



Strategies to keep people and goods moving in and through Seattle

Period of Maximum Constraint and the Permanent Viaduct Closure
2018-2024

West Seattle Transportation Coalition
September 27, 2018

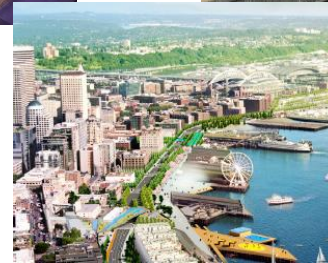
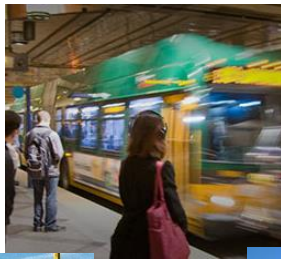
Heather Marx, *Director of Downtown Mobility, SDOT*

Brian Nielsen, *Program Administrator Alaskan Way Viaduct, WSDOT*

Chris Arkills, *Government Relations Manager, King County*

How we get around is about to change

Over the next five years private and public construction projects will continue to change how we move and deliver goods



Where we are headed



Pike Pine Renaissance



Central Waterfront



WA State Convention Center



Key Arena



Growing light rail system

Our five pillars for downtown mobility



System Monitoring and Management of Real-Time Operations



Reduce Drive-Along Trips Downtown



Transit Investments: Meeting Demand and Expanding Access



Manage the Public Right of Way



Coordinated Regional Communications Campaign

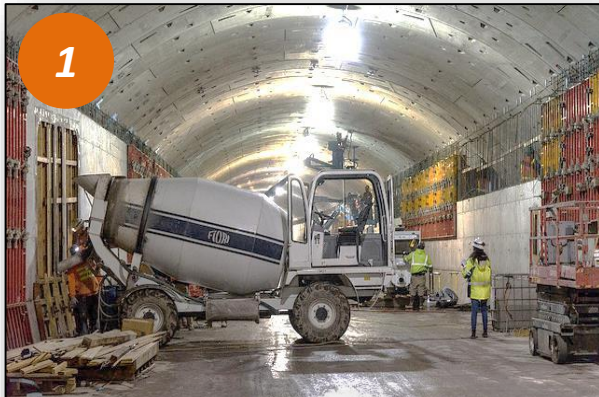


Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program



- Opening the tunnel/
SR 99 closure
- Removing the viaduct and remaining
construction

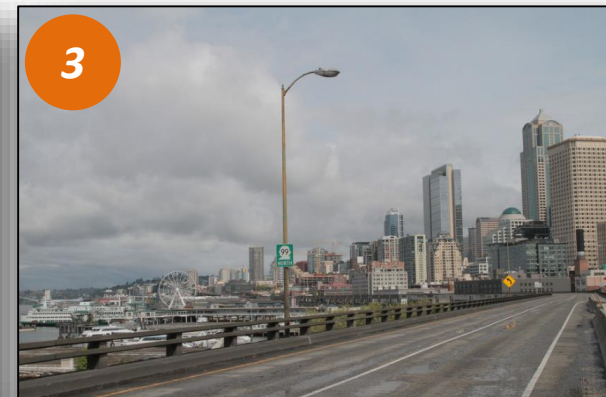
Steps remaining to open the SR 99 tunnel



