

## CITY OF SEATTLE 2003 FREIGHT MOBILITY ACTIONS

(As repeated from the *Seattle Freight Mobility Strategic Action Plan*, April 2004)

The following accomplishments were completed in 2003, after the first *Freight Mobility Action Plan* was published.

### Truck Access

- **SR 519 Phase 1 Completed.** The SR 519 Atlantic Street Overpass was opened to traffic on May 17, 2003. This allows traffic from southbound and northbound Fourth Avenue South to go westbound on the new South Atlantic Street overpass. In October 2003 the new on-ramp to eastbound I-90 and both directions of I-5 was completed and opened to traffic by the State. Improvements to the road increase safety by separating the road and rail crossing, improve vehicle and freight access between I-90 and waterfront locations such as the Port and Colman Ferry Dock.
- **Type, Size and Location Study for S. Lander Street Grade Separation.** Published in February 2003.
- **Provided Input on Freight Needs for Large Capital Projects.** SDOT staff provided and facilitated freight-related input on planning for capital projects including the Monorail project, Leary Way Project, SR 519 Intermodal Access Project and the Alaskan Way Viaduct.
- An **inventory of known obstacles to truckers** was conducted.
- **Issued construction alerts** for route planning on an ongoing basis using SDOT maintained listserver and the associated information distribution service of the SODO Association.
- **SDOT assisted with construction coordination with West Marginal Way businesses** and BNSF to remove an inactive rail track across West Marginal Way with minimal traffic disruption in the fall of 2003.
- **Completed Trucker's Survey for the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project.** This survey provides need information on how current freight operators use the existing facility. The survey results are being documented. A Draft Environmental Statement for the entire project was released in March 2004.
- Continued the ongoing program for the **Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Section.** The Freight Mobility Advisory Committee has complimented the quality service provided by the SDOT Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Program in 2003.
- SDOT has posted the *Freight Mobility Strategic Action Plan*, the Port of Seattle *Trucker's Guide* and the Major Truck Streets Map on the **SDOT website**.
- **South Spokane Street Directional Signage Improved** to assist truckers accessing Port of Seattle Terminals 5 and 18. In late 2003, SDOT installed larger-sized directional signage on South Spokane Street on Harbor Island (between SR 99 and the low-level West Seattle Swing Bridge). This new signage is more visible from a distance and provides motorists and truck drivers more time to make decisions about lane choice. These signs will provide great benefit to the 4,000 truck trips per weekday generated by the Port of Seattle's Terminal 5 and Terminal 18. These signs were commissioned by the Port and installed by the City.



*Before and After  
Photos of Spokane  
Street Signage*



### **Rail Access**

- **Galer Street at-grade crossing closed in March 2003.** The Galer Street Flyover, completed in 2001, carries traffic from Port of Seattle Terminal 90/91 and adjacent businesses over the mainline railroad tracks. In 2003, mitigation measures were put in place to enable this last at-grade crossing north of Broad Street to be closed to traffic.
- **Initial work on the 3<sup>rd</sup> BNSF mainline track from Boeing Access Road to Royal Brougham Way S was initiated.** This is a part of a larger project that will ultimately result in construction of a 3<sup>rd</sup> mainline track from Seattle to Tukwila.
- **Infrastructure Funding**-SDOT participated in a national effort to explore federal legislative changes to provide infrastructure funding for freight rail improvements. Seattle was a participant in a nationally based Rail Infrastructure Coalition.
- **Mainline Track Pavement** - the BNSF repaired the pavement at the mainline track crossing at Broad Street in coordination with SDOT.

### Freight Access to Manufacturing & Industrial Areas

- **Improved pavement conditions** on the following streets in the respective industrial areas in 2003:

Program	Street	From	To	Paving (lane-miles)
Arterial Major Maintenance	S Hudson	S Ohio	1 Ave S	0.48
	4 Ave S	Airport Way	Intersection	0.04
Non-arterial Paving	Poplar Place S	S Dearborn	S Charles St	0.31
Paving Partnerships	3 Ave S	S Holgate	Dead End to S	0.17
	SW Lander	16 Ave SW	DE	0.32
			<b>Total:</b>	<b>1.32</b>

### Port of Seattle Container and Cargo Terminals

- **Physical and operational responses to the Port of Seattle on their access needs for their various terminals.** SDOT installed directional and guide signing on the approaches to Terminal 30— the temporary cruise ship terminal, and to the container terminals at T 5 in West Seattle and T 18 on Harbor Island.

### Continue to secure funding for freight-supportive projects

SDOT staff continued efforts to secure external funding for freight mobility projects. These included: S. Spokane Street Viaduct Widening, S. Lander Street Grade Separation, Duwamish Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS), and Truck Spot Improvements. SDOT was successful with the following funding processes:

- Supported Port of Seattle with project proposal and presentations for the E. Marginal Argo Yard Access Crossover Project to the State’s Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB). The Board approved the project application and recommended the project be considered for future funding of \$250,000 from the Legislature.
- Obtained FAST Project commitment of \$1.8 million from FY 03 Federal Earmark Funds for the Duwamish ITS Project.
- Obtained support for \$2.5 million from the federal FY 04 appropriations process for the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Seattle Center City Access Project.
- Obtained support for \$873,500 from the FY 03 Federal Earmark Funds for the Fremont Bridge and Montlake Bridge ITS Projects.

***Emphasized On-Going Communication & Coordination with Freight Community***

- Regular monthly meetings of the Seattle Freight Mobility Advisory Committee were held and included many project briefings and discussion topics of interest to the freight community. Some of the project briefings included: the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Project alternatives, S Lander Street Grade Separation, Magnolia Bridge, Mercer Corridor Transportation Study, and the W. Marginal Bike Path.
- Participated in monthly meetings of the BINMIC Action Committee
- Participated in monthly meetings of the regional FAST Project
- Prepared materials for state legislative tour (hosted by the FMSIB) of Seattle freight projects and conducted Seattle portion of South King County tour in summer 2003.
- Participated in bi-monthly meetings of the Regional Freight Mobility Roundtable.
- Participated in quarterly meetings of the Port Truck Operators Committee.
- Participated in other business community meetings such as the NSIA and the South Park Business Council.