

Highway Construction Program

Monthly Delivery Progress Report Watch List

September 2016

This report focuses on Capital Highway Program projects which have, or may have significant changes in scope, schedule, or budget. These projects are reported monthly by CPDM to identify when and how these delivery issues are resolved.

The Monthly Delivery Progress Report Watch List replaces the quarterly delivery progress report previously known as The Gray Notebook Watch List. A monthly report allows for timely reporting and improves transparency on delivery progress.

This report sorts projects into three categories: new projects being reported on, changes from last month, and projects previously reported that have no changes and are not yet resolved.

- **New projects this month.** These projects have been added to the watch list due to potential changes or issues in scope, schedule, or budget. This category also includes projects with changes that occurred and were resolved within the current month.
- **Changes from Prior Month.** Changes discussed in this section were on the previous month's watch list and have other issues that have happened; or they may have been resolved.
- **No Changes from Prior Month.** These projects were on the previous month's watch list and are being followed while an issue is in the process of being resolved.
- **Projects are Removed** when delivery has been delayed out of the Six-Year Plan, when delivery has been attained, or when a significant issue has been mitigated and/or approved by WSDOT.

For additional information on scope, schedule and budget for all projects, please visit [WSDOT's project pages](#). This is the link that leads to the websites of individual projects:
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/search/>

To search for a particular project, please enter the state route, county, project title or PIN.

Summary

Delivery Progress Report Summary Table as of September 30, 2016, with issues based on a monthly update.

New in September 2016	
Project	Phase/Issue
SR 18/WB East of Green River Bridge - Unstable Slope (King) 101810T	Construction: emergency repairs
US 101/Elwha River Bridge - Scour Repair (Clallam) 310133F	Construction: emergency repairs
SR 539/Nooksack River Bridge - Special Repair (Whatcom) 153909B	Construction: emergency repairs

Changes from Prior Month	
Project	Phase/Issue
SR 3/Belfair Area - Widening and Safety Improvements (Mason) 300344D	Construction: detention pond fail
I-5 Chamber Way Overpass – Repair Bridge (Lewis) 400516E	Construction: emergency repairs
SR 112/Nordstrom Creek - Remove Fish Barrier (Clallam) 311242A	Design: schedule delay

No Changes from Prior Month	
Project	Phase/Issue
SR 99/S King St Vic to Roy St - Viaduct Replacement (King) 809936E	Construction: schedule delay
SR 161/24th St E to Jovita - Add Lanes (Pierce) 316118A	Construction: potential cost increase

Removed in September 2016	
Project	Phase/Issue
SR 3/Belfair Area - Widening and Safety Improvements (Mason) 300344D	Construction: detention pond fail
I-5 Chamber Way Overpass – Repair Bridge (Lewis) 400516E	Construction: emergency repairs
SR 18/WB East of Green River Bridge - Unstable Slope (King) 101810T	Construction: emergency repairs
US 101/Elwha River Bridge - Scour Repair (Clallam) 310133F	Construction: emergency repairs
SR 539/Nooksack River Bridge - Special Repair (Whatcom) 153909B	Construction: emergency repairs

Project Detail

Below is the detail behind the above summary.

New in September 2016

SR 18/WB East of Green River Bridge - Unstable Slope (King)

Issue: Heavy rainfall during November 2015 caused the hillside to fail. Repairs began summer 2016. This project is being reported and removed from this list.

A series of severe storms struck Washington State between November 13th and 18th, 2015, and saturated the hillside above the westbound lanes of SR 18 near milepost 6.85. A debris flow slid down towards the highway but was contained by the cast-in-place traffic barrier. WSDOT Maintenance Staff temporarily closed the right lane and shoulder of westbound SR 18, and removed trees and debris from the bottom of the slope. Plastic sheeting was placed on the hillside to allow the slope to drain over the winter and spring.

The permanent restoration work will stabilize the failing slope by backfilling with large rocks and installing new drains to tie into the existing drainage system.

The estimate for repairs is \$620,000, and the project is anticipated to be completed in fall 2016.

US 101/Elwha River Bridge - Scour Repair (Clallam)

Issue: The bridge pier foundations require emergency scour protection from erosion during the winter. This project is being reported and removed from this list.

Due to the Elwha River Dam removal and subsequent changing river flows, the Elwha River Bridge on US 101 has experienced significant scour around the bridge piers. The WSDOT Bridge Office has determined that the bridge piers need to be protected before the river rises this winter.

This emergency scour protection project consists of placing large rocks around the piers to protect them from the high flows that will be experienced this winter. It is estimated this project will cost \$655,000 and be completed by November 2016.

WSDOT is currently investigating this issue and a permanent solution may be constructed in the future. The agency is setting up a monitoring system around the foundation of the affected piers and establishing protocols to monitor the bridge, which may require temporary closure for specific river flow events.

SR 539/Nooksack River Bridge - Special Repair (Whatcom)

Issue: This bridge was damaged by an over-height load. This project is being reported and removed from this list.

