

I-5 Yesler Way to Northgate

Update to the Joint Transportation Committee

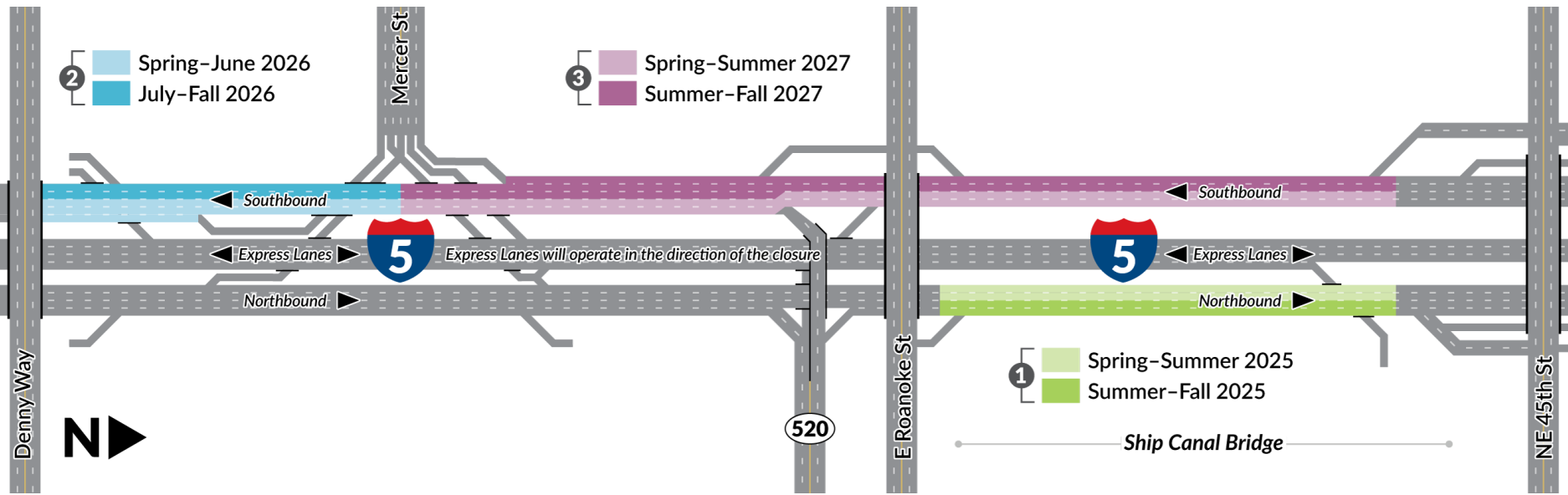
BRIAN NIELSEN, NORTHWEST REGION ADMINISTRATOR

December 11, 2024

Roger Millar, Secretary of Transportation

Mike Gribner, Deputy Secretary of Transportation

What do 3 seasons of construction on I-5 look like?



Budget

PIN	Title	Sub program	Phase	AD/RFQ Date	Current Total Phase	IIJA Funds	Total Fed	Total State	% IIJA
100520J	I-5/Denny Way Overcrossing Bridge - Deck Overlay & Expansion Joint	P2	CN	7/17/2023	707,679	693,525	693,525	14,154	98%
100522T	I-5/SB Denny Way-Lakeview Viaduct- Deck Overlay & Expansion Joint	P2	CN	7/17/2023	78,654,495	77,081,405	77,081,405	1,573,090	98%
100522Y	I-5/SB Yesler Way to Ship Canal Bridge - Concrete Pavement Rehab	P1	CN	7/17/2023	10,047,443	9,846,494	9,846,494	200,949	98%
100524P	I-5/NB Lake Washington Ship Canal Bridge - Deck Overlay	P2	CN	7/17/2023	52,215,468	51,171,159	51,171,159	1,044,309	98%
100524Y	I-5/SB Lake Washington Ship Canal Bridge - Deck Overlay & Rehab	P2	CN	7/17/2023	58,085,535	56,923,824	56,923,824	1,161,711	98%
100524W	I-5/Ship Canal Bridge - Drainage Repair	P3	CN	7/17/2023	26,863,863			26,863,863	N/A
100526R	I-5/Yesler Way to NE 117th St - Ramp Paving	P1	CN	7/17/2023	20,375,797			20,375,797	N/A
L100307	Northgate Pedestrian Improvements	Z2	CN	7/17/2023	1,733,555			1,733,555	N/A
					248,683,835		195,716,407	52,967,428	
							79%	21%	

Strategies WSDOT has already implemented

- Ongoing close coordination with regional partners for more than two years on strategies to keep the region moving during this project.
- Delayed larger I-5 Yesler Way to NE 117th Street project until Lynnwood Link was complete and open and split the work into two projects, focusing on the most crucial elements first:
 - Rehabilitate and repave the I-5 Ship Canal Bridge along with expansion joints and pavement preservations.
- Running the Express Lanes 24/7 in the direction of long-term lane reductions.
- RFP requirements about traffic restrictions during events of a certain size, in coordination with SDOT.
- RFP requirements about modeling significant detours.
- Pause of long-term lane closures during the 2026 FIFA World Cup (June-July 2026).
- Comprehensive engagement and communications program.

Operational strategies moving forward

- **Update existing BAT lanes on SR 99 through Seattle**

Leads: SDOT and Metro

Timeline: To be implemented by Spring 2025

Benefit: Increase transit speed and reliability on key alternate route (SR 99) with 24/7 bus lanes

Next steps: Develop a SDOT/KCM/WSDOT multi-agency communications plan for outreach to the community about proposed changes.

- **Co-create a performance monitoring plan for sharing relevant data between transportation agencies during and throughout the long-term linear closures**

Lead: WSDOT

Timeline: Finalized by end of 2024

Benefit: Better understand mobility impacts of the project and long-term closures

- **Establish an emergency operations structure: Major Closures Coordination Plan**

Lead: WSDOT

Timeline: Finalized by end of 2024

Benefit: Multi-agency preparedness for variety of issues/emergency situations

Unresolved issues: None

Operational strategies moving forward

➤ Define WSDOT's ability to reverse I-5 express lanes in emergency conditions

Lead: WSDOT

Timeline: Determine ability, requirements, and plan by end of 2024

Benefit: Keeping traffic moving during incidents

Unresolved issues: Defining what conditions could warrant an unscheduled reversal

I-5 Express Lanes schedule

Monday-Friday

- Southbound - 5 a.m. to 11 a.m.
- Northbound - 11:15 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- Closed: 11 p.m. - 5 a.m.

Saturday & Sunday

- Southbound - 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- Northbound - 1:45 p.m. to 11 p.m.
- Closed: 11 p.m. - 8 a.m.



EJ assessment & translation

- Acknowledge that 1 in 5 Seattle residents speak a language other than English at home
- WSDOT's EJ assessment requires documents to be available in Spanish and Simplified Chinese
 - Online open house
 - Project flyer
- We are exploring options, such as Google Translate to make materials more easily accessible in other languages
- If we receive a request to provide materials in a specific language, we will accommodate that request
- Utilizing the City of Seattle's ethnic and minority media list
- Meet people with information in places and spaces where they already go to access information

Key takeaways

- People can get where they want to and need to go, but they are going to need to stay informed and plan ahead. We'll provide some tools to help them.
- We are committed to the Mayor's downtown activation plan – we are **NOT** telling people to work from home.
- Long term lane closures NB I-5 across the Ship Canal Bridge begin March 2025 and will last about nine months.
 - Three full closures of NB I-5 are required to set the barrier, reset the barrier to move from working in the inside to the outside lanes and to pick up for the season.
 - We will not have long term lane closures during the 2026 FIFA World Cup.
- Double lane work zone is:
 - **Safer**; for our crews and the public.
 - **Predictable**; people get used to this lane configuration.
 - **More efficient**; working only nights and weekends would push this project from 3 years to 10 years or more.
- WSDOT has been and will continue to collaborate with our partners including transit and the City of Seattle to find ways to lessen the impact of this work on our shared constituents.
 - Update existing BAT lanes on SR 99 through Seattle to increase transit speed and reliability on key alternate route with 24/7 bus lanes.
 - Provide and share real time traffic data and modeling to our partners and use it to inform the public.
 - Collaborate and amplify partner messaging and transit tools to help people decide the best travel mode for them.
- Continue to offer briefings and share information.
- Active the NWR Emergency Operations Center.

Staying informed & who to contact

- [WSDOT real time travel map and cameras](#); [SDOT real time travel map and cameras](#)
 - WSDOT social media accounts
 - [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Threads](#), [X](#) and [TikTok](#)
 - [WSDOT app](#)
 - I-5 Yesler to Northgate [project emails](#)
 - I-5 Yesler Way to Northgate Vic- Pavement, Deck, Joints and Drainage [project page](#)
 - I-5 Yesler to Northgate [online open house](#)
 - Transit planning tools (linked from WSDOT pages)
 - Media coverage
 - Transit provider communications
 - Employer communications
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- TRAFFIC/TRANSIT/EXPRESS LANES: Mike Swires, Assistant Region Administrator Traffic Operations 206-715-7533 mike.swires@wsdot.wa.gov
 - MEDIA: Tom Pearce, Assistant Communications Manager for Major Projects 206-492-9555 tom.pearce@wsdot.wa.gov
 - ELECTED OFFICIALS: Steve Breaux, Director of Legislative Relations 360-688-0589 Steve.Breaux@wsdot.wa.gov
 - REQUEST BRIEFING: Diana Barreto, PRR 619-805-7841 dbarreto@prrbiz.com
 - PROJECT HOTLINE: 206-440-4350
 - OTHER: RB McKeon, Northwest Region Communications Manager 360-399-9328 rb.mckeon@wsdot.wa.gov