

Skagit County Public Works

Marblemount Bridge Public Meeting



Introductions

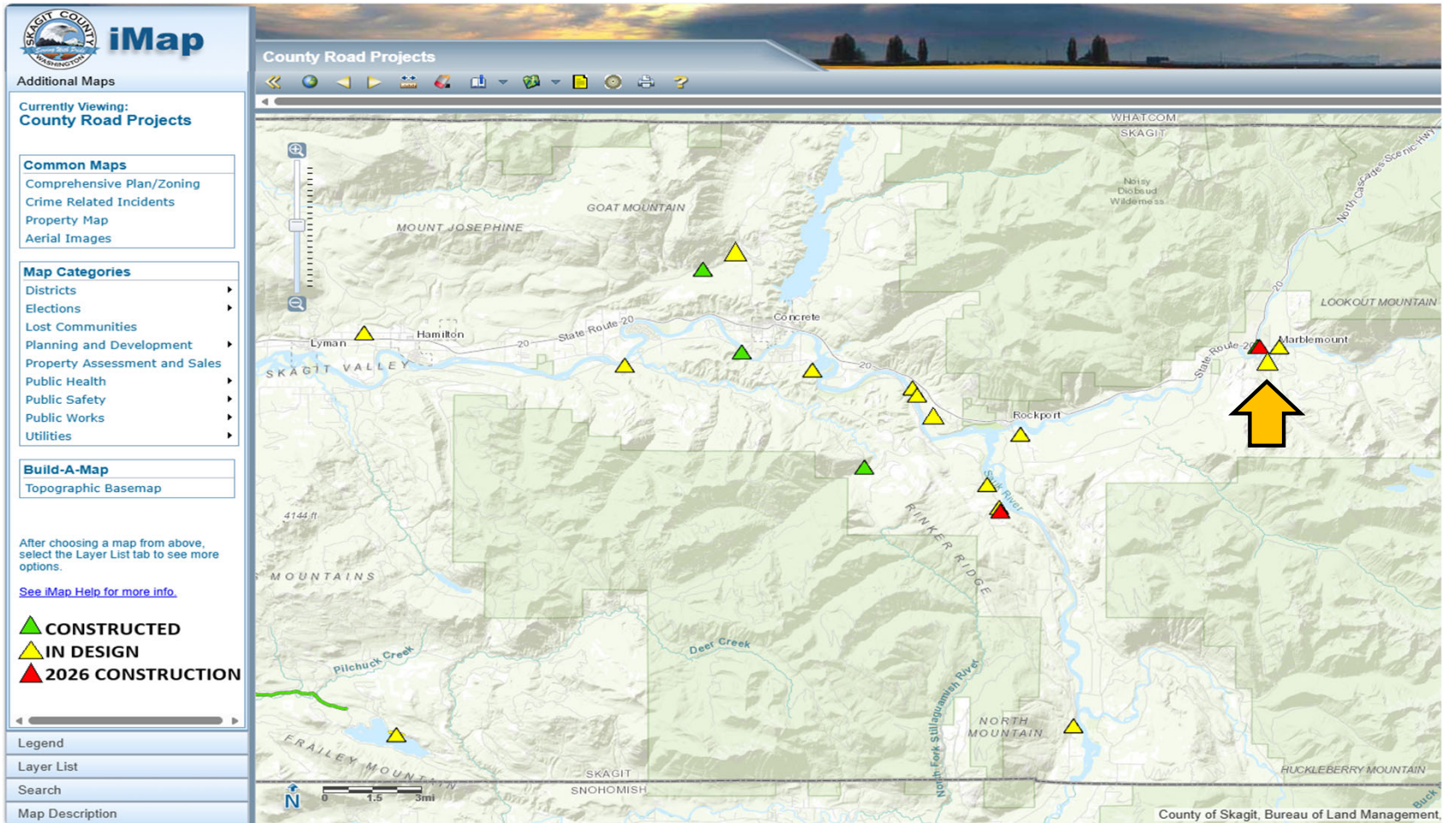
- Mike See, Public Works Director
- Tom Weller P.E., County Engineer
- Gael Fisk P.E., Assistant County Engineer
- Devin Willard E.I.T., Project Manager
- Jenn Rogers, Communications and Engagement Manager



