City of Seattle

Keeping you up to date, traffic moving, and maintaining parking

Parking that is currently available under the viaduct and along the waterfront will change when the Central Waterfront Transmission Line Relocation Project begins.

Seattle City Light and the Seattle Department of Transportation are working together to help you get around during construction. The Central Waterfront Transmission Line Relocation Project website will be regularly updated with detour routes for cars, pedestrians, and bikes, as well as available parking areas.

If you have questions or would like the latest information, please contact us by phone at 206-618-8584, by email at CWFTransmission@seattle.gov, or online at: **www.seattle.gov/light/aboutus/construction/cwftransmission.**

The City of Seattle and the Washington State Department of Transportation are also working with area stakeholders to develop parking alternatives and to maintain waterfront access for business owners, residents, visitors, and employees who rely on parking and loading areas along the waterfront and under the Alaskan Way Viaduct.

Once transmission lines are placed underground (top photo), crews will restore the area.

Utility Line Relocation Budget

The estimated total budget for this project is approximately $18 million.

For more information:

Please contact us with questions or to hear about our latest activities.

Web: **www.seattle.gov/light/aboutus/construction/cwftransmission**

Email: **CWFTransmission@seattle.gov**

Project Hotline: **206-618-8584**

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information

Materials can be provided in alternative formats for people with disabilities by contacting Mark VanOss, 206-684-3279, CWFTransmission@seattle.gov. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request for alternative formats through the Washington Relay Service at 7-1-1.

Central Waterfront Transmission Line Relocation Project

City of Seattle

What is the Central Waterfront Transmission Line Relocation Project?

Today, transmission lines that power Seattle and the western seaboard are mounted to the vulnerable Alaskan Way Viaduct. During winter and spring of 2012, Seattle City Light will replace a section of these 115 kV utility lines, moving them to a permanent location underground. These new lines will be placed near the existing Alaskan Way Viaduct, from Yesler Way to the Union Street substation (at Union Street and Western Avenue).

At the same time, the utility lines will be upgraded to meet current standards. The old lines are Self-Contained Fluid-Filled (SCFF) transmission cable. The new lines will be Cross-Linked Polyethylene (XLPE) transmission cable to help maintain proper temperature control and reliability. The old SCFF cable located on the viaduct will be drained, capped, and remain on the viaduct until it is demolished in 2016 and disposed.

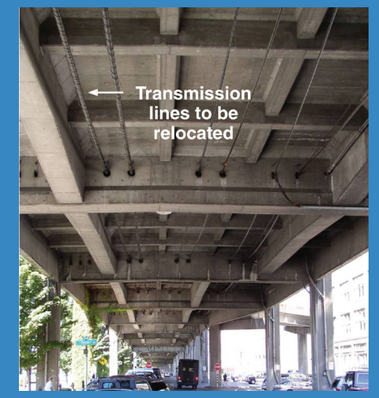
Building on south downtown utility work

Transmission lines will be relocated underground.

In 2008, crews began removing electrical lines from the viaduct, placing them underground in the southern mile of the Alaskan Way Viaduct Program area (from S Massachusetts Street to Railroad Way S). The Washington State Department of Transportation and Seattle City Light continued this effort through spring 2010, removing the remaining utilities from the viaduct in order to begin constructing new roadway ramps.

Utility relocation has now reached the Pioneer Square and Central Waterfront areas. The current project elements include making modifications to gas insulated switchgear at the Union Street substation, constructing new underground duct banks and vaults, installing new cable, and connecting the new system.

At a glance: existing transmission lines located on the viaduct are being moved to a permanent location underground.



Construction will take place from Yesler Way to Union Street under the viaduct and on Western Avenue.

The first step toward a new waterfront

Utility relocation is the first step toward a new waterfront. The Central Waterfront Transmission Line Relocation Project must be completed before Elliott Bay Seawall Project construction, Alaskan Way Viaduct removal, and Waterfront Seattle public space and new Alaskan Way construction. This utility work sets the stage for our future waterfront improvements.

Download a mobile scanning app for your smart phone. Then, scan this tag to instantly link to the project website.

Project details and planning for construction

Construction at a glance

The project schedule is being examined with contractors, other City departments, affected businesses, and the Washington State Department of Transportation. The planned completion date for the project is spring 2012.

Seattle City Light will work with businesses to minimize construction conflicts during peak business periods. Generally, crews will be working under the viaduct or to the east of the viaduct. No construction activities will be directly in front of waterfront piers. During the Central Waterfront Transmission Line Relocation Project:

- Crews will work to **maintain vehicle and pedestrian access** throughout the project area.
- The intersection of Western Avenue and University Street will be an **active construction area** for a prolonged period.
- Construction crews may have **activity one block north and south** of active construction sites along the project alignment.
- To the extent possible, through traffic will be maintained; however, **drivers should expect lane closures and parking restrictions** to accommodate active construction sites and staging; detours will be in place to route traffic around the work areas.
- Large **"Baker tanks"** holding drained groundwater **will be visible**; water will be injected back into the ground at different locations in the project area.
- Some on-street parking will be used to accommodate this work; **the City of Seattle is actively working to maintain as much parking as possible** in the Central Waterfront and Pioneer Square.
- **There will be night work**; residents and businesses will be notified at least three days prior to night work.
- **There are not any planned power outages.** Utility interruptions to businesses and residences will be avoided to the greatest extent possible, but there may be some water/sewer impacts. Any planned outages will be communicated with businesses, residents, and/or property owners.

Vault: an enclosed underground structure made of concrete.

Duct bank: a group of ducts or conduit usually encased in a concrete trench.

Construction Elements

Project-wide preparatory trench work to manage groundwater

Vault installations — A

Duct bank installation on Western Avenue between Union Street substation and University Street — B

Duct bank installation between Yesler Way and University Street — C

Cables from transmission lines pulled from Yesler Way to University Street — D

Project-wide restoration

- New underground 115 kV transmission line
- New vault installation
- Construction zone
- Periodic, temporary street closures (detours will be clearly marked)