East Side Paved – Mostly
In the last few weeks, the contractor formed and poured nearly all the curbs and sidewalks on the east side of First Avenue South, in addition to laying down the first two courses of asphalt along most of the project’s length. A third layer of asphalt will be added once the west side of First Avenue has been rebuilt as well, bringing the entire roadway up to the finished level at once.

Two areas of east side street pavement have yet to be replaced; the Lander Street intersection and another segment a little north of the South Stacy intersection.

Lander Intersection Paving
The east half of the Lander Street intersection will be removed and replaced this weekend, beginning 6PM Friday evening. This will be done in phases, enabling one lane to be kept open in each direction while the work is being done.

A uniformed police officer will be present throughout the operation helping to direct traffic to and from the west side of First Avenue South.

North of Stacy Paving
An area of pavement just north of the Stacy Street bus pad (in front of Pecos Pit BBQ) will also be replaced shortly. Crews will be at work in this area early next week, breaking up and removing the old paving, improving the subgrade, and repaving this area between the new concrete bus pad and the previously repaved area to the north.

Traffic Swap – West to East Side
As early as late next week the east side of First Avenue will be striped and ready to receive traffic that has been using the west half of the roadway since February. The swap will likely be made after the morning peak period, and will involve the full length of First Avenue in the project area.

West Side Activities
Demolition of the west half of the street will begin shortly after traffic is shifted to the east side of First Avenue. The pavement will be broken up and removed, new storm drain catch basins installed, and the sub-grade restored, moving from north to south. Crews will typically work from 6AM to 3PM and occasionally in the evenings after 6PM to minimize traffic impacts. Other crews will follow behind placing curbs and sidewalks.

Work will proceed more readily on the west side than on the east. This is principally because the new water main under the east side of First Avenue — which took a considerable amount of time and effort to install — is already in place.

For more information on the First Avenue S Rebuild, see www.seattle.gov/transportation/first_s_rebuild.htm

Beyond the Rebuild
SDOT still expects the contractor to complete the project in September, prior to the start of construction on the widening of the Spokane Street Viaduct. That project will involve diverting westbound traffic off of lower Spokane Street at 6th Avenue South across Lander Street to First Avenue to allow the upper roadway to be widened between I-5 and SR-99. For more information about the Spokane Street Project please visit www.seattle.gov/spokane

Art Brochet, Communication Lead (206) 240-1106 Email: art@firstavepaving.info
Jessica Murphy, Project Manager (206) 684-0178 Email: jessica.murphy@seattle.gov