Floating bridge and pontoon construction

Floating bridge assembly

GRAPHIC KEY AND FACTS
- 776 low-rise roadway deck sections
- 23 high-rise roadway deck spans
- 331 girders

Pontoon layout
- Low-rise roadway deck includes pre-cast deck panels being constructed in Kenmore.
- 266 out of 776 pre-cast deck panels have been constructed.
- High-rise roadway deck includes girders and cast-in-place deck.
- 2 out of 23 cast-in-place deck spans have been constructed.
- 201 out of 331 girders have been constructed. 61 of 331 have been placed.

The number of columns shown is a representation of the total number of columns.
- 185 out of 772 columns have been constructed.

Note: not to scale, for illustrative purposes only

Updated: Sept. 25, 2014

Aerial view of floating bridge construction on Lake Washington, looking east. Photo taken Aug. 27, 2014

View of floating bridge assembly on Lake Washington, looking east. Photo taken Sept. 8, 2014
How is WSDOT building the new SR 520 floating bridge?

1. Build the necessary pontoons, anchors and roadway sections in Aberdeen, Tacoma and Kenmore.
2. Begin constructing staging area near Medina with construction barges and cranes. Drive temporary piles.
3. Install anchors for the floating bridge.
4. Tow pontoons to Lake Washington.
5. Install cofferdams to build bridge piers for East Approach structure.
6. Build bridge piers in cofferdams and begin pontoon assembly in staging area. Join supplemental pontoons to longitudinal pontoons at staging area.
7. Begin joining longitudinal pontoons with cross pontoon.
8. Begin installation of superstructure on pontoons.
9. Continue assembling pontoons and begin construction of the east approach.
10. Complete roadway superstructure.
11. Shift traffic to new floating bridge.
12. Decommission the existing bridge and remove from Lake Washington.

Note: Images for illustration purpose and are not to scale

October 2014
Floating Bridge and Landings construction

Construction activities on Lake Washington began in April 2012; the new floating bridge is expected to open to traffic spring 2016.

**Kenmore**
From 2012 to 2013 in Kenmore, WSDOT constructed 53 of the 58 anchors needed for the new floating bridge. Today, crews are constructing 776 pre-cast concrete roadway deck sections that will carry traffic on the low-rise section of the new floating bridge.

**Tacoma**
In November 2014, WSDOT will finish constructing 44 supplemental stability pontoons in Tacoma. Crews have completed five construction cycles and are currently working on the sixth and final cycle of pontoon construction in Tacoma.
West connection bridge – construction complete

Construction of the new West Connection Bridge was completed in September 2014. This new bridge will link the new SR 520 floating bridge to the highway’s existing roadway in Seattle.