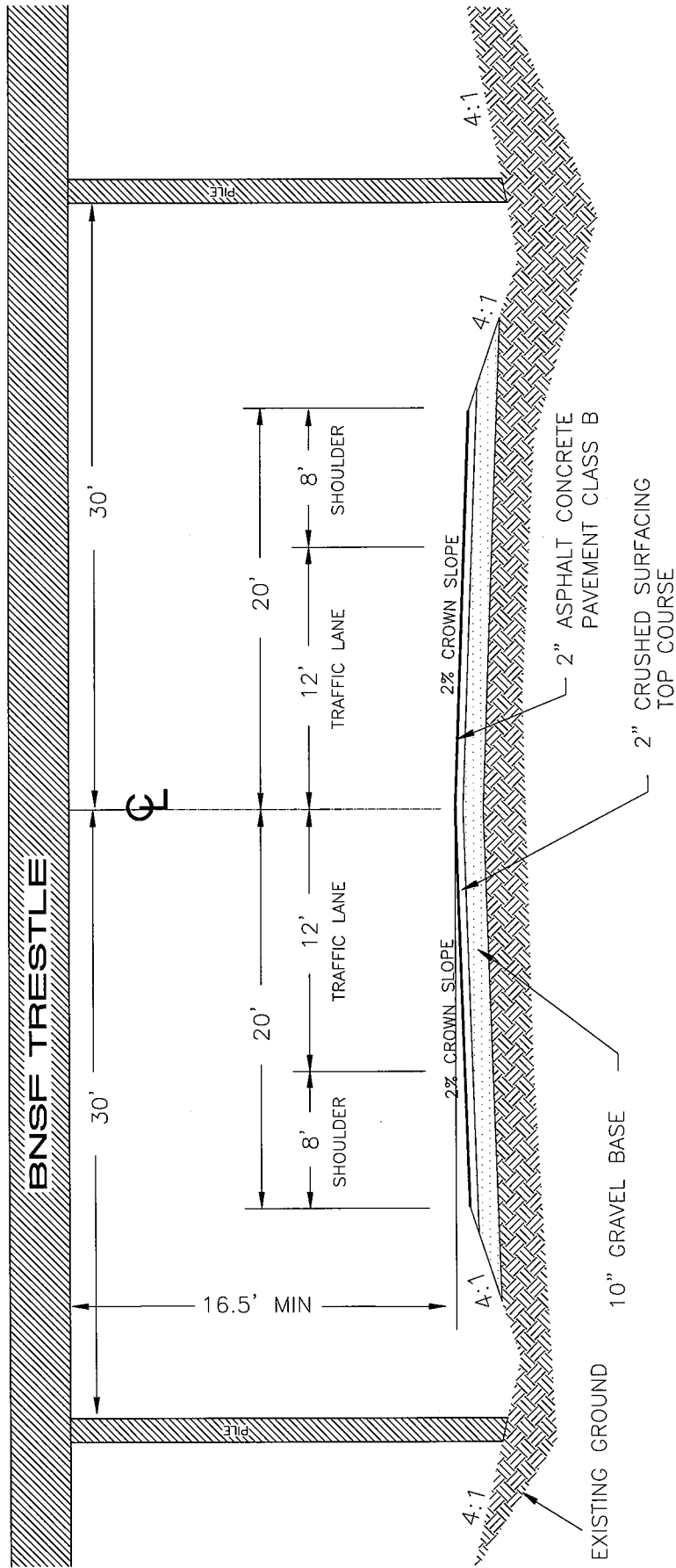
PRAIRIE ROAD #5000

EXISTING ROADWAY SECTION

SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

JULY 1998

SHEET 1 OF 1



TYPICAL PROPOSED ROADWAY SECTION

n.t.s.

PRELIMINARY

SKAGIT COUNTY

PUBLIC WORKS  
MOUNT VERNON, WASHINGTON

PRAIRIE ROAD #5000

TYPICAL PROPOSED ROADWAY SECTION

SCALE: NOT TO SCALE

JULY 1998

SHEET 1 OF 1