

BELLINGHAM, WA RACKS UP ANOTHER GREENROADS WINNER
BELLINGHAM’S JAMES STREET PROJECT DELIVERS A NEW BRIDGE, A NEW ROAD AND A NEW LIFE FOR SALMON

BELLINGHAM, WA – JAN. 30, 2016 – The Greenroads Foundation is pleased to announce the City of Bellingham’s James Street Bridge Replacement and roads Improvements project has earned a Greenroads Silver Certification with 43 points. This brings to six the number of Greenroads certified projects in the small northwest Washington city. The Bellingham Public Works Department now holds four Bronze and two Silver certified projects.

The \$3 million project replaced two 95-year-old timber bridge structures with a single, 80-foot concrete span with one lane in each direction, adding dedicated lanes for bikes and sidewalks for pedestrians. The bridge, which carries nearly 12,000 vehicles each day, is now removed from the flood plain.

“What really impressed me was the approach to reducing impervious surfaces,” said Dr. Jeralee Anderson, Greenroads Executive Director as she reviewed the vertically hydroseeded retaining walls. “It looks like the bridge has mutton chops. It works well to clean water as it runs off the bridge.”



Bellingham’s James Street Bridge Replacement and Road Improvements Project’s Greenroads Scorecard. The project completed all 11 Project Requirements and 14 credits worth 43 points, earning a Silver Certification and becoming the highest scoring environmental project.

The bridge approaches contain warm mix asphalt and a landscaped median. The project included access and parking for Sunset Pond Park.

Project managers are not only proud of the beautiful bridge and recycled concrete approaches, but also the new, rechanneled Squalicum Creek. “The existing creek flowed through a body of warm water in a former gravel pit pond,” said Craig Mueller, project engineer for the City of Bellingham. “We rechanneled the creek which now flows under the new bridge to improve environmental connectivity and increase salmon habitat. It’s really spectacular at high water.”



Habitat restoration was a point of pride for this bridge project.



The bridge has its own biofiltration in tiny wetlands at the edges to treat and manage runoff - bioclean modular wetlands



Total area of warm mix asphalt: 5.590 square yards



Vertical vegetation makes its way up the bridge.

KPFF of Seattle designed the project and Bellingham-based RAM Construction built the bridge.



PRESS RELEASE

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Project highlights include:

- 97.23% materials by weight sourced within 100 miles
- 23.5% recycled content, including 15% RAP in the Warm Mix Asphalt and 639,330 pounds of recycled concrete
- 80.0% reuse of existing pavement areas (bridge approaches)
- New class A bike lanes and sidewalk area of 12,123 square feet
- A new visitor access area for the nearby park
- Bridge and roadway together treat and manage 99% of all runoff treated in the upgraded condition
- LED lighting that is Dark Sky Friendly

Greenroads Foundation

Established in 2010, Greenroads Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, which advances sustainability education and initiatives for transportation infrastructure. As the developer of the Greenroads Rating System, the Foundation manages the certification process for sustainable roadway and bridge construction projects in the U.S. and internationally. For more information, visit www.greenroads.org and join us on Facebook at facebook.com/greenroads.

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