Recent flooding and area impacts



Projects throughout East Skagit County



Marblemount Bridge

History

- Constructed in 1930 (96 years old)
- Historical Route: Cascade Wagon Road → SR17 → Cascade River Road
- Many components in need of repair
- Timeline: 2022 (Grant), 2023 (Design), 2025 (Construction)



Marblemount Bridge Rehabilitation

Summer 2025 Work

- Begin Construction – July 2025
- Winter Shutdown – December 2025
- Work Completed – Replace concrete barriers, approach guardrail, approach slab closure pour, localized surface prep/paint, & steel plate installation



Marblemount Bridge Rehabilitation

Summer 2026 Planned Work

- Begin Construction – March 2026
- Planned Completion – October 2026
- Planned Work – Rivet inspection/replacement, surface prep/rust repair/paint, & bridge deck repair/overlay



Marblemount Bridge Rehabilitation

Summer 2026 Bridge Closures

- Contractor 5-day work week
- 15 days of intermittent summer night closures
 - Monday night – Friday morning
 - 8 PM – 4 AM
- No continuous closures planned for deck resurfacing



Marblemount Bridge Rehabilitation

Jordan Creek Bridge Closure Impacts

- Coordination with emergency services
- Project completion date unchanged
- Change in construction sequencing



Jordan Creek Bridge Wash-out

December 2025 Flood Damage



- Natural debris shifted the creek
- 70-ft cut around the existing bridge



Jordan Creek Bridge Wash-out

History at Jordan Creek Bridge

- The bridge restricts the historic channel - "alluvial fan"
- The bridge has washed out before most recently in the late 1980's
- The banks have been diked/armored, increasing flow velocity and erosive potential



Jordan Creek Bridge Wash-out

“Why not just move the channel back and fill the gap?”

- More than likely it will blow out again
- Our permitting agencies will not approve
- Environmental “mitigation” would be triggered at a significant cost
- Will cause distrust amongst agencies and make permitting future projects more difficult



Jordan Creek Bridge Wash

“What happened to the temporary fix?”

- Commissioners tentatively approved a 2-lane Acrow Bridge
- The temporary bridge would have spanned the existing bridge
- Due to the new profile, ramps and walls were required
- Previous goal - design and construct it in 2 months
- 10-month lease and construction exceeded \$2M



