

SDOT Measures To Help Alleviate Traffic Congestion

The city has undertaken an ambitious program of arterial paving that will help keep traffic moving when major construction gets underway on the Alaskan Way Viaduct. Once completed, these street improvements will enhance safety and efficiency for motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders.

The following is a list of measures that have been implemented or are under consideration by SDOT to help alleviate traffic congestion on Second Avenue. These measures include:

- Public information: SDOT has and will continue to issue press releases. SDOT is also calling specific media outlets, handing out door-to-door construction notices and sending email alerts to major downtown stakeholders.
- Metro Transit taking some "non-passenger pick up" buses off Second Avenue
- SDOT working with Metro on targeted bus stop closures to minimize the number of "pinch" points for traffic
- Additional uniformed police officers are being added to help direct traffic at intersections especially during peak periods
- Instructional handouts have been created to educate police officers on movements that are critical for multiple traffic (including transit) at each location
- Implementing a continuous pattern of travel lanes through the construction corridor to avoid multiple traffic merges as much as possible
- Variable message boards (a.k.a. VMS signs) are stationed on Second Avenue and Stewart Street warning drivers about the pending traffic change and additional delays
- Closing the west leg of the crosswalk at 2nd Avenue and Columbia Street and the south leg at 2nd and Stewart Street to aid turning movements.

We are aware that our paving and street improvement projects have construction impacts to area residents and businesses, as well as to bus riders, pedestrians, and others who travel through the construction zones. We appreciate your patience as we work to make necessary improvements to our transportation system.