On Monday, September 12, 2016, a recycling truck traveling northbound on SR 539 south of Lynden hit the Nooksack River Bridge and damaged the end portal of the truss. The bridge was hit by the extended winch of a flatbed cargo truck that hauls large containers.

One lane of northbound SR 539 was closed temporarily to allow WSDOT inspectors to evaluate the structural integrity. WSDOT determined that the bridge was not structurally compromised but would require repairs or replacement of the damaged portal steel truss members. As a result, all lanes were re-opened to traffic.

The estimate for the bridge repairs is \$500,000 and repairs will begin summer 2017. WSDOT will seek reimbursement from the responsible party.

Changes from Prior Month

SR 3/Belfair Area - Widening and Safety Improvements (Mason)

Changes from Prior Report: The re-design of the detention ponds has been completed. This project is being reported and removed from this list.

Previously reported: Due to excessive rainfall and a higher than expected water table, three detention ponds on this project flooded over. The ponds are currently being redesigned, which may increase the cost and delay the project. Higher than normal rainfall caused the water table to rise, which caused three newly installed detention ponds to fail. The rise in the water table meant that the water flowed into the ponds from underneath, raising the pond liner and causing the walls of the ponds to blow out. The ponds are being re-designed to address the high water table, and to keep them within the right of way.

Update to the August 2016 report: WSDOT was able to re-design the detention ponds to address the high water table and stay within the existing right of way. The re-design estimated cost is an additional \$950,000. The project's Operationally Complete date is being delayed by nine months to August 2017.

(For the complete Watch List report, please see the [March 2016 Watch List](#) at the Project Delivery Reports Archive website.)

I-5 Chamber Way Overpass – Repair Bridge (Lewis)

Changes from Prior Report: The permanent replacement alternative has been chosen. This project is being reported and removed from this list.

Previously reported: Bridge was damaged by an over-height load. On Friday, July 22nd, a semi-truck hauling a pair of excavators traveling southbound on I-5 hit the Chamber Way overpass, which caused significant structural damage. Due to the extent of the damage to the girders and for the safety of the traveling public, WSDOT closed the overpass.

Over the weekend, bridge engineers performed an inspection of the damaged span and determined most of the girders supporting the bridge deck were not repairable. As a result, on July 26th, the portion of the bridge over southbound I-5 was removed. Crews installed a 50-foot-long temporary bridge span to reconnect to the existing portion of the Chamber Way overpass on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. Traffic was restored on Chamber Way on Thursday, August 4, 2016. The department is evaluating alternatives for replacing the temporary structure.

Update to the August 2016 report: WSDOT has reached agreement with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and state legislative leaders to move forward with a permanent bridge that will be consistent with the future Connecting Washington Account (CWA)-funded Chamber Way Interchange replacement. WSDOT will design and construct a higher and wider four-lane bridge that will span both directions of I-5. Advertisement is expected to occur in the spring of 2017.

The \$11.4 million replacement bridge will be funded with a combination of FHWA Emergency Relief and CWA funds.

SR 112/Nordstrom Creek - Remove Fish Barrier (Clallam)

Changes from Prior Report: A delay with acquiring a temporary construction easement has further delayed the advertisement date.

Previously reported: Advertisement has been delayed from March 2016 to September 2016 which has delayed the construction from 2016 to 2017. The schedule delay is due to delays with acquiring a temporary construction easement.

Update to the May 2016 Report: Continuing delays with acquiring a temporary construction easement have further delayed the advertisement to winter 2017. However, WSDOT is currently in negotiations with the property owner and anticipates that the temporary construction easement will be acquired this fall.

No Changes from Prior Month

SR 99/S King St Vic to Roy St - Viaduct Replacement (King)

Status: No change.

Previously reported: The original tunnel contract opening date was November 2016. The Seattle Tunnel Partners (STP), the design build contractor, first delayed the opening to spring of 2018. According to their new schedule, the estimated completion date for the tunnel is November 2018. After STP hands over the tunnel to the state, work must be done to connect the new tunnel to SR 99 in the south and Aurora Avenue North in the north. Based on STP's schedule, WSDOT estimates the tunnel would be open to traffic in early 2019. The state cannot verify STP's schedule.

Based on a preliminary review of the budget, the program anticipates a cash-flow need of up to \$60 million in the 2017-19 biennium, to ensure continued progress. Looking toward completion of the viaduct replacement program, the program estimates a total provisional budget need of \$223 million. Funds from litigation, insurance claims, and savings from unpaid early completion incentives may offset some of the costs. Due to litigation, funding sources may not be resolved until after the tunnel is open to traffic.

For more updates on the Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement project, please see the Alaskan Way Viaduct website at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct/>

SR 161/24th St E to Jovita - Add Lanes (Pierce)

Status: No change.

Previously reported: There is a potential cost increase due to a pending claim by the contractor. The project was completed on August 21, 2014. (For the complete report, please see the [September 2014 Watch List](#) at the Project Delivery Reports Archive website.)