

Completing the SR 520 corridor

Rest of the West

The 2015 Washington Legislature's Connecting Washington transportation package identified \$1.64 billion to complete the SR 520 corridor's remaining improvements between I-5 and Lake Washington – the "Rest of the West." WSDOT is continuing its collaboration with the city of Seattle on the final design for these planned improvements, including a new Montlake lid and interchange, a new Portage Bay Bridge, the south half (eastbound lanes) of a new west approach bridge, a new direct-access ramp to and from the I-5 express lanes, and a new lid at 10th Avenue East and Delmar Drive East.



A new Portage Bay Bridge, with new HOV lanes, an additional direct-access ramp onto the I-5 express lanes, and an extension of SR 520's bicycle/pedestrian path.

SR 520 program map



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SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program



Annual Mega-Project Report

September 2015

Program benefits

- Improved safety during earthquakes and windstorms with new bridges built to current design standards.
- Increased mobility with the addition of transit/HOV lanes across the SR 520 corridor.
- Improved water quality in Lake Washington with the addition of stormwater treatment facilities for highway runoff.
- Improved reliability with shoulders that allow disabled vehicles to pull out of traffic.
- Increased commute and recreation options with the addition of a new bicycle/pedestrian path.
- Reduced highway noise with new noise-reduction measures near neighboring communities.
- Reconnected neighborhoods with five new landscaped lids over the highway, three of which include transit facilities.



Pontoon F, one of the final three pontoons for the new floating bridge, travels through the Ship Canal en route to Lake Washington. The new floating bridge is scheduled to open in spring 2016.

The SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program is a major investment in a key corridor connecting Seattle and the Eastside of King County. As one of two highway crossings over Lake Washington, SR 520 connects major employment and residential centers on both sides of the lake.

The SR 520 program includes several construction projects to replace the aging floating bridge and complete safety and mobility improvements throughout the corridor. The main projects are:

- Pontoon Construction Project
- Eastside Transit and HOV Project
- Floating Bridge and Landings Project
- West Approach Bridge North Project
- I-5 to Medina Project: Rest of the West

The result is a new SR 520 corridor with more commuting choices and better trip reliability for drivers, transit riders, bicyclists and pedestrians. The new corridor includes environmental improvements and keeps the region's economy moving forward.

Reporting

We report the progress and schedule status of the SR 520 program to a variety of audiences through a regularly updated website, media releases, frequent email updates, and printed materials. We also provide information in person at community briefings, open houses, and other local events for the public and elected officials.

www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/sr520bridge

2015 progress update

Major construction continues along the SR 520 corridor. Pontoon construction is complete. The Eastside Transit and HOV Project features are fully open to the traveling public. The new floating bridge will open in spring 2016. The West Approach Bridge North, which will connect the floating bridge to the Montlake area of Seattle, is scheduled to open in summer 2017. Moreover, funding was approved in 2015 to complete the corridor's remaining west side improvements in Seattle.

Pontoon construction

All 77 pontoons have been constructed, towed to Lake Washington, aligned, anchored and bolted into their final positions. The pontoons were constructed at two different sites in Washington: Aberdeen and Tacoma. Pontoon construction was completed in Tacoma in December 2014 and in Aberdeen in March 2015.

Eastside corridor improvements

Major construction on the Eastside Transit and HOV Project is complete and all key enhancements in the 2.3-mile corridor are open to traffic. They include:



92nd Ave NE lid and transit stop.

- Two general-purpose lanes and one transit/HOV lane in each direction
- The first leg of a regional, cross-lake bicycle and pedestrian path
- Direct-access ramps at 108th Avenue Northeast for carpools and transit
- Wider, safer shoulders
- Median transit stops at Evergreen Point Road and 92nd Avenue Northeast

The project also provides many environmental and community enhancements, including:

- Stream improvements, fish-friendly culverts and wetlands restoration
- Noise-reduction systems
- Stormwater detention and treatment facilities; and
- Three new highway lids

Floating Bridge construction

This project is building a new, six-lane floating bridge across Lake Washington capable of withstanding stronger winds and wave action.

Lake Washington: The last three of 77 pontoons needed for the new floating bridge arrived on Lake Washington in April 2015. Since then, crews finished aligning, bolting together and anchoring all of the bridge's pontoons. In addition, crews in 2015 completed the construction and placement of the bridge's 772 columns and 331 girders.



