

Alaskan Way Viaduct **REPLACEMENT** PROGRAM



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

WSDOT

King County

Port
of Seattle

City of Seattle

September 2018

WSDOT traffic control plan will help keep people moving during approximate three-week Alaskan Way Viaduct closure

The Alaskan Way Viaduct will close for approximately three weeks starting just before opening the new SR 99 tunnel. This three-week closure will be the longest major highway closure to ever hit the Puget Sound region. WSDOT and its partner agencies recognize that the closure will significantly impact traffic throughout the region and have developed an extensive plan to keep people moving during the closure.



WSDOT's transportation management center in Shoreline

Agencies proactively coordinating on planning and implementation

WSDOT has designed the traffic control plan in close coordination with SDOT, King County Metro, the Port of Seattle and other partner agencies. During the closure these agencies will conduct twice-daily calls to coordinate efforts.

WSDOT's new transportation management center (TMC) in Shoreline, staffed 24/7, will be the communications hub for the closure. It will effectively link state and city traffic management centers and transit dispatch centers, expedite the movement of resources to areas of critical need, and assist with emergency response. From there communications staff will also post real-time traffic updates online, on social media, and to local media traffic reports.

SDOT will extend the hours of its traffic operations center (TOC), and WSDOT and the Seattle Police Department will have staff working there during commutes to facilitate agency coordination.

Deploying incident response teams, electronic signs and signal timing adjustments

To handle incidents quickly, WSDOT will have two additional incident response teams working during peak commute hours and SDOT will also add two incident response teams during the closure.

WSDOT and SDOT will use their Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) to monitor travel times and traffic patterns. Electronic message signs will begin reminding drivers about the closure up to one week before it begins, and during the closure will post travel times and suggest alternative routes.

SDOT is developing signal timing schedules to handle the anticipated changes in local traffic patterns during the closure. Traffic-responsive technology already installed on key corridors into downtown Seattle can detect traffic patterns and adjust signal cycles, and SDOT signal timing engineers will also assess patterns on a daily basis and adjust signal timing as necessary.

Additional efforts to help move people during the closure

Transit

- King County Metro is rerouting 12 routes (21x, 37, 55, 56, 57, 113, 120, 121, 122, 123, 125, and C line)
- King County Water Taxi will add an additional trip to West Seattle
- King County is providing extra parking lots and SDOT is providing spots along Harbor Ave SW in West Seattle for Water Taxi riders

City Streets

- Seattle Police Department will conduct manual traffic control in key intersections as needed to keep intersections clear
- Temporary parking restrictions along key routes will facilitate transit and general purpose travel times
- Traffic flow and temporary parking changes will help get vehicles on and off Aurora at Denny Ave, Wall Street and Battery Street
- SDOT is restricting lane closure requests by third parties on city streets
- Extended hours for SDOT's TOC

WSDOT funding mitigation efforts during the closure

WSDOT is providing funding to partner agencies for services and efforts to help mitigate for the anticipated traffic impacts of the viaduct closure. The items WSDOT is funding include:

- Vehicle parking lot and free shuttle in West Seattle for Water Taxi passengers
- Additional Water Taxi runs between West Seattle and downtown Seattle
- Seattle Police Department sergeant in the SDOT transportation operations center (TOC) during commute hours
- Two additional SDOT incident response team units
- Posting of temporary parking restriction signage to assist transit and traffic flow
- Uniformed police officers at key intersections to conduct manual traffic control
- Southbound I-5 HOV lane between Mercer and Corson will be "open to all" during the closure
- Use of Portable Message Signs to display real-time closure information

Where to find real-time information during the closure

Twitter

@BerthaDigsSR99
@WSDOT
@WSDOT_traffic
@kcmetrobus
@seattledot
@SoundTransit
Search official #Realign99 hashtag

Official apps:

- WSDOT
- SDOT
- King County Metro

Dedicated closure webpages:
www.99Tunnel.com

Call the AWV program:
1-888-AWV-LINE

Local traffic reports

Follow local media outlets and traffic reports

Americans with Disabilities Act & Title VI Information

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