

What's happening on SR 522 near Monroe?



Crews will add an additional lane in each direction of SR 522 between the Snohomish River bridge and US 2. They will also add a median barrier to separate oncoming traffic.

We're widening more than four miles of SR 522 to four lanes from just west of the Snohomish River Bridge to 179th Ave. S.E. in Monroe. We will also build four new bridges, including a new bridge over the Snohomish River, add median barrier to separate oncoming traffic, build a roundabout at the 164th St. S.E. on- and off-ramps and construct a noise wall.

In order to widen the highway, we have to remove 300,000 cubic yards of rock along the westbound lanes. We will blast the rock using explosives and then haul it away from the site. Each blasting operation will take about an hour from start to finish and must be done during daylight hours. To keep drivers safe we will fully close the roadway in both directions during the blasting work. Closures are currently scheduled for 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. Monday through Friday and will likely start in September 2011. We expect to use 150 closures to complete the rock-blasting work.

The widened roadway will help reduce congestion and delay, and the likelihood of serious collisions, for the more than 29,000 vehicles that use the road daily.

Rock blasting detour route:

Drivers can choose an alternate route or follow a signed detour using SR 9 and US 2 around the closure. We will use electronic signs and highway advisory radio to alert drivers to the closures. We'll also provide advance notice to emergency responders.



What is the project timeline?

We will begin construction in early summer. Crews will complete the \$160 million project by late fall 2014.

What can drivers expect?

Drivers can expect up to 150 daytime closures for rock blasting. Drivers should also prepare for nighttime lane closures as crews work to build new lanes.

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