



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

# SR 519 Intermodal Access Project

June 6, 2007

## What option is being analyzed in the Environmental Assessment?

The Atlantic Corridor design calls for constructing a new westbound off-ramp from I-5 and I-90 via the current South Atlantic Street Overpass (South Atlantic Street's current eastbound lanes will remain intact). Improvements will be made at the intersections of First Avenue South and South Atlantic Street, and Occidental Avenue and South Atlantic Street. Additionally, a grade-separated crossing at South Royal Brougham Way will be built.

## What is "scoping?"

Scoping is the first step in the environmental review process regulated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). During scoping, agencies and the public are invited to comment on the purpose and need of the project; issues that should be studied; and ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate impacts.

## What is the purpose and need of Phase 2: Atlantic Corridor?

### Why is this project needed now?

State Route (SR) 519 provides a vital roadway system for east-west traffic through Seattle, but it currently does not assist in the efficient movement of cars, trucks, trains, and pedestrians through Seattle's South of Downtown (SODO) district. The route passes through an area that has changed so much in recent years that the roadway arrangement is not well suited to present conditions. A new design and new roadway structures are needed to allow vehicles and pedestrians to reach their destinations safely, quickly, and directly.

## Problems that this project would help to solve are:

- Safety issues related to surface-level rail crossings by daily traffic and people walking to and from the stadium area
- Expected increase in rail traffic and pedestrian crossings when the Sound Transit light rail operation starts in 2009, resulting in safety concerns and travel delays
- Poor access between Interstates 5 and 90 and the Seattle waterfront, especially Port of Seattle terminals and the Washington State Ferries terminal at Colman Dock
- Delays in moving products between Port of Seattle terminals and local, regional, and national markets

## What is the purpose of the project?

This project would increase traffic mobility and safety by improving connections between Interstates 5 and 90 and Port of Seattle terminals, the Washington State Ferries terminal at Colman Dock, waterfront commercial interests, and the stadium area. The project would allow people to walk more safely to and from the stadium area.



*Pedestrians in the SR 519 project area share the roads with heavy rail, vehicle, and freight traffic.*

## The purpose of the project is to:

- Provide a more direct route between Interstates 5 and 90 and the Seattle waterfront, so that freight, commuters, and local traffic can move more safely and efficiently through the stadium area
- Improve safety and reduce railroad and vehicle delays at the surface-level rail crossing on South Royal Brougham Way near Fourth Avenue South
- Improve safety for people walking to events, work, and neighborhood destinations
- Reduce truck and rail traffic conflicts so that freight operators can move products more efficiently between Port of Seattle terminals and market

## How will scoping comments be addressed in the Phase 2: Atlantic Corridor environmental process?

We appreciate the time agencies, citizens, and local groups take to express their opinions on Phase 2 of the SR 519 Intermodal Access Project. To ensure the Atlantic

Corridor design is efficient and sustainable, we will take into consideration a variety of opinions on which issues should be addressed in the Environmental Assessment.

Depending on the number and type of comments received, we will respond in one of several formats, including:

- In materials available on our Web site
- On display boards at open houses
- In the Environmental Assessment

Your comments will be carefully evaluated as part of the environmental process.

## What's next?

We will continue working on the environmental process throughout this summer and fall, with the goal of completing the final Environmental Assessment in March 2008.

## Project Timeline



*Note: By completing this project before the viaduct in the central waterfront is taken down beginning in 2012, traffic mobility and safety will be maintained in the Alaskan Way Viaduct project area.*

## For More Information

### Visit the Web site:

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR519](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR519)

### Send an e-mail to: [SR519@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:SR519@wsdot.wa.gov)

### Send a letter to:

SR 519 Intermodal Access Project  
Washington State Department of Transportation  
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Seattle, WA 98104

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