Washington State Department of Transportation

SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program

STATE ROUTE 520

I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project

Crews conduct field study for cultural resources along SR 520 corridor in Seattle

August 2012

The Washington State Department of Transportation is performing a field study to confirm that there are no cultural resources around areas of planned SR 520 corridor improvements in Seattle. This environmental evaluation is part of the SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program, and fulfills commitments made by WSDOT during the environmental process.

Description of work

Work will occur during daylight hours starting in September and continue for up to two weeks. A small crew will conduct the work using a drill rig to collect soil samples and two trucks to move and support the drill rig. Additional samples will be taken using hand tools. Work will be conducted at approximately 40 locations in the I-5, Roanoke Park, Portage Bay, and Montlake areas, as well as just north of the Montlake Cut. Each location can take up to four hours to complete.

Traffic and noise effects

Occasional traffic control may temporarily block local street access for a few hours as crews complete their work. The work may also result in temporary short-term sidewalk closures, and any necessary pedestrian detours will be clearly marked.

Some noise can be anticipated during the work. Noise levels will mostly resemble ambient traffic noise, with shorter bursts of noise resembling a muted table saw as the coring equipment drills into the ground to collect data samples.

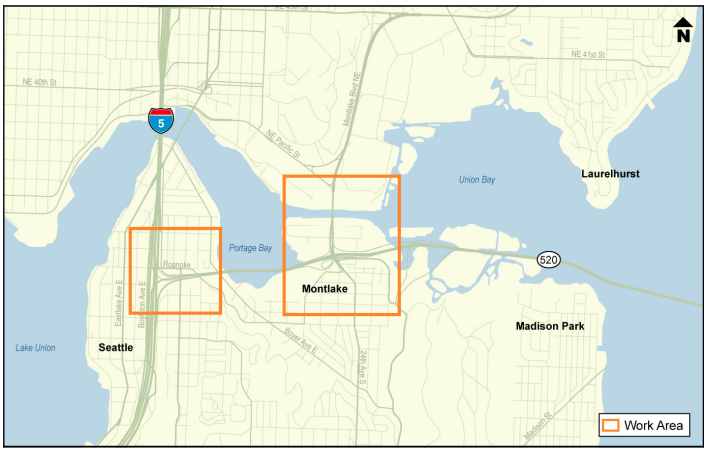
Example of drill rig equipment in use.

How has WSDOT prepared for the work?

WSDOT has coordinated with the city of Seattle and obtained all necessary approvals prior to conducting the work. WSDOT is observing best management practices to avoid and minimize any potential effects of the work.

What are the project's next steps?

Components of the SR 520, I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project in Seattle, from I-5 to the west end of the floating bridge are not yet funded for construction. This fieldwork supports the planning process and helps us advance the design of the project.



Approximate study areas of sampling in Seattle.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call us at:
SR 520 Fieldwork Hotline: 206-708-4657

Visit us on the Web:
www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520Bridge/currentwork.htm

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