

# SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program

## Get ready for SR 520 construction on the Eastside next month

We are just a few weeks away from launching construction that will improve SR 520 between I-405 and Medina. WSDOT and Eastside Corridor Constructors (ECC) are hosting a pre-construction open house to help you get ready for construction.

The open house is scheduled 5-7 p.m., Wednesday, March 23, at Chinook Middle School, 2001 98th Ave. N.E., Bellevue.

At the meeting, WSDOT and ECC staff will provide information on the design and construction of the SR 520 Eastside Transit and HOV Project. We'll also have information about the construction schedule and what kind of traffic impacts to expect. For more information please visit our [project website](#) or check out our [new brochure](#) (pdf 4 mb).

## SR 520 expenditures posted on our website

We've posted our latest [expenditure information](#) on our website, detailing the work we've completed to design and build the new SR 520 corridor. From 1997 through January 2011, we've invested \$377 million on preliminary engineering, design, environmental review, right-of-way purchases and construction.

SR 520 program expenditures to date are approximately 8 percent of the \$4.65 billion budget set by the Legislature in 2009. Work to replace the aging and vulnerable bridge is at an important milestone as we finalize environmental review and engineering and begin construction on the [pontoon casting basin](#) and on [the Eastside](#).

## Overnight closures of the SR 520 bridge continue

Our crews continue to test and adjust [tolling equipment](#) on the SR 520 bridge, and that means more overnight closures and detours for drivers. Crews will close one direction of the bridge overnight between Montlake Boulevard in Seattle and 92nd Avenue NE in Clyde Hill. For the complete closure schedule visit please visit our [construction update report](#).

Drivers are encouraged to plan extra time to take alternate routes such as I-90, SR 522, I-405 or I-5. Occasional overnight closures of one direction of the bridge will continue as crews test the equipment leading up to tolling the bridge this spring.

## Bye-bye Bellevue bridge: Removal work to completely close I-405 near SR 520

Crews are putting the finishing touches on the south section of the new N.E. 12th Street bridge in Bellevue and will shift traffic to the new structure next week. We are building the new bridge higher and longer than the existing one so we can add a new ramp from N.E. 10th Street to SR 520. It's all part of the [Bellevue Braids Project](#), designed to ease up to eight hours of congestion a day on northbound I-405 in Bellevue.

Beginning at 11 p.m. on Friday, [April 1](#) crews will completely close I-405 near SR 520 in Bellevue for 53 hours to remove the old N.E. 12th Street bridge. This will require crews to lay 6 to 12 inches of sand on I-405 to protect the freeway while the heavy equipment munches and crunches the old bridge before sending it away for recycling. Crews will take advantage of the closed freeway and also replace damaged concrete panels, add a sign bridge and much more. Details are on our [website](#).

Bottom line: Plan ahead for major traffic delays on I-405 the first weekend in April and expect congestion on alternate routes like I-5, SR 520, I-90 and SR 99.

## Last SR 520 drop-in information session is March 30

Staff from the SR 520 program will answer questions and share what's next for the I-5 to Medina Bridge Replacement and HOV Project at a final drop-in information session at the end of the month.

- **Eastlake:** 5-7 p.m., March 30, Voxx Coffee, 2245 Eastlake Avenue E.

Visit our [website](#) for more information, call us at 1-888-520-NEWS (6397) or send us an [e-mail](#).