Construction update: Aug. 23, 2019

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Alaskan Way Viaduct removal

Viaduct removal continues in multiple locations. Visit our website for additional information on how the viaduct will be removed, the sequence and schedule of the work, and what to expect. You can follow the work visually through our construction cameras and our Flickr photo sets.

ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT FROM SOUTH DEARBORN STREET TO YESLER WAY

Crews continue viaduct removal south of Yesler Way. Read our recent web update for additional information on construction changes to Alaskan Way.

Road and access changes:

- South King Street has reopen at Alaskan Way South.
- Railroad Way South is open to northbound traffic at First Avenue South and two-way traffic at South King Street.
- South Jackson Street is closed at Alaskan Way South.
- South Main Street remains closed at Alaskan Way South.
- South Washington Street remains closed at Alaskan Way South.
- Yesler Way has reopen at Alaskan Way.
- Alaskan Way is reduced to one lane in each direction between South King Street and Yesler Way. A northbound left-turn lane into the Colman Dock holding area at South Jackson Street remains open.

Drivers should expect increased congestion on Alaskan Way and First Avenue South and allow extra time to reach destinations. Please also be conscious of not blocking crosswalks.

Plan ahead for work at Marion Street and South Dearborn Street

Crews are entering the final stretch of demolition work along Seattle's waterfront. After demolishing the remaining section of the structure in Pioneer Square, crews will turn their attention to the sections at Marion Street and South Dearborn Street.
The current plan is to begin work at Marion Street after Labor Day. In addition to a temporary closure of Marion near the demolition work, Alaskan Way at this location will be reduced to one lane in each direction until mid-September. Also in mid-September, crews will begin demolition at South Dearborn Street. To safely complete this work, crews must temporarily close South Dearborn Street at First Avenue South. Because this is a key intersection for travelers heading to and from SR 99, WSDOT is working closely with its partner agencies to keep people and goods moving during this work.

The timing of this work is subject to change based on progress. We’ll share more details as the work approaches, but travelers should plan ahead for additional congestion as crews continue to clear a path for Seattle’s new waterfront.

WESTERN AVENUE BETWEEN COLUMBIA AND MARION STREETS

After Labor Day crews will begin preparing the worksite at Marion Street and Alaskan Way for removing the Marion Street pedestrian bridge and the remaining section of viaduct. Additional information will be shared through this weekly email update and via our program website.

Road and access changes:

- Western Avenue between Marion and Columbia streets is southbound-only.
- Columbia Street is closed to vehicles between First Avenue and Alaskan Way. Visit the Waterfront Seattle website for more details.

SENeca STREET BETWEEN WESTERN AND FIRST AVENUES

Utility work will resume on Seneca Street between Western and First avenues in the next few weeks. Additional work is planned at the Seneca Street ramp abutment near the intersection of Seneca Street and First Avenue, but details and schedule of that work have not yet been finalized.

ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT BETWEEN UNION AND PINE STREETS

The viaduct has been removed between Union and Pine streets, and limited access to parking will continue through August. The normal walking route between Alaskan Way and the Pike Street Hillclimb has been restored, as has the pedestrian path on the east side of Alaskan Way.

ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT BETWEEN PINE AND LENORA STREETS

Crews continue removing the viaduct over the BNSF railroad tracks. This work is expected to continue through fall 2019. In addition to the typical project work hours listed below, crews are currently working Saturday nights, 11 p.m. – 5 a.m., above the BNSF railroad tracks, cutting and lifting viaduct sections with cranes.
Battery Street Tunnel

Crews have completed phase one of filling the Battery Street Tunnel. Some additional fill may be needed in the future to support utility installation, which continues in the tunnel. The hoppers used to fill the tunnel will remain in place along Battery Street until the second phase of filling the tunnel begins.

