West Seattle Bridge
West Seattle Transportation Coalition Meeting

January 28, 2021
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Agenda

• Traffic update
• Reconnect West Seattle
• West Marginal Way
• Low bridge automated photo enforcement
• WSDOT work on First Avenue South Bridge
Traffic data

• Bridges and detour routes are monitored for changes in travel patterns

• Impacts on traffic volumes to/from West Seattle:
  A) Start of SPD enforcement of low bridge use
  B) Eased initial COVID restrictions
  C) Low bridge opened to all traffic in overnight hours
  D) New COVID restrictions
  E) End of Thanksgiving holiday

* Horizontal dashed grey line: Feb 2020 baseline traffic

• You can find this data and charts here: https://public.tableau.com/profile/city.of.seattle.transportation#!/vizhome/wsb-dashboard/Main
Traffic data

• Transit and bicycling volumes
  • Maximum Metro passengers/bus is 12-18, depending on bus size
  • Trends generally match expectations for both transit and bicycling
  • Poor air quality in mid-September likely affected bike ridership

• SDOT and King County Metro will monitor travel patterns and ridership trends as COVID restrictions change

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2020 RWS Implementation Plan accomplishments

Completed **22 Reconnect West Seattle 2020 projects** and **190 traffic mobility improvements** since the bridge was closed.

- **Goal #1:** Address increased traffic volumes and other impacts to neighborhoods along detour routing **completed 25 projects**

- **Goal #2:** Reimagine West Seattle transportation through mode share shifts and travel pattern changes **completed 19 projects**

- **Goal #3:** Understand community concerns and obtain feedback on projects, services, and facilities needed for West Seattle travelers to shift to non-car modes **completed 5 of 13 planned projects**
2020 RWS Implementation Plan accomplishments

• **Goal #4:** Develop a comprehensive implementation plan that incorporates community feedback to ensure travelers reach their desired destinations **completed 34 projects**

• **Goal #5:** Regularly communicate with community members in the coming months and years as traveler patterns change to address transportation needs **attended 35 community meetings** and held **8 neighborhood walks** and **2 corridor walks**
What’s next - 2021 projects

• Reconnect West Seattle 2021 – 33 projects
  • Home Zone project design and delivery
  • Neighborhood ballot projects

• Traffic mitigation projects and detour route assessments
  • Radar feedback signs – 8 new
  • Pavement improvements

• Transit spot improvements 5 projects

• Continue to collect input from community in early 2021 for project ideas to construct in 2022

Follow the projects on our clickable map.
Mobility Action Plan goal

*Mode share targets are within our reach*

- Drive alone trips will decrease to 36% mode share after social distancing (2021 Goal: 35%)

- Work from home will represent a 23% mode share (2021 Goal: 20%) indicating that people want to continue remote work in some capacity after social distancing

- Buses see the most significant mode share decrease (from 17% in pre-social distancing to 11% after social distancing); compare to 2021 Goal: 25%

- Increased interest in carpool, vanpool, employer shuttles after social distancing

- Bike and water taxi mode shares show increase to 6% each, but shy of the 10% mode share goal for 2021
Mobility Action Plan update

Now (COVID restrictions)
• KC Metro Vanpool promotions and subsidy
• KC Metro March 2021 transit service hour adds on routes 50, 60, and 128 to address crowding with COVID bus capacity constraints
• Monthly meetings with Employer Resource Group
• Travel options website

Next (COVID recovery)
• Additional transit service hour planning through STBD, including water taxi feeder service
• Travel options portal with micromobility, transit, and vanpool subsidies
• Freight demand management strategies from UW partnership
West Marginal Way

• Context
• 2021 construction projects
• Proposed designs for the southbound curb lane
• Public/stakeholder engagement and final decision timeline
Area of focus: SW Marginal Pl to SW Alaska St

- SDOT is proposing designs in Sections 1 and 2 for multimodal travel and safety.

- Most design elements are within the southbound curb lane so the data presented will focus primarily on southbound movements.

- No changes are proposed at this time for northbound movements and continue to work with adjacent businesses for freight mobility improvements.
2021 Construction projects
2021 construction

- Longhouse interim crossing signal 2021 installation
  - Permanent installation in 2022 and beyond pending BNSF coordination

- West side sidewalk connection Spring 2021 installation
  - Placed between trees and property line (replaces dirt path)
Proposed designs for southbound curb lane
Section 1: Duwamish Trail connection

• Option 1: No build option
  • Maintain existing conditions

• Option 2: Convert southbound curb lane into a two-way protected bike lane
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Preferred alternative (B – Protected Bike Lane):
- Provides comfortable facility for people biking that provides adequate space for passing
- Improves driveway sight lines for people driving and biking
- Existing signed bike route has narrow section that does not allow people driving and people biking to pass each other
- 11-foot drive lanes
Section 2: Curb lane design options

• Option 1: Extend Duwamish Trail connection south to Longhouse crossing signal, maintain on-street parking in front of Longhouse

• Option 2: Extend existing on-street parking north to Duwamish Trail signal

• Option 3: Remove lane drop, remove on-street parking in front of Longhouse
Engagement and final decision timeline

Outreach to businesses
- January
  - Late January
  - Mailer to West Seattle residents and attending meetings, as requested

Open House on February 18 from 6-7:30 PM
- February
  - Late February
  - Follow ups with businesses

Compile feedback
- Early March
  - Late March
  - Draft decision memo for SDOT leadership

SDOT leadership makes decision
- Late March

Project delivery
- April 2021
- Aug 2021

January 2021 – March 2021
Vision Zero Yard Signs

- Yard signs available
- Email request to westseattlebridge@seattle.gov
- Available in Spanish, Vietnamese, Somali, Khmer
Low bridge automated photo enforcement

• Began on January 11
• $75 citation for each trip if not freight, transit, emergency, or authorized user
• Monitoring traffic data
• Next user group we’re working on is on-call healthcare providers
Questions / Discussion

www.seattle.gov/transportation/WestSeattleBridge