

Investigative fieldwork on Alaskan Way starts November 12

Fieldwork Description

Starting Nov. 12, crews will be conducting fieldwork along Alaskan Way between Pike and Union streets. Work is anticipated to last for ten days and will take place primarily on the western sidewalk adjacent to the roadway (see map on page 2). Crews will be drilling to install monitoring equipment and capturing soil samples for testing and preparation for construction. No fieldwork is currently expected between Thanksgiving and New Years.

Why is this fieldwork necessary?

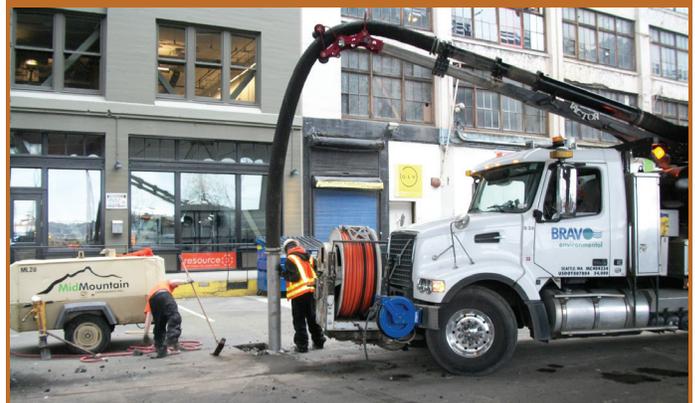
Fieldwork is expected to be conducted in three separate areas (see map on page 2) to accomplish the following objectives:

- **Increase public safety** – crews will bore holes into the soil to install instruments to monitor the street surface and seawall face for movement and settlement. Instruments will alert crews to incidents of deterioration of the existing seawall structure before construction begins and supplement an ongoing monitoring program for the seawall.
 - **Test soil to establish improvement techniques** – in conjunction with the drilling required for instrument installation, crews will be capturing soil samples to test various jet grouting mixes off-site. Jet grouting will likely be the primary soil improvement mechanism used to stabilize the new seawall. Testing the soil type allows the team to establish the proper “mix” of grout (cement), soil, water and air that will harden and stabilize our waterfront in the event of a seismic event.
- Pedestrian access on the sidewalk adjacent to work zones will be maintained at all times.
 - Work zones will remain in place for the duration of fieldwork activities. Temporary fencing will be installed around each drill site to ensure public safety.
 - Equipment, including drill rigs, will be on site until work is complete.
 - Noise, particularly due to boring machines and vector truck excavation. Vector trucks, which are essentially high velocity “vacuums” that remove pavement and dirt, will be used to excavate the soil samples.
 - Please note: There is a small possibility of crews conducting night work. If necessary, work would be limited to Sunday – Friday, 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Crews have applied for and will abide by a temporary noise variance in the unlikely case of night work. The neighborhood will be given as much advance notice as possible if night work is needed.

What can I expect?

- Active work, starting Nov. 12, during daytime hours, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- All work is expected to be complete by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, November 21.
- Temporary roadway lane restrictions to the westernmost southbound lane of Alaskan Way between Pike and Union streets. Northbound lanes will not be affected. Roadway restrictions will remain in place overnight and on weekends until work is complete.

Example of vector truck





What is the Elliott Bay Seawall Project?

SDOT is working to address the ailing Elliott Bay seawall along our waterfront. The project team is working to prepare designs for active construction to begin in Fall 2013. This project is a priority because:

- The Elliott Bay seawall was built between 1916 and 1934 and has deteriorated significantly since it was constructed.
- The seawall was not designed for earthquakes and could fail in a moderate to large earthquake.
- Failure of the seawall could also be caused by wind driven storm waves or the erosive tidal forces of Elliott Bay.
- The seawall supports major utilities, Alaskan Way and SR 99, the ferry terminal, and rail lines.

Thank you

Thank you for your patience as crews complete this important work. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this may cause.

If you have questions about this work or the Elliott Bay Seawall Project, you can get information in the following ways:

Web: www.seattle.gov/transportation/seawall.htm

Email: seawall@seattle.gov

Project Hotline: 206-618-8584