As soon as Sept. 3, crews will begin night work at the intersection of Battery Street and Third Avenue. This was originally scheduled to start Aug. 26 but has been pushed back a week. Work hours are from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., and this night work will continue into mid-September. Please expect typical construction impacts such as truck and equipment movement and increased dust, noise, and vibration.

Road and access changes:

- The northbound bus stop on Borealis Avenue between Battery Street and Denny Way is currently relocated to Battery Street between Fifth and Sixth avenues.
- Borealis Avenue remains tapered down to one lane, 24 hours a day, to align traffic with the single lane of Seventh Avenue North that begins north of Denny Way.
- Single-lane closures of Battery Street and cross-streets continue between Third and Fifth avenues. Weekday hours are 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Weeknight hours are 7 p.m. to 6 a.m.
- Around-the-clock lane closures continue on Battery Street between First and Third avenues.
- Please expect continued disruptions to travel lanes, parking, and occasional alley access along Battery Street between Second and Sixth avenues into the fall. Crews will typically work one block at a time.

ONGOING EFFECTS OF ALASKAN WAY VIADUCT REMOVAL WORK

- Typical work hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Occasional Sunday work, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Nighttime work over the BNSF railroad tracks 11 p.m. Saturday – 5 a.m. Sunday.
- Typical hours for the loudest (impact) work:
  - 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. weekdays.
  - 9 a.m. – 8 p.m. Saturdays.
  - 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sundays/holidays.
- Full road closures, lane reductions, and detours for people walking, biking, and driving.
- Typical construction impacts, such as truck and equipment movement and increased dust, noise, and vibration.
North Surface Streets

Night work is ongoing near the intersection of Denny Way and Seventh Avenue North. The work will produce noise, dust, and vibration. People driving on Denny Way should expect possible delays due to congestion.

The lane reduction on Denny Way scheduled for this weekend has been canceled as crews were able to complete the necessary work during the week. Future lane reductions and closures are still planned at the intersection of Denny Way and Seventh Avenue North, and information will continue to be shared through this email update as work approaches.

Road and access changes:

- As soon as Sept. 3, the west sidewalk of Seventh Avenue North will close. Pedestrian routes will open on the east side of Seventh Avenue North before the westside sidewalk closes.
- John Street is closed between Seventh Avenue North and Sixth Avenue North. This closure began July 29 and will last through early September.
- As soon as Sept. 3, Thomas Street will close between Seventh Avenue North and Sixth Avenue North. This closure will last about one month.
- The southbound bus stop on Seventh Avenue North just north of Denny Way is closed. Riders should use the bus stop at Wall Street and Fifth Avenue until the end of construction in early 2020.
- Continuing into October, Denny Way will have intermittent weekend work with lane reductions and closures. The best way to stay up to date on upcoming road and access changes is through this weekly email.

ONGOING EFFECTS OF BATTERY STREET TUNNEL WORK

- Typical daytime work hours are Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., with occasional weekend work.
- Typical nighttime work hours are Monday through Friday, 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., with occasional weekend work.
- Typical construction impacts such as truck and equipment movement and increased dust, noise, and vibration.
- Ventilation fans run intermittently from 6 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on weekdays, providing fresh air for crews working in the tunnel. This safety measure will be maintained until fall 2019. The fans will also run intermittently during occasional night and weekend work.

ONGOING EFFECTS OF NORTH SURFACE STREETS WORK

- Typical daytime work hours are Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., with occasional weekend work.
- Typical nighttime work hours are Monday through Friday, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m., with occasional weekend work.
- Typical construction effects such as increased dust, noise, vibration, and truck activity.
As we continue our work to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct, we will provide regular updates on construction through this email. If you were forwarded this email, you can subscribe to the list online.

You can sign up for general AWV Program email updates on our Contact Us webpage.

Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program
24-hour Hotline: 1-888-AWV-LINE (298-5463)
Email: viaduct@wsdot.wa.gov
Web: www.alaskanwayviaduct.org
Twitter: @BerthaDigsSR99