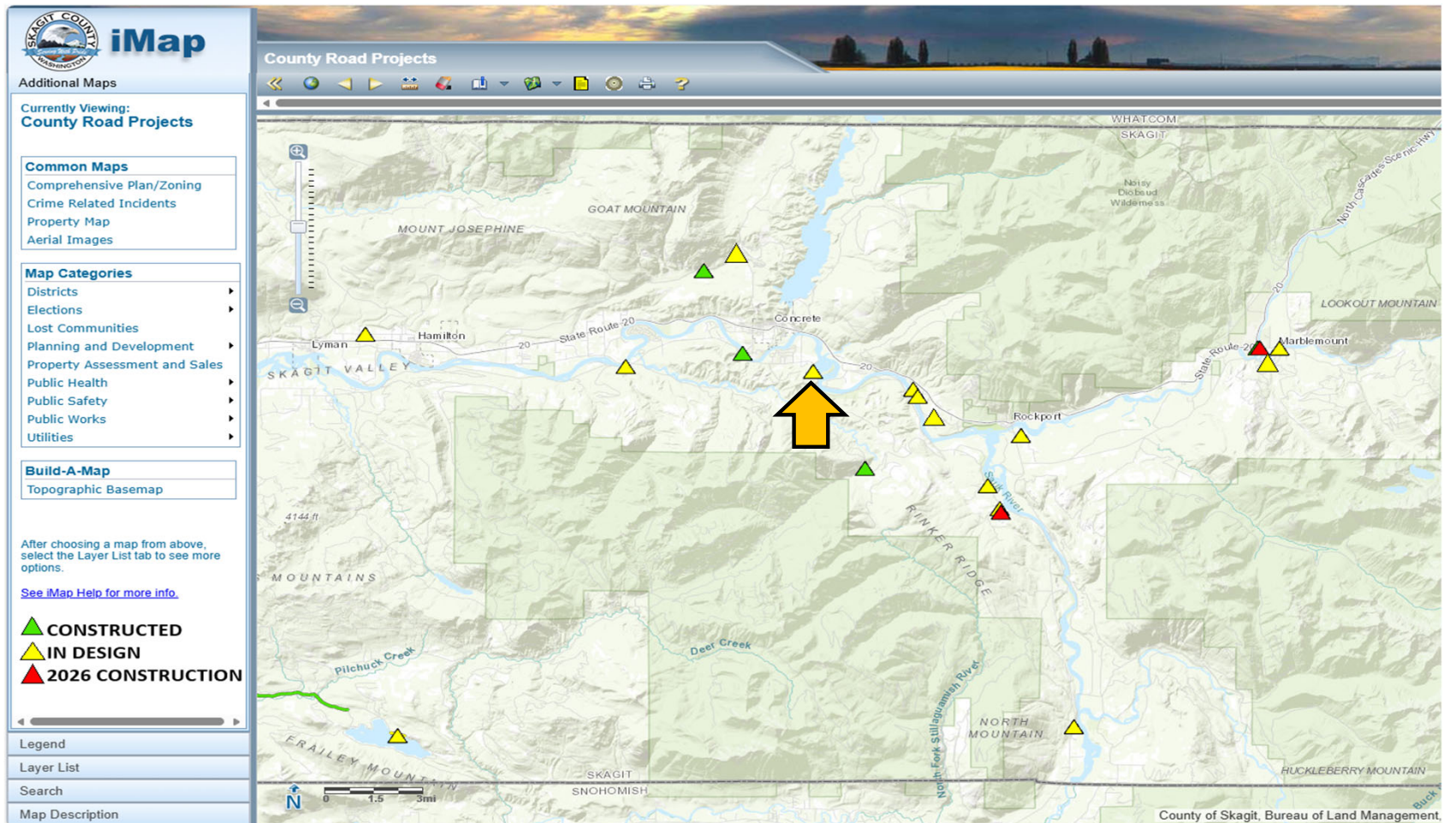
Jordan Creek Bridge Wash-out

Current Plan

- The team is moving forward with design of a permanent bridge, \$600K +/- in 2026
- The team is actively searching for grant funding, at the local, state, and federal level
- By completing design quickly, the County will be better position for grant funding
- If the County does receive FEMA funding, this is our number one project



Projects throughout East Skagit County



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

How did we get here?

- The highway was constructed within the historical Skagit River floodplain in the 1960s
- The Skagit River is relentless in finding the path of least resistance
- Previous efforts were not substantial enough for redirection



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

Aerial photo from 1969



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

Aerial photo from 2001



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

Aerial photo from 2009



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

Aerial photo from 2017



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

Aerial photo from 2023



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

Aerial photo from 2026



CSVR @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

Why was nothing done?

- The Skagit River is designated as “Wild and Scenic”
- The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prevents intervention
- Threatened and Endangered Species frequent the river
- Protective measures could only begin once the river reached the highway



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

What is the County doing immediately?

- The County temporarily closed the highway
- The County's construction crews are working to reopen one lane of traffic
- Further sitework will occur to attempt to open two lanes of traffic
- We are hopeful the repairs will last another winter or maybe even two



CSVR @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

What is the County's long-term solution?

- A prior Congressional “earmark” is being used to design an engineered solution
- The County is applying for additional federal funds to construct the project
- The County is working to redesignate the highway's classification to be grant eligible
- The County is searching for other possible local or state funding options



CSVR @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

A similar Whatcom County project “before”



CSVR @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

A similar Whatcom County project “during”



CSV @ M.P. 3.7 Stabilization

A similar Whatcom County project “after”



