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Floodwatch: Get the latest road closure information

Flooding has closed dozens of our highways in Western Washington, including several in South King County. To find out how flooding is affecting the roads you use, go to our [updated highway closure page](#). To see the latest closures on local streets in unincorporated King County, [go to their page](#).

If you are on the road or heading out, dial 511 to hear the latest highway closure information. This number accesses our Web site road closure information.

SR 169 Green River Bridge repairs

We have diagrams and timelines to share regarding repair work to the SR 169 Green River Bridge. We'll be making a presentation at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 12 to the Enumclaw City Council. City Hall is located at 1339 Griffin Ave., Enumclaw.

We were forced to close the bridge in November because an ancient landslide was putting a dangerous amount of pressure on the bridge. We completed excavation work last month on the south end of the bridge to relieve pressure on the bridge.

We plan to hire a contractor this month and begin construction to stabilize the moving soils in February. Watch the [project page](#) and these e-mails for updates. Meanwhile, major flooding and washouts around the region this week also affected the detour route for the SR 169 bridge. Drivers were rerouted around a washout on Roberts Drive.

Construction starting next month on I-5

Our intense construction season is just around the corner and it will be our busiest yet. Nearly every driver who lives, works or drives through Central Puget Sound will be affected by road construction in 2009 starting in February with [pavement repair work on I-5](#).

The pavement on I-5 in King County is more than 40 years old, twice its planned design life. The pavement is falling apart faster than crews can patch it up and it is failing at an accelerated rate. To extend the life of the freeway we will replace about 440 deteriorating concrete panels and grind down the worst areas of uneven pavement between the Boeing Access Road in South Seattle and the King/Snohomish County line and in the I-5 express lanes.

Drivers can expect 100 overnight and up to 14 weekend lane [closures](#) starting on Feb. 2 and continuing into the summer. To help you navigate the sea of construction cones, we've launched a [new construction Web site](#) for this season.

Sound Transit considering light rail fares

Sound Transit is seeking public comment on Link light rail fares as it gets ready to begin light rail passenger service between downtown Seattle and Tukwila in July, and the extension to Sea-Tac Airport opening by the end of the year. The proposed fares would be distance-based and include base ticket prices of \$1.75 to \$2, with a maximum cost of a one-way ticket from downtown Seattle to Sea-Tac Airport of \$2.75.

Sound Transit will host three open houses along the light rail line between downtown Seattle and Sea-Tac Airport to hear from you about the proposal:

- Saturday, Jan.10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at [El Centro de la Raza](#), 2524 16th Ave. S., Seattle.
- Thursday, Jan. 15 from 6 to 8 p.m. at [New Holly Gathering Place](#), 7054 32nd Ave. S., Seattle.
- Thursday, Jan. 22 from 10 a.m. to noon at [Mezza Café in the Starbucks Corporate Building](#), 2401 Utah Ave. N., Seattle.

If you can't make it in person, Sound Transit is also accepting comments via e-mail, phone and postal mail. Input received about the proposal will be shared with the Sound Transit board on Thursday, Feb. 5. For more information about the proposal including how to comment, [please visit their fare page](#).

Comments, questions: Please e-mail me, Jeff Switzer, at switzej@wsdot.wa.gov or call 206-440-4700.

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