

## C8 – Tolt Hill Road Intersection

### ■ Context

The intersection of Tolt Hill Road with SR 203 is the south entry to the City of Carnation. SR 203 carries approximately 9,500 vehicles per day (vpd) north of the intersection and 7,000 vpd south of the intersection. A relatively high percentage of the traffic on SR 203 is trucks. The west leg of Tolt Hill Road carries 3,200 vpd. The east leg of the intersection provides access to Remlinger Farms and carries 300 vpd.

The intersection is located just south of the existing bridge over the Tolt River. The intersection and its approaches are above the surrounding properties and flood plain. These features constrain potential improvements at the intersection.

### ■ Analysis

Options to improve safety and traffic operations at the intersection include construction of a roundabout, installation of a traffic signal, and other spot improvements. A roundabout would require shifting the intersection slightly to the south to provide adequate distance from the bridge. This would require acquisition of right-of-way and would impact the adjacent properties. The benefits of a roundabout are that it would slow traffic and provide a gateway/transition area from the City of Carnation and the rural highway.

The intersection meets traffic signal warrants and is on the WSDOT signal and channelization priority arrays. It would be desirable to construct left turn lanes on the northbound and southbound approaches of SR 203. The distance between the intersection and the bridge and would restrict the southbound left turn lane. Channelization improvements would also require raising the adjacent areas to the grade of the roadway.



Figure 38. Current conditions, looking north.



Figure 39. Roundabout concept at the Tolt Hill Road intersection.