

South King County Projects Update

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In this issue

- Prepare for traffic even if you don't plan to "Do the Puyallup"
- Washington named "Most Bicycling Friendly State"
- Divers get to the bottom of Washington's bridges
- Fewer drivers hit the roadway over Labor Day weekend

Prepare for traffic even if you don't plan to "Do the Puyallup"

Whether you're trotting or galloping, you should prepare yourself for Puyallup Fair traffic.

Traffic backups are expected as people flock to the Puyallup Fair, which began Sept. 5 and runs through Sept. 21. During this time an estimated 1.3 million people will flock to the Puyallup Fair grounds in Pierce County. Thirty percent of that 1.3 million come from King County. That means increased congestion on state highways, including I-5 and SR 167.

On weekdays, avoid driving to the fair during the peak travel times, when most people are driving to and from work. On the weekends, a driver's best bet is to get to the fairgrounds early and stay late, because the busiest time at the fair is noon to 5 p.m.

Be sure to check traffic conditions before you go by [checking online](#) or by calling 5-1-1. Going to the Fair? Consider sharing a ride or one of the transportation options offered on the Fair's [Web site](#).

Washington named "Most Bicycling Friendly State"

Citing our state's bicycle policies, facilities and programs, the [League of American Bicyclists](#) has named Washington as the nation's number one "Bicycle Friendly State." This award, the first ever to be given to an entire state, was announced during the National Pro Bike – Pro Walk Conference in Seattle on Sept. 5.

The Bicycle Friendly State Program is a recognition program that ranks a state's bike-friendliness and recognizes states that actively support bicycling as a way of addressing climate change, traffic congestion, obesity and high fuel prices. States are rated based on their encouragement of bicycling through legislation, policies and programs, education and encouragement, places to ride, and planning.

States that apply for a Bicycle Friendly State award designation can receive national recognition and promotion of their efforts as well as feedback, technical assistance, training from national experts and further encouragement to improve their bicycle legislation, projects and programs.

Divers get to the bottom of Washington's bridges

Did you know that WSDOT has a five man team of diving engineers to make underwater inspections on Washington's bridges? You can check out this team in action in this [photo series](#) as they inspect the footings and piers of the Senator George Sellar Bridge over the Columbia River in Wenatchee and a 100 year old pedestrian bridge near by.

Fewer drivers hit the roadway over Labor Day weekend

More drivers than usual were expected to stay put over the Labor Day weekend.

Before the holiday AAA said that about 320,000 fewer people would leave their homes over the Labor Day weekend compared to last year. Their predictions were just about right.

Travel numbers in Washington State show a [slight dip in most locations](#) from Labor Day 2007. Volumes on I-90 Snoqualmie Pass, I-5 north of Seattle and south of Olympia dropped slightly from 2007. However, it was US 2 over Stevens Pass that saw the largest decline at 9 percent.

While drivers didn't hit the roads in droves they did hit the WSDOT Web site. More than 75,000 users visited the site Friday afternoon. Most of the visits were to our [Labor Day best times to travel](#) page and the [Seattle Traffic](#) page.

Visitors who did visit the best times to travel page heeded the advice, with many drivers choosing to travel earlier in the morning or later in the evening.

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