Kenmore: In 2015 crews at the lakeside facility in Kenmore completed construction of the new bridge's 776 precast roadway deck panels. The final panel was placed on the bridge on Aug. 24, 2015. In addition, all 58 Kenmore-built concrete anchors for the new bridge are constructed and in their final positions beneath the bridge.

West Approach Bridge North

This project is building the north half of a new west approach bridge on seismically safer columns. This bridge will carry three lanes of westbound traffic from the new floating bridge to Montlake. (Three lanes of eastbound traffic will use the existing west approach bridge until a West Approach Bridge South is constructed). The West Approach Bridge North also will connect the new, regional bicycle/pedestrian path to Montlake.

Bids for this project were opened in July 2014 and a \$199.5 million contract was awarded to Flatiron West, Inc. Flatiron crews have made significant progress since then, including construction of a work trestle, lake-bed shaft installation for the bridge's foundation, and completion of a new westbound off-ramp to Montlake Boulevard. The new bridge is expected to open in summer 2017.

SR 520 program costs and funding update

- The SR 520 program spending cap is \$4.65 billion, set by the Legislature in 2009.
- Of this, the current cost estimate for the entire program is \$4.56 billion, which is fully funded. This includes all planned improvements from I-5 to I-405.
- The corridor's remaining improvements in Seattle include:
 - A new, six-lane Portage Bay Bridge, including an extension of a regional bicycle and pedestrian path from Montlake to I-5
 - A new West Approach Bridge South for carrying eastbound traffic to the new floating bridge
 - Two freeway lids in the Montlake and Roanoke neighborhoods
 - A second bascule bridge over the Montlake Cut.

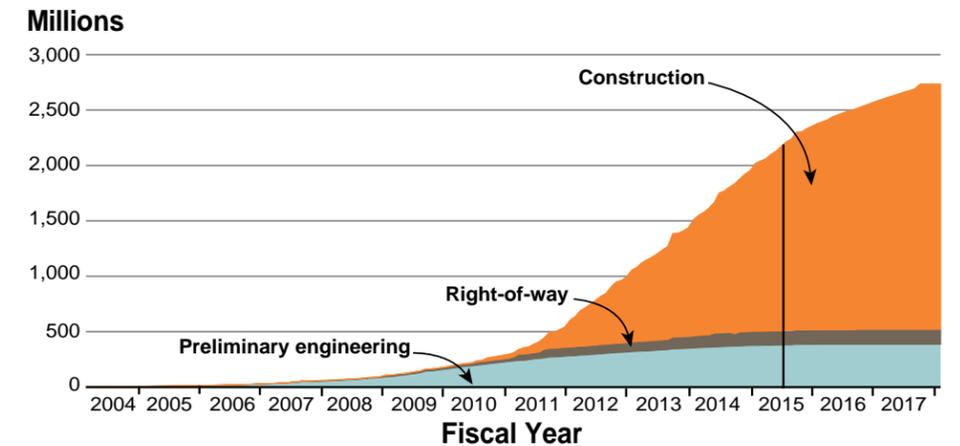
Risk reserve update

WSDOT allocates reserve funds to cover costs that arise during construction. For the SR 520 program, WSDOT has allocated \$400 million in risk reserve.

As of May 2015, approximately \$120 million remains to cover future risks and contract change orders.

Program financial status

Program expenditure plan*



Program schedule*

PROJECTS	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Eastside Transit and HOV Project	RFQ, FONSI	Award contract, Begin construction	Permits received			Open to traffic		Final completion
Pontoon Construction Project	DEIS, FEIS	ROD, Begin construction	Permits received	First pontoon float-out			Final pontoon float-out	Final completion
I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project	SDEIS, Preferred Alternative	FEIS, ROD	Permits received					Physical completion
Floating bridge and landings	RFQ	Award contract, Begin construction	Begin Lake Washington activities				Open to traffic	
West connection bridge			Ad/Bid/Award	Begin construction		Final completion		
West Approach Bridge North				Ad/Bid/Award	Begin construction		Six lanes open to traffic	
I-5 to Lake Washington	Fully funded by 2015 Legislature; construction schedule in development							

*Following passage of the Connecting Washington transportation funding package in 2015, the remaining SR 520 elements' schedule and cashflow are in development. Updated: August 2015

Construction photos



Pontoon Construction Project.



West Approach Bridge North Project.



Floating Bridge and Landings Project.



Rendering of the Montlake lid.