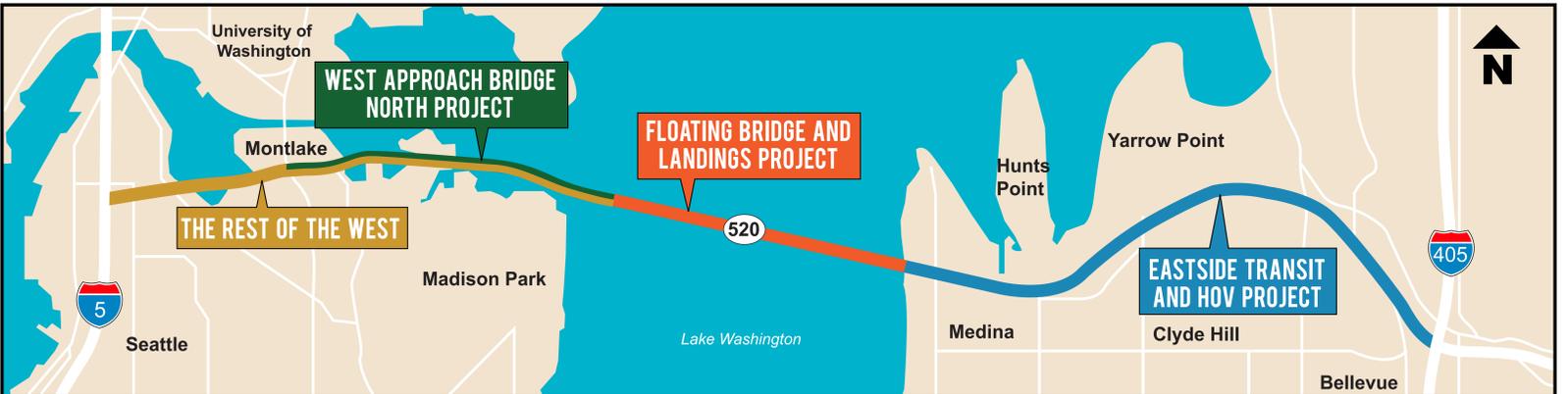


THE NEW SR 520: ENHANCING SAFETY, IMPROVING MOBILITY

The new SR 520 floating bridge is just one of the major improvements being made on this key urban highway. Many other changes are in the works – from I-405 to I-5 – that will make the highway safer and more reliable for travelers, and kinder to the environment.



WESTWARD HO!

The Washington State Department of Transportation is rebuilding SR 520 in stages. For the most part, we're moving from east to west as construction funding is provided. Let's take a spin and see what's happening along the corridor.

EASTSIDE TRANSIT AND HOV PROJECT

It's the first completed segment of the new highway, finished in 2015, with:

- New bus/carpool lanes, in both directions.
- Median transit stops for safer, easier access to buses.
- The first leg of a new, regional, cross-lake bicycle and pedestrian path.
- Three landscaped, community-connecting highway lids.
- New, fish-friendly culverts and new systems for treating runoff.



FLOATING BRIDGE AND LANDINGS PROJECT



Newly certified by Guinness World Records as the world's longest floating bridge, the new span:

- Is much stronger than the old bridge, built to withstand winds of 89 mph.
- Extends westward the highway's new transit/HOV lanes and new bike/pedestrian path.
- Reduces traffic backups with the addition of shoulders for disabled vehicles.
- Improves water quality with new systems for capturing bridge runoff and pollutants.
- Enables future retrofit for light rail across the lake if the public chooses that option.

WEST APPROACH BRIDGE NORTH PROJECT

Scheduled to open in mid-2017, this new stationary bridge will:

- Have solid columns and other design features that can withstand stronger earthquakes than the existing, hollow-column west approach bridge.
- Carry westbound traffic from the new floating bridge to Seattle.
- Extend the highway's transit/HOV lanes and bike/pedestrian path to Seattle.
- Provide improvements to local parks and natural areas, including the Washington Park Arboretum.



Support columns for the new West Approach Bridge North go up just to the north of the existing SR 520 near Montlake.

I-5 TO LAKE WASHINGTON PROJECT: THE REST OF THE WEST

This series of projects, expected to start construction in 2018, will:

- Replace the structurally vulnerable, hollow-column Portage Bay Bridge and old west approach bridge.
- Extend a six-lane corridor, with bus/HOV lanes in both directions, all the way to I-5.
- Extend the highway's bike/pedestrian path to I-5, with improved connections to local trails and the new Montlake Triangle transit hub at the UW.
- Build two highway lids in Seattle's Montlake and Roanoke neighborhoods.
- Provide more improvements to parks and natural areas.



A future Portage Bay Bridge, with new HOV lanes and an extension of SR 520's bicycle/pedestrian path to I-5.