1
Complete tunnel work



2
Move Alaskan Way to the west



3
3-week (approx.) SR 99 closure



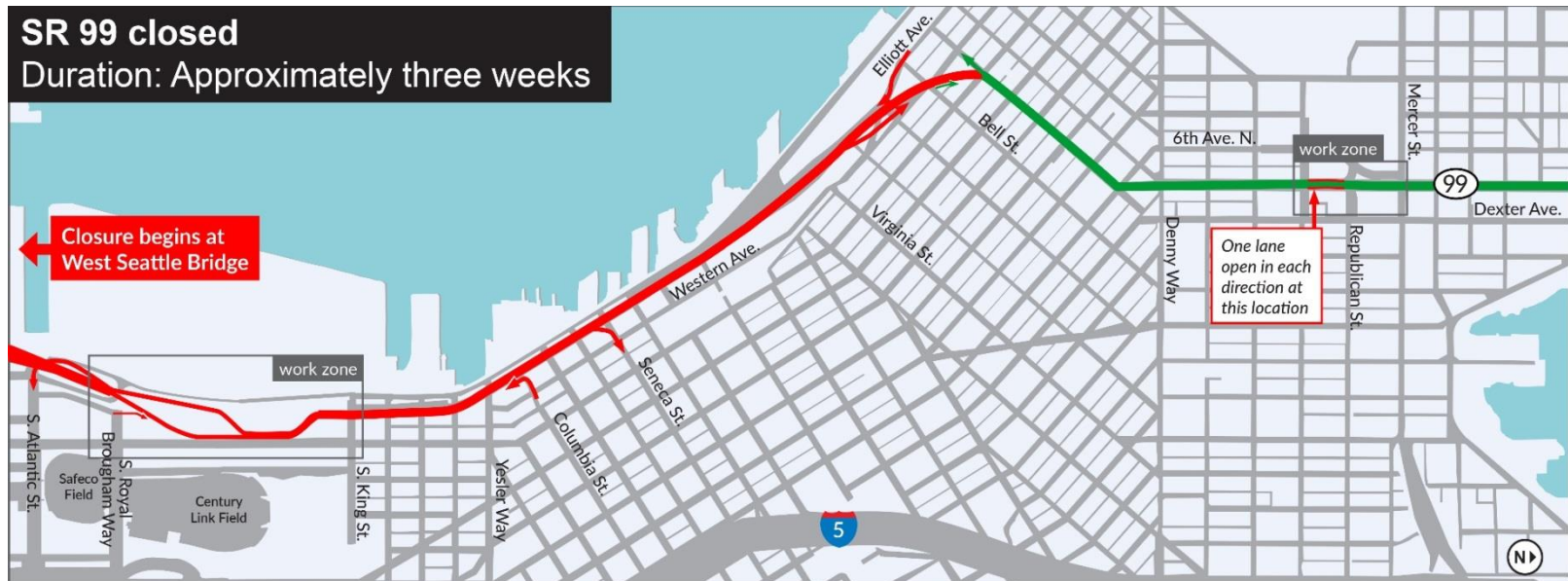
4
Complete final highway connections



5
Open tunnel

SR 99 closure and tunnel opening: get ready

- **Duration:** about three-weeks for SR 99 closure and up to three weeks of ramp closures
- **Closing a highway adds more drivers to other parts of the system:** 90,000 vehicles per day, including several thousand trucks, and buses have to use another route
- **Expect long backups:** On I-5 and routes into downtown Seattle, especially during peak commute times
- **Major change to transportation system:** New SR 99 tunnel will open, other construction continues



SR 99 closure: when and why

When

The closure will begin on Jan. 11, 2019: The closure will take place just before the new SR 99 tunnel opens.

Why

Connecting SR 99 to the tunnel: Crews will have to work in the path of SR 99's current configuration to connect SR 99 to the new tunnel. The graphics below show the path of SR 99 today (yellow) and work zones during the closure (orange).



South SR 99 tunnel portal



North SR 99 tunnel portal

SR 99 closure and tunnel opening: get ready

Keeping people and goods moving

- WSDOT, SDOT, Port of Seattle, King County Metro, Sound Transit implementing transportation management strategies.
- Incident response teams, increased staffing in transportation management centers, signal timing plans, uniformed police officers at key intersections, additional water taxi runs, standby Metro coaches, and more.
- Actively monitoring the transportation system.

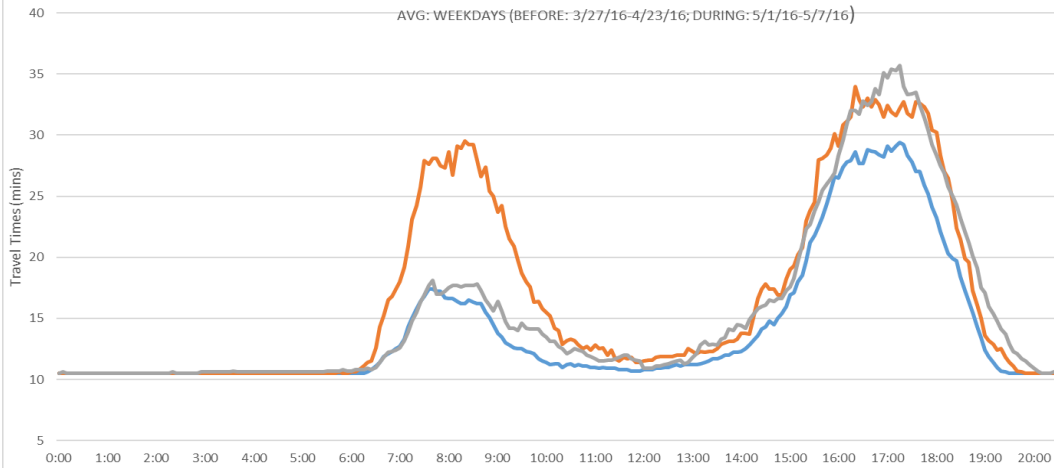
We need your help: make a plan for #Realign99

