

**SEPA DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS)  
SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SDOT)  
SPOKANE ST SWING BRIDGE HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILL PROJECT**

**Description of proposal:** The City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) has issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) in accordance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for the Spokane St Swing Bridge Horizontal Directional Drill (HDD) Project. Currently, moveable bridge telecommunications systems cross the Duwamish Waterway via the West Seattle Bridge. While SDOT intends to repair the West Seattle Bridge, an alternate route is needed for new planned communications systems due to the quality of the existing systems and the need to remove long term interdependencies between the Spokane St Swing Bridge functions and the future bridge repair work. This project would construct a new telecommunications conduit beneath the bed of Duwamish Waterway using HDD technology on the north side of the Spokane St Swing Bridge. The project would install new telecommunications systems (fiber and copper) within the new conduit for use in operating the bridge and for public/private fiber optic network connections between Harbor Island and West Seattle. These new communications would connect to the bridge and existing telecommunications networks via aerial and underground trenching improvements in uplands.

**Proponent:** City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)  
Seattle Municipal Tower  
700 Fifth Ave, Suite 3800  
P.O. Box 34966  
Seattle, WA 98124-4996

**Location of proposal including street address, if any:** The project is located below the Spokane St Swing Bridge in the Industrial District area.

**Lead Agency:** SDOT

SDOT has determined that this proposal would not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information may be examined at <https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/bridges-stairs-and-other-structures/bridges/west-seattle-high-rise-bridge-safety-program/low-bridge-projects>. This information is also available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period.

☐ This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355 and Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.05.355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

☒ This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) and Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.05.340; the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the issue date below. **Comments must be submitted to agency contact Joel Darnell by 5:00 p.m. on January 25, 2021, by email to Joel.Darnell@seattle.gov, by telephone to 206-684-5065, or by mail to the above proponent address.**

**Issue Date:** January 11, 2021

**SEPA Responsible Official:** Jill Macik, Environmental Manager

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Signature

January 5, 2021

Date

**Agency contact:** Joel Darnell  
**E-mail address:** Joel.Darnell@seattle.gov

**Telephone:** 206-684-5065

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Any interested person may appeal this DNS by submitting a written Notice of Appeal and a filing fee to the Office of the Hearing Examiner. Appeals of the DNS must be received by the Hearing Examiner at the address shown below or pursuant to the **Office of Hearing Examiner Operating Rules During COVID-19** document available at the website shown below. **Appeals must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 1, 2021.** Appellants should be prepared to make specific factual objections. See SMC 25.05.680 for SEPA appeal procedures.

**Hearing Examiner**, Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, Suite 4000, PO Box 94729, Seattle, WA 98124; 206-684-0521; [www.seattle.gov/examiner](http://www.seattle.gov/examiner)

**Office of Hearing Examiner Operating Rules During COVID-19:**

<https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/HearingExaminer/CODV19%20HXE%20Factsheets/Emergency%20Order%203-16-2020.pdf>