

W HOWE ST BRIDGE

SEISMIC IMPROVEMENTS



W Howe St Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project Update – November 2019

You are receiving this email because you attended an outreach event or spoke with project staff. Please forward this email to others that would like to receive email updates for the [W Howe St Bridge Project – Seismic Retrofit](#). They can [sign up for the project listserv here](#).

What's Happening Now?

Our project team has finalized the design for the W Howe St Bridge seismic improvements and a contractor has been brought onboard to complete the work. Construction is anticipated to begin as early as December 4, 2019 and last approximately 1 year.

In order to safely replace the bridge bearings, we will need to temporarily close the bridge to vehicle traffic. In lieu of the 2-3 weeks of nighttime closures previously communicated, we now anticipate the work can be completed with 3-4 weekend bridge closures, scheduled for spring 2020. We will be in touch with the nearby community to share information about the anticipated closure dates and detour route closer to construction.

Please note that the construction schedule is subject to change based on site conditions, material and equipment availability, weather, and other factors. We'll

continue to provide updates about the construction start date, timeline, and impacts via [this listserv](#) and our [project webpage](#).

Construction Impacts

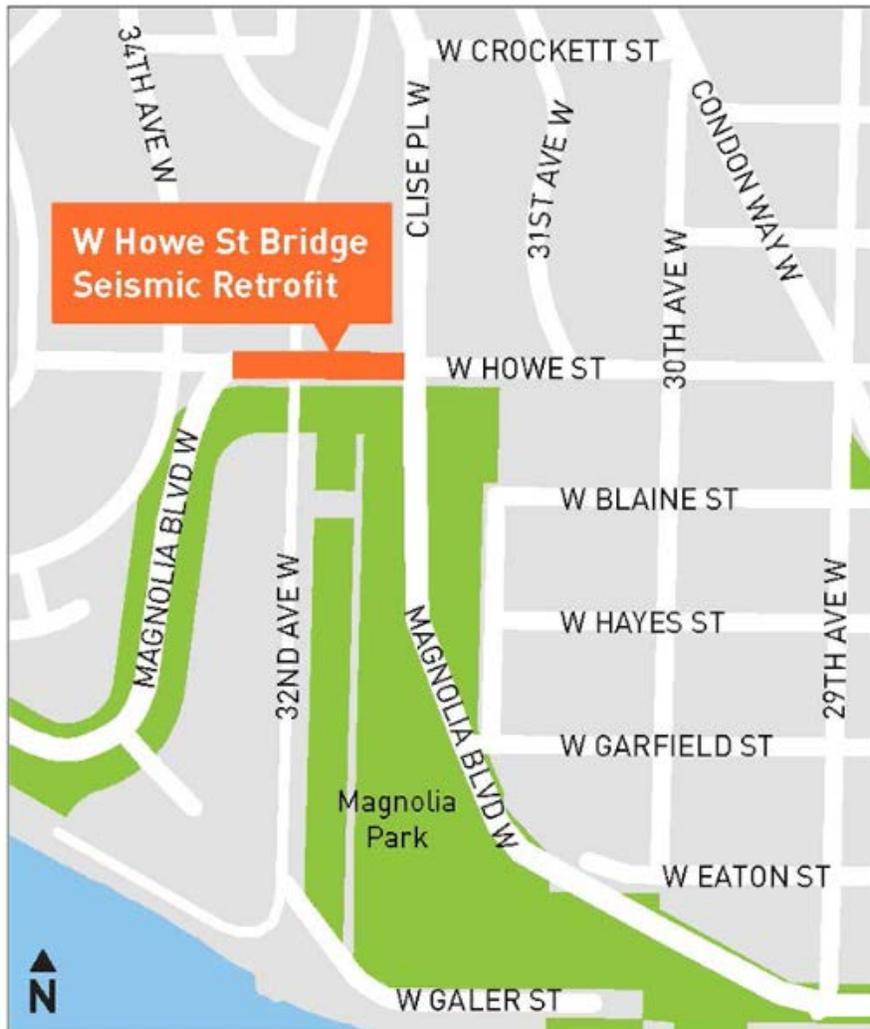
We will strive to minimize construction impacts as much as possible. During construction, please expect:

- Typical weekday work hours of 7 AM – 5 PM, Monday through Friday
- 3-4 temporary weekend bridge closures and detours for vehicle traffic. We will post detours and notify nearby homes 72 hours in advance. Access for those walking and biking will be maintained
- Traffic restricted to 1 lane on 32nd Ave W with a flagger during work hours; 2 lanes of traffic will be available during non-work hours
- Temporary closure of the staircase providing access from W Howe St to 32nd Ave W
- Construction equipment staged under the bridge, and at the northeast corner of the bridge by the north entrance of the Magnolia Park parking lot
 - Temporary disruptions to the north parking lot entrance, bike lanes, and the sidewalks while moving equipment and materials
- Noise, dust, and vibrations during work hours. We will monitor bridge vibrations and minimize noise as much as possible

Thank you in advance for your patience during this work!

Project Description

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is preparing to make seismic improvements to Magnolia's W Howe St Bridge.



Project area map with the W Howe St Bridge highlighted in orange.

Earthquakes could have a significant detrimental effect on Seattle's infrastructure. To address seismic risks to city infrastructure, the City of Seattle established a [bridge seismic retrofit program](#) to assess the seismic vulnerability of the City's bridges and to prioritize limited funding to reduce this transportation infrastructure vulnerability. As part of the [Levy to Move Seattle](#), 16 bridges were selected for seismic retrofits, including the W Howe St Bridge.

The W Howe St Bridge was built in 1981, prior to the modernization of the seismic design code. The bridge provides an alternative connection across 32nd Ave W to the neighborhood located along the southwest edge of the Magnolia community. This work will reduce the bridge's vulnerability to earthquakes.



Photo of the underside of W Howe St Bridge with descriptions of planned seismic retrofits

We Want to Keep You Up-to-date

We will continue to contact neighbors directly, send email updates, and post web updates to keep everyone informed of upcoming construction. For more information about the project please visit our [project webpage](#).

Please tell your friends, family, customers, neighbors, and local businesses to reach out to us with any questions and to [sign up for these email updates](#).

Contact us with questions about construction: email WHoweStBridge@seattle.gov or call (206) 775-8734



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