- Shift your travel time
- Bike or walk
- Carpool or vanpool
- Use transit, particularly light rail and King County Water Taxi
- Stay off the road: work from home, postpone discretionary trips, take time off, if you can
- Be prepared for your new route when the SR 99 tunnel opens

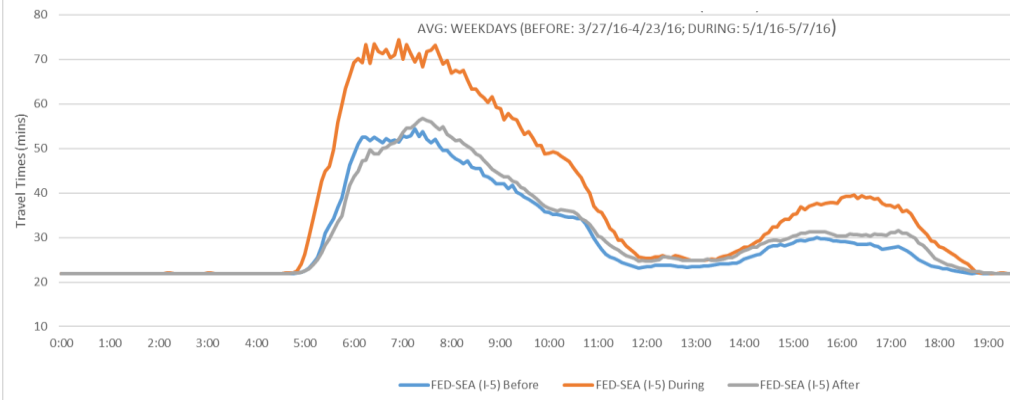


2016 SR 99 closure

Travel time: Bellevue to Seattle (I-90 westbound)



Travel time: Federal Way to Seattle (I-5 northbound)



What we experienced during nine-day SR 99 closure in 2016

- Region-wide impacts: higher travel times on I-5, SR 520, I-90
- Peak commutes started earlier and lasted longer
- More vehicles on downtown streets
- Sound Transit commuter rail ridership increased by 5 to 10%
- West Seattle water taxi ridership increased 135%, Vashon passenger ferry service increased by 27%
- Longer travel times for King County Metro buses rerouted off SR 99
- More cyclists on the road to avoid congestion



King County

Interim and permanent southend transit pathways

During AWV full Closure – Before tunnel opens

- **Duration:** Approx. 4-5 weeks
- **Affected routes:** 21x, 37, 55, 56, 57, 113, 120, 121, 122, 123, 125, C Line

Interim pathway via 1st Ave S

- **Duration:** 9 months – 1 year
- **Affected routes:** 21x, 37, 55, 56, 57, 113, 120, 121, 122, 123, 125, C Line

Permanent southend pathway

- **Duration:** Permanent
- **Affect:** When the Viaduct Demolition, Waterfront, and Columbia St 2-Way Configuration projects are complete, this pathway will use transit lanes on SR 99, Alaskan Way Surface St, and Columbia St for both ingress and egress of the Seattle CBD.

