

August 15, 2025

**Patrick Prendergast, P.E.**  
Vice President  
Skanska USA Civil  
18911 North Creek Parkway, Suite 300  
Bothell, WA 98011

WSDOT SL No. 9727-138

Reference: **Contract No. 9727**  
**I-405, Brickyard to SR 527 Improvement Project**

Subject: **RE: Notice of WSDOT Initiated Change – SR 522 Comfort Hub Septic  
(Holding) Tank**

Mr. Prendergast:

WSDOT is in receipt of Skanska serial letter No. 218, Notice of WSDOT-Initiated Change – SR 522 Comfort Hub Septic (Holding) Tank, dated August 1, 2025. WSDOT does not agree that the Work to provide a septic holding tank for the bathrooms of the SR 522 Comfort Station building is a WSDOT initiated change to the Contract.

It was documented in the enclosed Contract submittals that this proposal was determined by the Design-Builder (both Skanska and AECOM) as follows:

- Vertical Task Force Meeting Minutes, dated June 11, 2024, it states the following:

*“Skanska described an alternative to the compostable toilet and underground tank. The alternative would be to provide a combined holding tank for gray water and black water effluent to replace the gray water tank. The tank would not release any effluent to the ground like a traditional septic system. This would allow the use of standard toilet fixtures and plumbing for the sewer drain line to the tank. The effluent would require pumping out for disposal at a sewer treatment facility. AECOM will send an RFI draft to ST for comments that proposes the use of the precast concrete tank for both gray and black water, the size of tank, location, and estimated interval for pumping out.”*

- RFI-00144 Comfort Station Septic Tank, dated August 18, 2024, with WSDOT response it states the following:

*“Through review of meeting minutes, it seems that significant coordination between WSDOT/ST, AECOM, and Skanska has occurred leading to a favorable solution for the project. Sound Transit did not request this change but does not take exception to the use of a septic tank as has been discussed in the Vertical Construction task force meetings.”*

In addition, *RFP Chapter 1 General Provisions, Section 1-03.5, Ambiguities*, states the following:

*“The Design-Builder shall promptly notify WSDOT of any error, omission, inconsistency, or other defect that the Design-Builder may discover in the Contract Documents, and shall obtain specific instructions in writing from the WSDOT Engineer regarding any such error, omission, inconsistency, or other defect before proceeding with the Work affected thereby.”*

In light of the attached and above mentioned documentation, WSDOT finds no merit for an Owner-initiated Change Order as this design change was initiated and requested by the Design-Builder and should be a Design-Builder initiated Change Order (DBIC). Please submit a DBIC for this Change Order if this is the desired option to pursue.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (425) 495-1577.

Sincerely,



Evelyn Pao, P.E.  
Project Director  
EP:mc

Enclosed: Vertical Task Force Meeting Minutes (dated June 11, 2024)  
RFI-00144 Comfort Station Septic Tank\_WSDOT Response (dated August 18, 2024)

cc: D. Case, D. Holmquist, J. Slavicek, S. Berriz, B. Kane, M. Chong, N. Bergeman, R. Gehrlein, E-File