SR 520/I-5 Express Lanes Connection Project

Project overview and nighttime noise variance update

May 29, 2019

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Meeting Facilitator
Tonight’s meeting format

• 5:30 p.m. – Meeting begins with open house format

• 5:45 - 6:15 p.m. – Project information presentation

• 6:15 to 6:45 p.m. – Question and answer session

• 6:45 to 7:00 p.m. – Open house format with staff available for questions
  ✓ Sign up for project updates

• 7:00 p.m. – Meeting adjourns
SR 520 Ombudsman David Goldberg

What is an Ombudsman?
As a community liaison, the Ombudsman helps WSDOT better understand citizens’ concerns and, whenever possible, helps develop options to address the issue.

How to get in touch with David Goldberg:
wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520Bridge/Ombudsman
GoldbeD@wsdot.wa.gov
206-770-3659
SR 520 Rest of the West project overview

Remaining SR 520 improvements in Seattle:

- **SR 520/I-5 Express Lanes Connection Project**
  - Construction estimated start: 2020
  - Estimated duration: 3 years

- **Montlake Cut Bascule Bridge Project**
  - WSDOT will begin additional coordination in 2020 with community stakeholders and agency partners regarding project scope

- **Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project**
  - Construction estimated start: 2023
  - Estimated duration: 6 years

- **Montlake Project**
  - Construction start: 2019
  - Estimated duration: 4-5 years

Note: Project dates are estimates and subject to change.
SR 520 Rest of the West project
Upcoming engagement opportunities

**Montlake Project**
- **June 6:** Preconstruction open house
- **July – Dec.:** Monthly construction update meetings

**SR 520/I-5 Express Lanes Connection Project**
- **June 20:** Design open house
- **Summer/fall:**
  - City MPPCNV public meeting and comment period
  - Draft CCMP public comment period

**Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project**
- **June 20:** Design open house
- **July-Oct.:** Additional public design meetings
SR 520/I-5 Express Lanes Connection Project
Estimated start: 2020 with approx. 3-year construction duration

Creating a safer, more reliable transit/HOV travel between SR 520 and South Lake Union area via the reversible I-5 express lanes.
SR 520/I-5 Express Lanes Connection Project
Estimated start: 2020 with approx. 3-year construction duration

Key project features

A. A new, reversible transit/HOV ramp between SR 520 and the I-5 express lanes

B. Restriped I-5 express lanes to retain the existing four lanes while adding a new transit/HOV lane

C. A modified Mercer Street ramp, providing a reversible connection with the I-5 express lanes
SR 520/I-5 Express Lanes Connection Project

Key project next steps

2018
- Ongoing design advancement and public outreach
- Fall 2018: WSDOT began to advance the preliminary design

2019
- May 29: Public information session
- Late 2019: Share draft Community Construction Management Plan for public comment
- June 20: SR 520/I-5 and Portage Bay Bridge / Roanoke Lid projects design open house

2020
- Ongoing public outreach
- Mid to Late 2020:
  - Community Construction Management Plan updated for construction
  - Begin construction (est. 3-year duration)
- Early 2020:
  - Advertise and award contract

Note: Project dates are estimates and subject to change
City of Seattle Major Public Project Construction Noise Variance (MPPCNV)

What is an MPPCNV?
• A variance granted by the city of Seattle.
• Sets nighttime noise limits for SR 520/I-5 Project construction activities.
• Provides approval for construction activities to occur during nighttime hours within parameters permitted by the city of Seattle.

Why is WSDOT applying for an MPPCNV?
• WSDOT’s contractor will need to conduct construction work during nighttime hours to avoid unacceptable traffic impacts to SR 520 and I-5.

Crews conduct highway paving activities at night
SR 520 nighttime construction work

Why is nighttime work necessary?