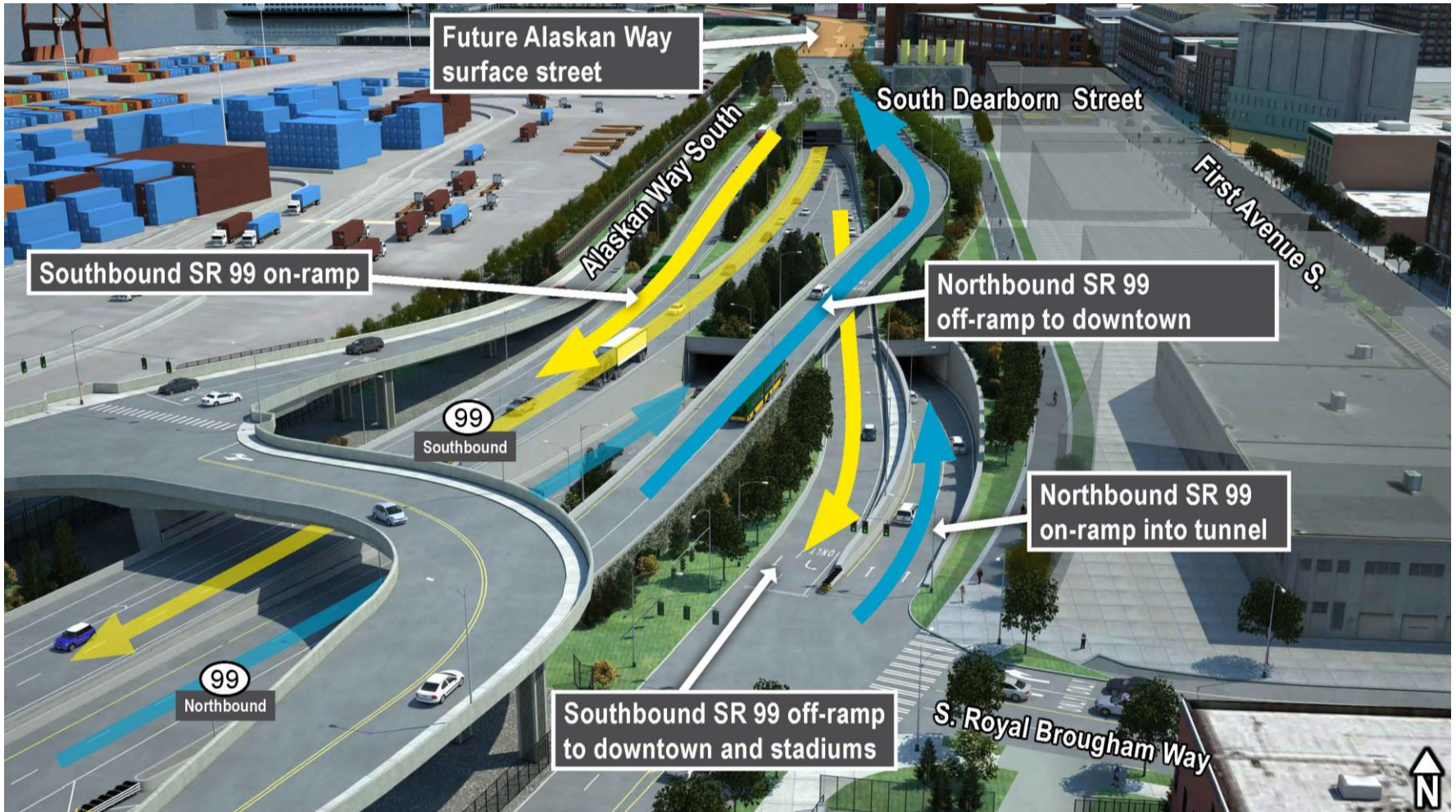


The information included here has been compiled by King County Metro staff from a variety of sources and **is subject to change without notice.**



A comparable event to the SR 520 floating bridge grand opening event in 2016

Opening the tunnel: Ramps at the south portal



Alaskan Way Viaduct Replacement Program



- Opening the tunnel/
SR 99 closure
- **Removing the viaduct and remaining
construction**
- Looking ahead

