



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Tree at Roy and Queen Anne - February 9, 2012



Q. Why is the City's Department of Transportation (SDOT) replacing the tree at the corner of Queen Anne Avenue North and Roy Street?

A. The tree has been monitored over time and it has been determined that the substantial lean and extent of canopy development over the street presents a public safety risk that can only be mitigated by removal and replacement.

The tree location, overhanging transportation and utility infrastructure adjacent to particularly high use street and sidewalk areas, is a factor considered in setting both a high priority for the work and the schedule for the removal.



Q. Why is SDOT doing this work now?

A. This work was originally going to be done by a contractor between 2013 and 2015 as part of the Mercer West project but SDOT Urban Forestry has deemed it necessary to take this action before the project had scheduled it to occur.

Q. When will this work be done?

A. This work has been coordinated with neighborhood businesses and organizations to try to minimize conflict with other scheduled activities and will be performed between Monday, March 5th and Friday, March 10th. (We will update our web site and revise this FAQ as soon as we know the exact dates.) Our goal is to finish this work in one day, but it may require a second day.

Our work could begin as early as 7:00 AM. We will stop our work before nightfall (approximately 6:00 PM). We will be starting work early in the day to try to reduce the impacts to afternoon traffic on Roy Street.

Q. What work is being done?

A. SDOT Urban Forestry staff will do the initial removal of the tree and provide temporary measures to make the tree pit area safe for pedestrians. The contractor for the Mercer West project will fix the root problem under the existing sidewalk, install the replacement tree and replace the sidewalk. The contractor's work will take place sometime between 2013 and 2015. We will have a more specific date once we select the contractor for the overall project (Fall 2012).

Q. What will the replacement tree look like?

A. The tree will be replaced with a tree type selected by SDOT's Urban Forestry Division to provide comparable canopy cover and optimum visual continuity with the existing tree canopy cover along the corridor. . When it is installed, the diameter of the trunk of the replacement tree will be larger than the standard street tree size of 2-2.5 inches.

Q. What will happen to the wood from the tree after it is removed?

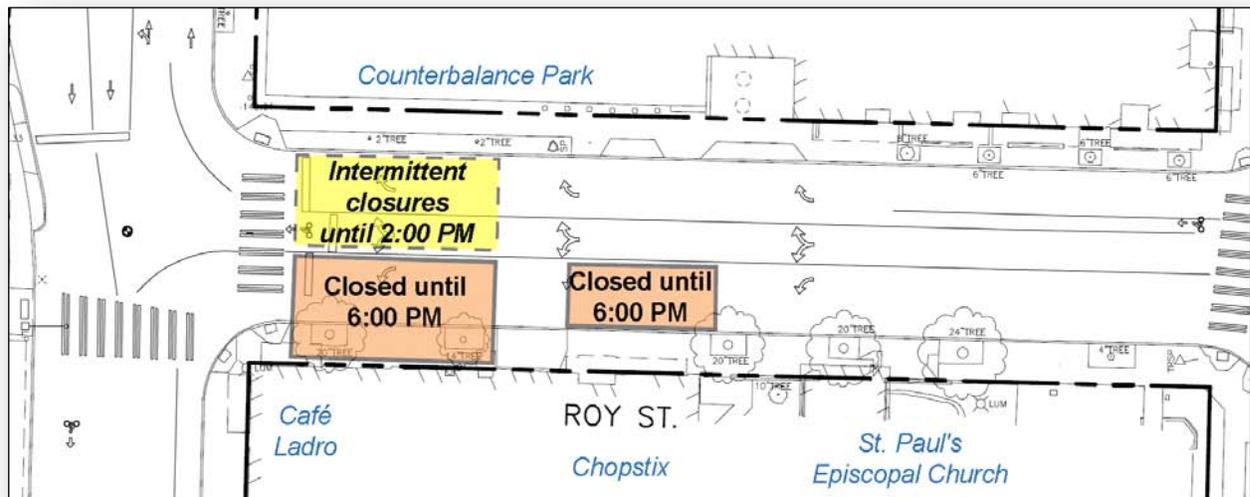
A. We are working with local wood salvage companies to see if the timber can be reused.

Q. How will traffic be routed through this area during the work?

A. Our workers and equipment will set up a work zone on the south side of Roy Street (near the tree). They will need to use the sidewalk, some of the parking spaces and one travel lane (the one closest to the tree) throughout the day to do their work. Since some of the branches reach all the way across Roy Street, we will need to have a police officer intermittently stop all traffic while we cut these longer tree limbs and move them back to our work zone. These intermittent closures should be done by 2:00 PM.

All businesses will be open during this work and we encourage you not to change your shopping or entertainment plans. We will try to keep traffic moving as smoothly as possible during this work. If you are only driving through this area, please consider using other routes.

The sidewalk will be closed between Café Ladro and Chopstix during the day, but our work zone will **not** block your access to those businesses.



Q. Where can I get more information about this project?

A. The most up-to-date information about the Mercer West project is always available here: http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/mercer_west.htm

During the actual tree removal, we will post traffic updates to:



SDOT's Twitter account: <http://twitter.com/seattledot>



SDOT's "On The Move" blog: <http://onthemove.seattle.gov/>



SDOT's Facebook page: <http://goo.gl/t6sL2>

If you have any additional questions about this work, please contact Eric O'Brien, the Deputy Project Manager for the Mercer West project at eric.obrien@seattle.gov or at (206) 233-1084.