• SR 520/I-5 Project construction during nighttime hours is necessary in order to:
  – Provide a safe work environment for the contractor and traveling public.
  – Avoid further exacerbating existing congestion on SR 520 and I-5.
  – Minimize the economic cost to taxpayers caused by extended project duration and significant daytime traffic impacts.

When would the variance limits be applicable?

• During nighttime construction hours of the SR 520/I-5 Project, defined as 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays, and 10 p.m. to 9 a.m. on weekends and legal holidays.
What’s included in WSDOT’s application?

- Project descriptions and proposed construction activities.
- WSDOT’s baseline noise measurements and proposed nighttime noise limits for the SR 520/I-5 Project.
- A Noise Management and Mitigation Plan.
- An overview of planned public outreach and process to resolve noise complaints during SR 520/I-5 Project construction.
- How construction noise will be monitored and how the contractor will comply with MPPCNV requirements.
Proposed limits in WSDOT’s application

- WSDOT’s application requests the following for nighttime noise levels and activities within the project area:
  - A limit of six decibels higher than the current hourly averages.
  - A limit for maximum noise levels that is within the existing range of nighttime noise.
  - A three-year variance, to cover the estimated 24-36 months of construction activities anticipated for the project.
- Noise monitoring and compliance requirements and procedures.
Key SR 520/I-5 Project construction activities

- The following key nighttime construction activities will be included in WSDOT’s application:
  - Excavation
  - Roadway and structure demolition and removal
  - Foundation and support column construction
  - Retaining wall construction
  - Construction of structures
  - Stormwater collection and treatment updates
  - Roadway paving, signing, and striping
- These activities are not expected to occur continuously on all nights for consecutive weeks, and it is likely there will be breaks in the activities
- WSDOT will develop a Noise Management and Mitigation Plan. If needed, the project contractor will submit any updates to the plan prior to construction
Noise analysis and proposed limits in WSDOT’s application

- WSDOT’s application proposes limits for nighttime noise levels and activities within the project area:
  - A limit of six decibels higher than the existing hourly averages.
  - A limit for maximum noise levels that is within the existing range.
- Noise monitoring and compliance requirements are included in the application.

Baseline noise monitoring site locations

- Sound levels measured during the late night hours (midnight to 5 a.m.) provide the most conservative representation of existing baseline conditions
- Noise measurement sites were selected based on their proximity to construction activities
Noise monitoring and compliance

WSDOT will:

– Prepare the Noise Management and Mitigation Plan
– Provide an on-site independent noise inspector who reports all non-compliance events directly to SDCI
– Continue comprehensive and ongoing public involvement activities
– Provide a 24-hour construction hotline

The project contractor will:

– Submit updates to the Noise Management and Mitigation Plan, as needed
– Install noise monitor devices on site
– Monitor noise continuously during nighttime construction activities

The independent noise inspector will:

– Monitor project contractor compliance with the noise variance
– Respond to all noise complaints, and modify or stop project work if necessary

Example of noise monitor device
MPPCNV application key steps

May 29, 2019:

✓ WSDOT hosts informational public meeting

June 2019:

☐ WSDOT submits MPPCNV application to the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections with a Noise Management and Mitigation Plan

☐ SDCI publishes WSDOT’s application online for public review

Summer 2019:

☐ SDCI hosts a public comment period and a formal public hearing on WSDOT’s application

☐ SDCI publishes decision on SR 520 / I-5 Project MPPCNV application

☐ 10-day appeal period begins if variance is issued

2020:

☐ If needed, project contractor submits updates to the Noise Management and Mitigation Plan in advance of construction
Thank you for joining us tonight!

Next up tonight
• 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.
  – Question and answer session

• 6:45 to 7:00 p.m.
  – Open house format with staff available for questions
  – Sign up for project updates

• 7:00 p.m.
  – Meeting adjourns

How to reach the SR 520 Program
• Visit: wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR520Bridge
• E-mail: SR520Bridge@wsdot.wa.gov
• Call: 206-770-3554 (staffed 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday)