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## S Spokane St Viaduct Project

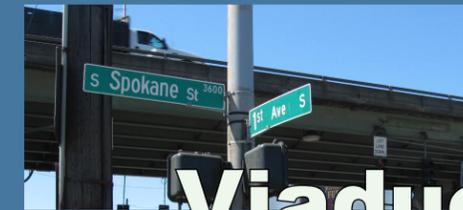
When construction is complete, expected in May 2012, drivers will benefit from:

- A S Spokane St Viaduct that's **twice as wide**, providing motorists, transit and freight traffic with wider shoulders, and a new westbound merge lane for entering and exiting the Viaduct to improve traffic flows.
- A new eastbound S Spokane St Viaduct off-ramp to 4th Ave S that will allow motorists, transit and freight traffic **direct access** to northbound and southbound 4th Ave S while **avoiding rail traffic**.
- A new, consolidated westbound S Spokane St Viaduct on- and off-ramp at 1st Ave S with **merge lanes and better sight-lines**.
- A rebuilt S Spokane St (lower roadway) with **curbs, a concrete roadway and sidewalks**, making it more efficient and pleasant for motorists, transit riders, freight, bicyclists and pedestrians.

## Project timeline

Date*	Closure or milestone
January 2010	Close and remove existing off-ramp from westbound S Spokane St Viaduct to 4th Ave S
January 2010	Close westbound S Spokane St (lower roadway) between 6th Ave S and E Marginal Way S
May 2010	Close and remove existing westbound on-ramp to West Seattle Bridge from 1st Ave S
Summer 2010	Open newly reconstructed eastbound S Spokane St lower roadway
Summer/Fall 2010	Open new eastbound S Spokane St Viaduct off-ramp to north- and southbound 4th Ave S
Fall 2011	Open new westbound on- and off-ramps to the West Seattle Bridge at 1st Ave S
May 2012	Project complete

\*Please note: all future dates subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances



# S Spokane St Viaduct Widening Project

April 2010



The \$168 million S Spokane St Viaduct Project is funded in part by Bridging the Gap, the \$365 million levy passed by Seattle voters in 2006. This levy enables much-needed work by SDOT, such as roadway paving, sidewalk development and repair, bridge maintenance, and tree pruning and planting. The Bridging the Gap levy also supports the Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plans, enhanced transit connections and large Neighborhood Street Fund projects.

### Stay informed

- Visit the project Web site at [www.seattle.gov/spokane](http://www.seattle.gov/spokane)
- Sign up for project email updates on the Web site
- Call the information line at (206) 684-4747
- E-mail construction.coordination@seattle.gov to sign up for weekly e-mails previewing City-wide construction and event related street closures

### For more information

- Paul Elliott, SDOT Community Relations, [Paul.Elliott@Seattle.gov](mailto:Paul.Elliott@Seattle.gov), (206) 684-5321 or
- LeAnne Nelson, SDOT Community Relations, [LeAnne.Nelson@Seattle.gov](mailto:LeAnne.Nelson@Seattle.gov), (206) 684-3897

## S Spokane St Viaduct 1st Ave S Westbound On-ramp Closing Permanently

- *New eastbound off-ramp at 4th Ave S opens Summer/Fall 2010*
- *New westbound on- and off-ramp at 1st Ave S opens Fall 2011*

### Next Big Step

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is widening and improving the South Spokane Street Viaduct—the 60-year-old elevated roadway that carries 65,000-70,000 vehicles daily between I-5 and the West Seattle Bridge. The next major milestone, in this project that began in the fall of 2008, is now at hand. To widen the upper roadway 41 feet to the north, and build a new on and off-ramp at 1st Ave S (set to open Fall 2011), the existing westbound 1st Ave S on-ramp must be removed. The on-ramp is scheduled to close for demolition on May 17, 2010.

### Access Alternatives

In the sixteen months during which there will be no access to the Spokane Street Viaduct from surface streets in SODO, **vehicles approaching construction on 1st Ave S will be detoured to the low level swing bridge to get to West Seattle**. To reduce the expected congestion on this lower bridge during construction, SDOT is working with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Port of Seattle and others, and planning for signal timing adjustments and uniformed police officers to help guide traffic.

### Other alternative routes include:

- South on 1st Ave S across the 1st Ave S Bridge, to W Marginal Way SW to West Seattle
- South on 4th Ave S, left on S Michigan St to northbound I-5 to the West Seattle Bridge exit
- 1st Ave S or 4th Ave S north to Edgar Martinez ramp, to I-5 south to West Seattle exit, to S Spokane St Viaduct

### New 4th Ave Ramp

Work to complete the new eastbound 4th Ave S off-ramp is on schedule for a Summer/Fall 2010 opening. Later this spring or early summer, once utility work and paving are completed, eastbound lower Spokane Street will be reopened. Crews can then begin work to join the new ramp to the existing elevated structure. **This work will require the closure of the eastbound right-hand lane of the viaduct between 1st and 4th avenues for approximately two months**. This is the last major construction stage of the new eastbound 4th Ave S off-ramp.

### Ongoing Lane Closures

All lanes of westbound lower S Spokane St from 6th Ave S to E Marginal Way are closed to through traffic until approximately May 2012.

For the majority of time, until December 2010, 4th Ave S between S Horton St and Industrial Way S will be reduced to one lane in each direction.

Through at least the summer of 2010, the eastbound 1st Ave S off-ramp is reduced to one lane, and 1st Ave S between S Spokane and S Hanford streets will frequently be reduced to one lane in each direction.

**Access to local businesses maintained at all times.**

# S Spokane St Viaduct Widening Project

**Construction Impact: Westbound on-ramp from 1st Ave S closing for demolition May 17, 2010**

The on-ramp to the westbound Spokane Street Viaduct from 1st Ave S will be permanently closed as crews build a new combined on- and off-ramp on 1st Ave S. During this closure, drivers should access the West Seattle Bridge via the lower swing bridge. Drivers may also use SR 99 or I-5 to get to the West Seattle Bridge (see map lower right).

**Coming Soon: New westbound on- and off-ramp at 1st Ave S - Fall 2011**

The existing westbound on-ramp at 1st Ave S will be replaced by a new combined on- and off-ramp with gentler curves for improved traffic flow and smoother entry and exit points from the upper roadway.

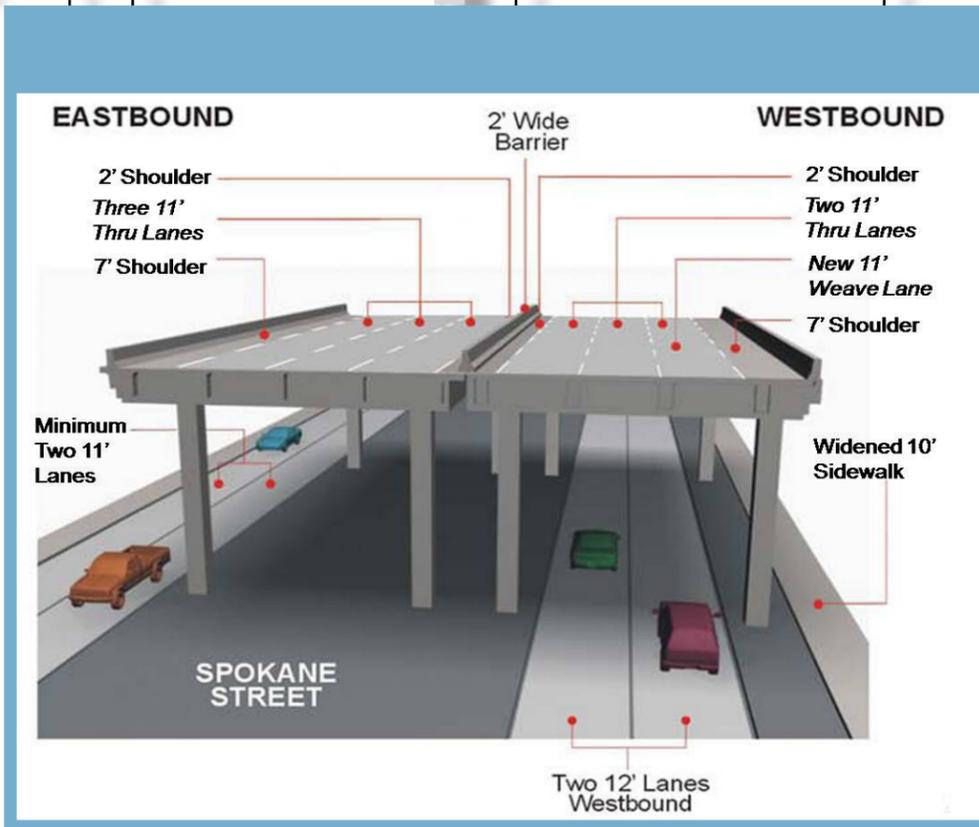
**Construction Impact: Connecting the New 4th Ave Ramp**

In late Spring/early Summer crews begin work to join the new eastbound 4th Ave S off-ramp to the existing elevated structure. **This work will require the closure of the eastbound right-hand lane of the viaduct, between 1st and 4th avenues, for approximately two months.**

Please note the primary detour route is a heavily used truck route serving industry in the Duwamish and the Port of Seattle's terminals. Many industrial and maritime businesses - and the thousands of jobs they support - depend on the corridor for the movement of goods.

**Construction Impact: Existing eastbound 1st Ave off-ramp**

As of March 22 the First Avenue South off-ramp from the eastbound lanes of the Spokane Street Viaduct is reduced to one lane - for up to 5 months. During this same time period First Avenue South will frequently be reduced to one lane in each direction from Spokane to Hanford streets.



**Project Improvements**

Crews are widening the upper roadway between 6th Ave S and E Marginal Way to provide room for wider lanes and shoulders, a new westbound acceleration/ deceleration lane, and an additional eastbound lane between 1st Ave S and 4th Ave S. This three and a half year project, which began the fall of 2008, also includes seismic strengthening of the viaduct, and a new 10 feet wide sidewalk on the north side of lower S Spokane St that can accommodate pedestrians and bicycles.



**Coming Soon: New eastbound off-ramp to 4th Ave S - Summer/ Fall 2010**

Crews are building a new two-lane off-ramp from the eastbound upper roadway to northbound/southbound 4th Ave S.

For questions regarding how Metro Transit bus routes will be affected during the construction period, contact **King County Metro Transit** directly: by phone at (206) 553-3000; email at [Customer.Comments@kingcounty.gov](mailto:Customer.Comments@kingcounty.gov); or visit [www.kingcounty.gov/metro](http://www.kingcounty.gov/metro) for route information.

**Primary Detour Route**

**Secondary Detour Route**

**Downtown to W Seattle Route**

**Downtown route to West Seattle: Columbia St on-ramp to the Alaskan Way Viaduct/SR 99**

Note: This detour recommended until Nov 2010 when lane restrictions begin on 1st Ave S near S Royal Brougham Way

**Primary detour from E Marginal Way, west to the S Spokane St swing bridge (lower bridge)**

**South on 1st Ave S, across the First Ave S Bridge to West Seattle**

**South on 4th Ave S, left on S Michigan St to NB I-5 to the West Seattle Bridge exit**

**1st or 4th Ave S north to Edgar Martinez ramp to I-5, south to West Seattle exit to S Spokane St Viaduct**