

# SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program

## Federal environmental approval received for I-5 to Medina project

[After we've invested 14 years in design](#), analysis and public outreach, the Federal Highway Administration signed a [Record of Decision](#) today, which finalizes the [NEPA environmental process](#) (pdf 1.03 mb) and allows WSDOT to further design the [I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project](#) and obtain construction permits.

The Record of Decision also lists many commitments made by WSDOT and FHWA to surrounding communities before, during and after project construction. These commitments include mitigation for project effects to the environment and neighborhoods as well as implementing traffic-calming measures in the Arboretum and developing a community construction management plan.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood [said](#): “Reaching this important milestone brings Washington closer to improving safety and easing congestion for the thousands who depend on the SR 520 floating bridge every day.”

## Public involvement opportunity: Urban design of SR 520 in Seattle

This month we are launching the [SR 520 Seattle Community Design process](#), an exciting public engagement opportunity to work on incorporating comprehensive, sustainable design methods to reconnect Seattle neighborhoods and improve the new SR 520 corridor. We expect to select eight to 10 members of the public to join our partner agencies in a series of workshops beginning in September.

Are you interested in being part of this process? If so, [visit us online](#) for the criteria we're looking for in applicants and a full list of application requirements. Applications are due by 5 p.m., Aug. 22.

Any questions? Email us at [SR520CommunityDesign@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:SR520CommunityDesign@wsdot.wa.gov).

## A busy month ahead for Eastside construction

The first lid is beginning to take shape on the Eastside! On Aug. 3, crews poured the first section of a giant concrete footing for the future Evergreen Point Road lid and excavation is under way for a second footing. [Check out photos of the work](#).

Meanwhile, utility work continues along Northup Way in Kirkland – watch for traffic restrictions and flaggers on Northup Way next week.

For more information about Eastside work this month, check our Eastside SR 520 construction activities [August 2011 map](#) (pdf 284 KB).

Reminder: the next [weekend closure](#) of SR 520 is scheduled for Aug. 26-29.

## SR 520 and I-90 closures this weekend

Plan ahead this weekend for I-90 closures due to annual [Seafair](#) activities and two scheduled

openings for the SR 520 floating bridge.

The I-90 bridge will be closed on the following dates:

- Friday, Aug. 5: 12:45 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- Saturday, Aug. 6: 12:45 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- Sunday, Aug. 7: 12:45 p.m. - 2:40 p.m.

The 30-minute SR 520 drawspan openings are scheduled for:

- Thursday, Aug. 4 at 9:30 p.m.
- Friday, Aug. 5 at 9 p.m.
- Sunday, Aug. 7 at 11 a.m.

Drivers taking alternate routes such as I-405, SR 520 or I-5 should plan up to an hour of delay time. For more details about ramp and other closures that may affect your commute across Lake Washington, visit our [website](#).

### **SR 520 pontoon construction update**

We're making great progress on the [SR 520 Pontoon Construction Project](#)! To date crews have,

- Placed more than 6,500 cubic yards of concrete for the casting basin floor.
- Completed excavation of approximately 260,000 cubic yards of material from the casting basin.
- Driven 814 piles needed for the foundation for the pontoon casting basin.
- Completed construction of the concrete batch plant on site.

Check out our [Flickr page](#) for great photos of the work as it happens, including an [awesome aerial shot](#) of the entire casting basin.

---

### **SR 520 links**

[SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program](#) | ['Good To Go!' Tolling information](#) | [I-5 to Medina: Bridge Replacement and HOV Project](#) | [Medina to SR 202: Eastside Transit and HOV Project](#) | [Pontoon Construction Project](#) | [WSDOT's Smarter Highways](#)