

I-5/SR 16 Westbound Nalley Valley

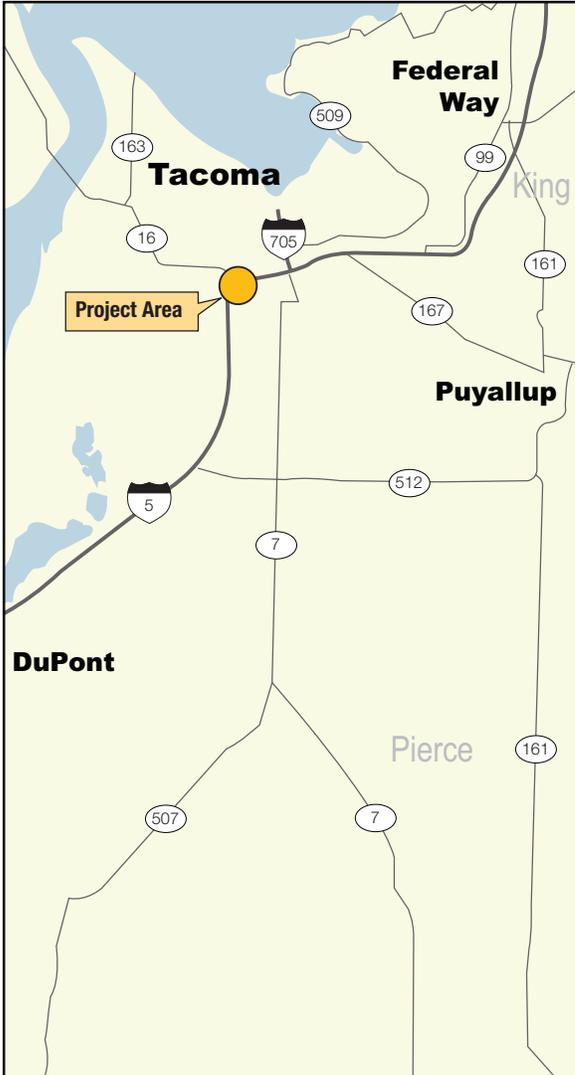
2009: Plan ahead – www.wsdot.wa.gov/construction/2009

16



Sprague ramp closures needed to eliminate Nalley Valley weave

WSDOT is rebuilding the westbound SR 16 Nalley Valley viaduct to improve safety and ease congestion at the I-5/SR 16 interchange in Tacoma.



Timeline

Construction begins in January 2009 and is scheduled to take about three years to complete.

Closures

2009 to 2013

Sprague Avenue to eastbound SR 16

2009 to 2011

Eastbound SR 16 to Sprague Avenue

2010 to 2011

Sprague Avenue to westbound SR 16

2010 to 2011

Westbound SR 16 to Sprague Avenue

In addition to the Sprague Avenue ramp closures, there will be occasional single-lane closures on South Tacoma Way and South Center Street.

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How will construction affect drivers?

The new structure will be built parallel to the existing viaduct. During daytime hours, SR 16 remains open in both directions. However, on- and off-ramps at Sprague Avenue close for extended periods to allow crews to work more safely and efficiently.



The level of interest in this project is high throughout Pierce County. WSDOT works with local media to keep the public informed.



The existing Nalley Valley viaduct was built in 1971 and was constructed with unique tetrapod (four-legged) columns.



This computer-enhanced photo shows the Westbound Nalley Valley viaduct after construction. The green-shaded bridge is a temporary detour route.

How will drivers benefit?

The project eliminates one of the worst bottlenecks in Pierce County. Getting from northbound I-5 to westbound SR 16 during the afternoon commute is especially frustrating for drivers.

Backups develop due to the weave between southbound I-5 vehicles and northbound I-5 vehicles entering westbound SR 16 and exiting at Sprague Avenue.

Separating these groups of vehicles on dedicated bridges with their own ramps to Sprague Avenue eliminates the conflicting movements, increases safety and relieves congestion.

What should drivers do?

- Use alternate routes during the Sprague Avenue ramp closures.
- Plan ahead for possible delays on SR 16 during construction.
- Stay informed about the project progress and traffic impacts at www.tacomatraffic.com.

What is WSDOT doing?

We are working closely with the City of Tacoma and coordinating with the contractor to minimize traffic and noise impacts.

What other work is WSDOT doing?

Crews are building stormwater treatment facilities and retaining walls as part of this project.

What other closures or events should I know about?

- Traffic revisions and restrictions are necessary to complete this project efficiently and safely. Drivers should anticipate lane closures on SR 16, I-5 and nearby city streets for girder-setting and other work activities.
- A section of the Scott Pierson pedestrian trail also will be temporarily closed during construction.

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