COWEN PARK BRIDGE SEISMIC IMPROVEMENTS

Seattle Department of Transportation

Welcome to the Cowen Park Bridge Seismic Improvements Project Listserv!

You are receiving this email because you attended an outreach event or spoke with project staff. Please forward this email to others that would like to receive email updates for the Cowen Park Bridge Seismic Retrofit. They can sign up for the project listserv here.

Project Description

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is preparing to make seismic improvements to the Cowen Park Bridge.

Earthquakes could have a significant detrimental effect on Seattle's infrastructure. To address these risks to city infrastructure, the City of Seattle established a <u>bridge seismic retrofit</u> <u>program</u> to assess the seismic vulnerability of the City's bridges and to prioritize limited funding to reduce this transportation infrastructure vulnerability.

As part of the <u>Levy to Move Seattle</u>, 16 bridges were selected for seismic retrofits, including the Cowen Park Bridge. The Cowen Park Bridge was built in 1936, prior to the modernization of the seismic design code. The bridge connects the Roosevelt/Ravenna neighborhood with the University District via 15th Ave NE across Cowen and Ravenna Park. This work will reduce the bridge's vulnerability to earthquakes.



Project area map with the Cowen Park Bridge highlighted in orange.

What's Happening Now?

The project team is currently seeking bids and we plan to have a contractor on board in the next month. Construction is anticipated to begin early 2019 and last approximately 6 months. We will be in touch with the nearby community to make sure everyone knows what to expect during construction. At this time, we anticipate:

- Redirects for people walking and biking across the bridge
- Partial closures of walking routes within Cowen/Ravenna Parks underneath the bridge
- Up to 2-3 full bridge weekend closures
- Noise, dust, and vibrations during work hours
- Equipment and materials staged near the work zone

In the coming months, we'll provide updates about the construction start date, timeline, and impacts via <u>this listserv</u> and our <u>project webpage</u>.

The bridge is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a designated <u>City landmark</u>. Earlier this year the SDOT project team presented to the Landmark Preservation Board and received approval for the planned seismic retrofits. The retrofits include several modifications to strengthen existing bridge

components and reduce overall seismic vulnerability while preserving the bridge's historic Art Deco character.

We Want to Keep You Up-to-date

We'll continue to contact neighbors directly, send email updates, and post web updates to keep everyone informed of upcoming construction. For more information about the project please visit our <u>project webpage</u>.

Please tell your friends, family, customers, neighbors, and local businesses to reach out to us with any questions and to <u>sign up for these email updates.</u>

Contact us with questions about construction: email <u>CowenParkBridge@seattle.gov</u> or call (206) 775-8734.