August 10, 2016

Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) does not allow construction work during winter holidays in streets or sidewalks located in the Downtown Retail Core and Pioneer Square. The ban on construction supports Seattle businesses during the peak shopping season and reduces traffic congestion during this busy time of year. SDOT may also restrict construction outside the boundaries if we determine there to be a significant impact to and from the boundaries.

Holiday Construction Moratorium Details:
- The moratorium period is from Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- The moratorium boundaries are:
  - Central Retail Shopping District: Area bounded on the south by Seneca Street, northeast by Denny Way, east by the I-5 Freeway, north by Virginia Street and on the west by First Avenue.
  - Pioneer Square District: Area bounded on the north by Columbia Street, east by Second Avenue and Second Avenue South, south by South King Street, and on the west by Elliott Bay. Exceptions are allowed under special conditions authorized by the SDOT Director or emergencies that pose immediate threat of property damage, personal injury or loss. Requests for exceptions are considered on a case-by-case basis.
- In general, construction exceptions are short term, and may start 30 minutes after store closing hours and when there is no significant noise impact. Store closing times vary during the moratorium period. Consult the major retailer web sites.
- If a short term exception is granted, the City’s right of way must be cleared and restored by 6 AM the following business day.
- Long-term right-of-way use that does not significantly impede retail traffic or pedestrian flow may be considered for an exception.
- To request an exception, the Holiday Moratorium Exception Request form must be filled out and received by the SDOT Street Use at least 30 days in advance of Thanksgiving. The form is available at: www.seattle.gov/transportation/cams/HolidayMoratoriumExceptionRequest.pdf.

EMERGENCY WORK DURING THE HOLIDAY MORATORIUM
This work is broadly defined in the Seattle Municipal Code Title 15 as work that could not have been anticipated and is necessary for the protection of the public’s health and safety.
- The traffic control set-up should conform to the City of Seattle Traffic Control Manual for In-Street Work.
- SDOT must be notified of an emergency at the earliest possible opportunity:
  - During working hours: Street Use Division at (206) 684-5270 (Job Start Line) or at SDOTJobStart@seattle.gov
  - During non-working hours: Charles Street Shop at (206) 386-1218
- A Street Use permit application must be submitted by the end of the next business day.
  - Online at www.seattle.gov/transportation/stuse_permits_online.htm.
  - In Person by visiting the Street Use Counter on the 23rd floor of the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104.

We invite you to visit SDOT’s web site for more information on Street Use Permitting at:
- Note: Special event/film permits could be subject to the moratorium. Information available at the link above.