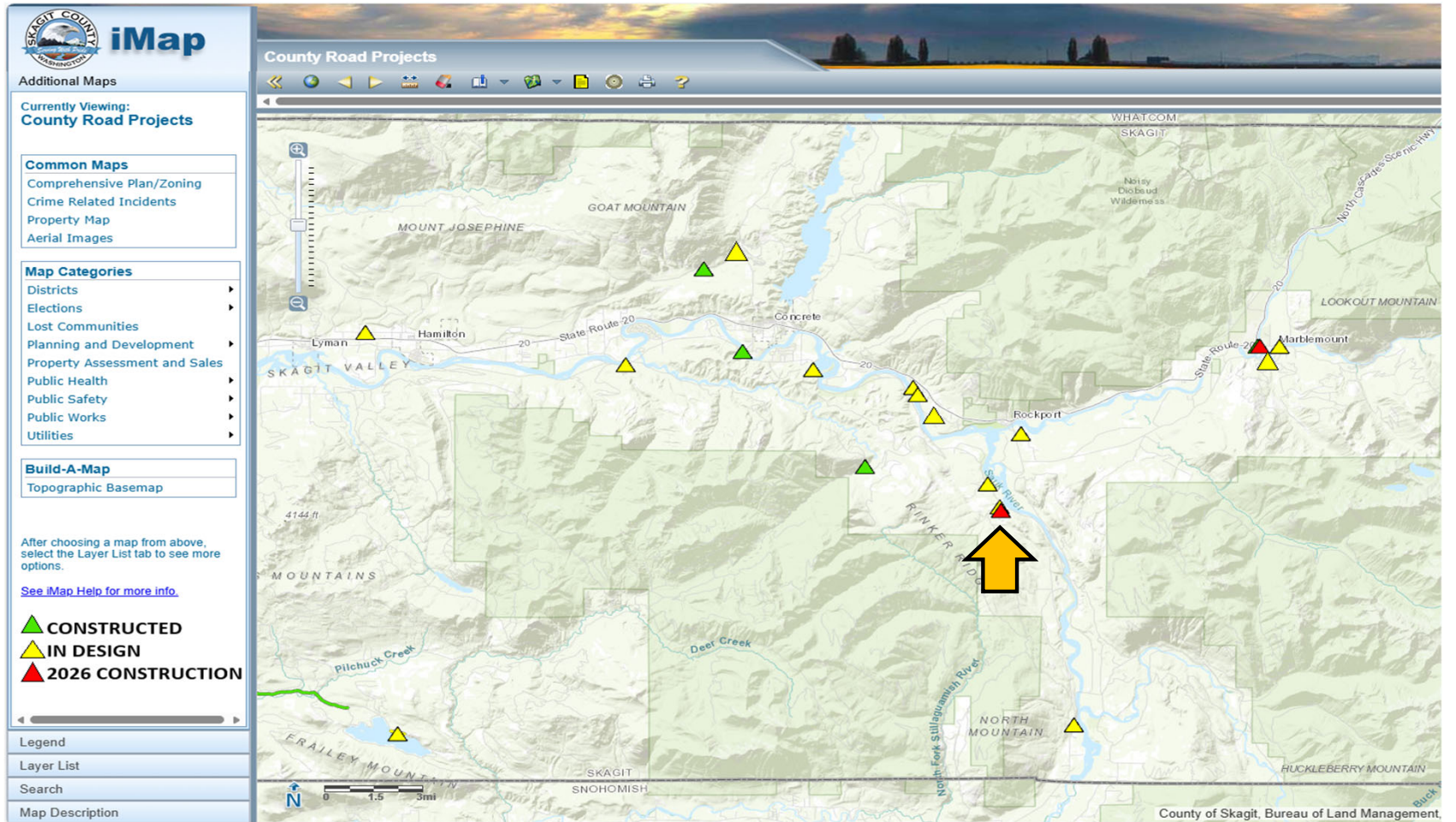
Public Works Budget

Why can't the County find \$ for these projects?

- Financial Demand > Available Resources
- Potential General Funds for Jordan Creek design
- The Governor signed the 26-27 budget
- We continue hope for FEMA funding
- Congressional Delegation support
- Remote chance for other FHWA funding



Projects throughout East Skagit County



CSV @ M.P. 13 @ S Osterman Creek

This summer's other East County construction project

- Replacement of a culvert barrier to fish passage
- The culvert was damaged during the 2021 flood event
- The County received funding from FEMA
- The County's match is 5% of the \$2.5M CN cost
- Construction will begin in mid-July
- The road will be closed @ M.P. 13



CSV @ M.P. 13 @ N Osterman Creek

This summer's important East County design project

- Replacement of a culvert barrier to fish passage
- The culvert was damaged during the 2021 flood event
- The County received funding from FEMA
- The County's match is 5% of the \$1.5M PE cost
- 30% Design will be completed by mid-July



Next Steps

Communications Plan

- Add your email to the sign-in sheet if you're interested in project updates.
- We will plan to start sending out twice monthly updates on the Marblemount bridge project.
- No new updates expected for Jordan Creek bridge, unless new funding is allocated.



Questions?