Construction after the SR 99 tunnel opens

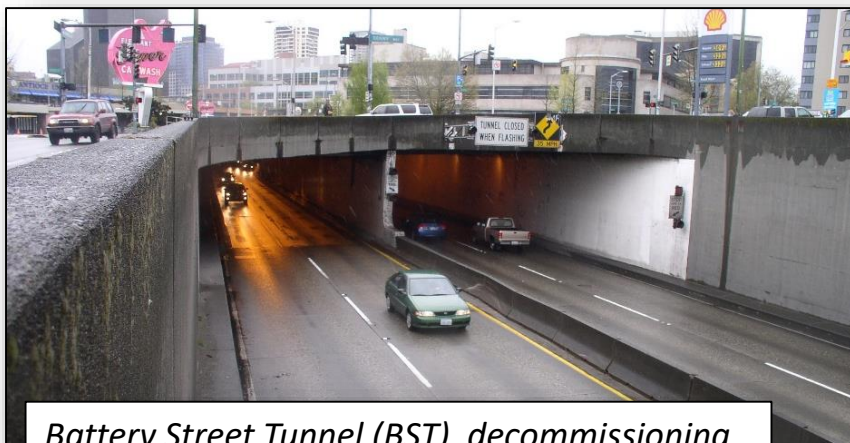


Alaskan Way Viaduct removal

Viaduct removal: Approx. 6 months

BST decommissioning: Approx. 24 months

NSS connections: Approx. 15 months



Battery Street Tunnel (BST) decommissioning



North surface street (NSS) connections

Finding a new normal in ongoing changes

Recap:

- Jan. 11 viaduct closures permanently – start planning now.
- The SR 99 closure is the last step before opening the new SR 99 tunnel – a direct route between the stadiums to the Space Needle.

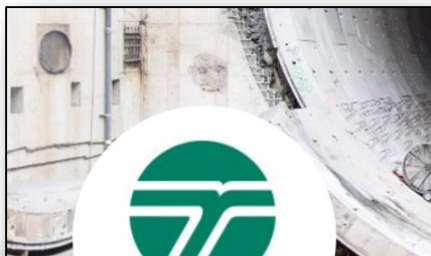
Opening the new SR 99 tunnel is just the start:

- Tunnel will open toll-free for a period of time.
- Traffic patterns will change because we are changing access to SR 99.
- Construction continues after the tunnel opens to drivers.

Seattle will experience ongoing change:

- It will take time before traffic patterns settle out.
- Proposed tolls range from \$1 to \$2.25 with a *Good To Go* pass.
- Some trips will be quicker and others will be longer.
- The final Alaskan Way will be rebuilt by the City of Seattle.





SR 99

SR 99

@BerthaDigsSR99

Bertha completed her dig and now we're completing the work to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct. WSDOT feed for construction and demolition updates.

How to **REACH US**



**WSDOT Live Traffic
Cameras**

www.wsdot.com/traffic/seattle/default.aspx

WSDOT Travel Times

www.wsdot.com/traffic/travel-times/default.aspx

**SDOT Traveler Information
Map**

web6.seattle.gov/travelers

Transit Alerts

kingcounty.gov/metro/signup

Travel News on Twitter

@WSDOT_traffic

@SDOTtraffic

@KCMetroBus

@SoundTransit

@MyCommTrans

Website:

www.99tunnel.com

www.AlaskanWayViaduct.org

Twitter:

@BerthaDigsSR99

#Realign99

Email:

viaduct@wsdot.wa.gov

Hotline:

1-888-AWV-LINE

Responding to the SR 99 closure



Staff Transportation Operations Center 24/7 and deploy police at key transit intersections



Extend transit priority hours on 3rd Avenue to 6AM to 7PM and add bus trips on key Metro routes



Modify and schedule permitted construction work for maximum travel capacity



The City of Seattle is starting a flexible work hours promotion and promoting tools to downtown employers



Brief local and regional elected officials this fall



Preparing for Seattle Transit Tunnel being for Light Rail ONLY



Share real-time construction and traffic information with web map providers



Add off-board fare payment on 3rd Ave for quicker boarding and build a new transit path on 5th and 6th Avenues



Limit SDOT construction and maintenance work downtown



Encourage and support ORCA LIFT sales



Work with Alert Seattle to send text messages during impactful traffic incidents



Staying nimble for upcoming construction impacts



Respond to real-time traffic conditions through 24-7 monitoring



Establish mobility hubs



Improve connections to transit from bikeshare and Uber/Lyft/Taxis



Limit SDOT construction and maintenance downtown



Share timely and useful information (web, blog, text alerts, Twitter)

We need your help

- Stay informed – sign up today for SDOT’s Twitter
- Practice not driving alone – try transit, ride a bike, form a carpool
- Figure out how your employees can be flexible and innovative: working from home, compressing their work week, coming in early, staying late
- Spread the word to your customers, delivery and service providers, and neighbors



Questions?

Heather Marx, Director of Downtown Mobility,
Seattle Department of Transportation

Heather.marx@seattle.gov

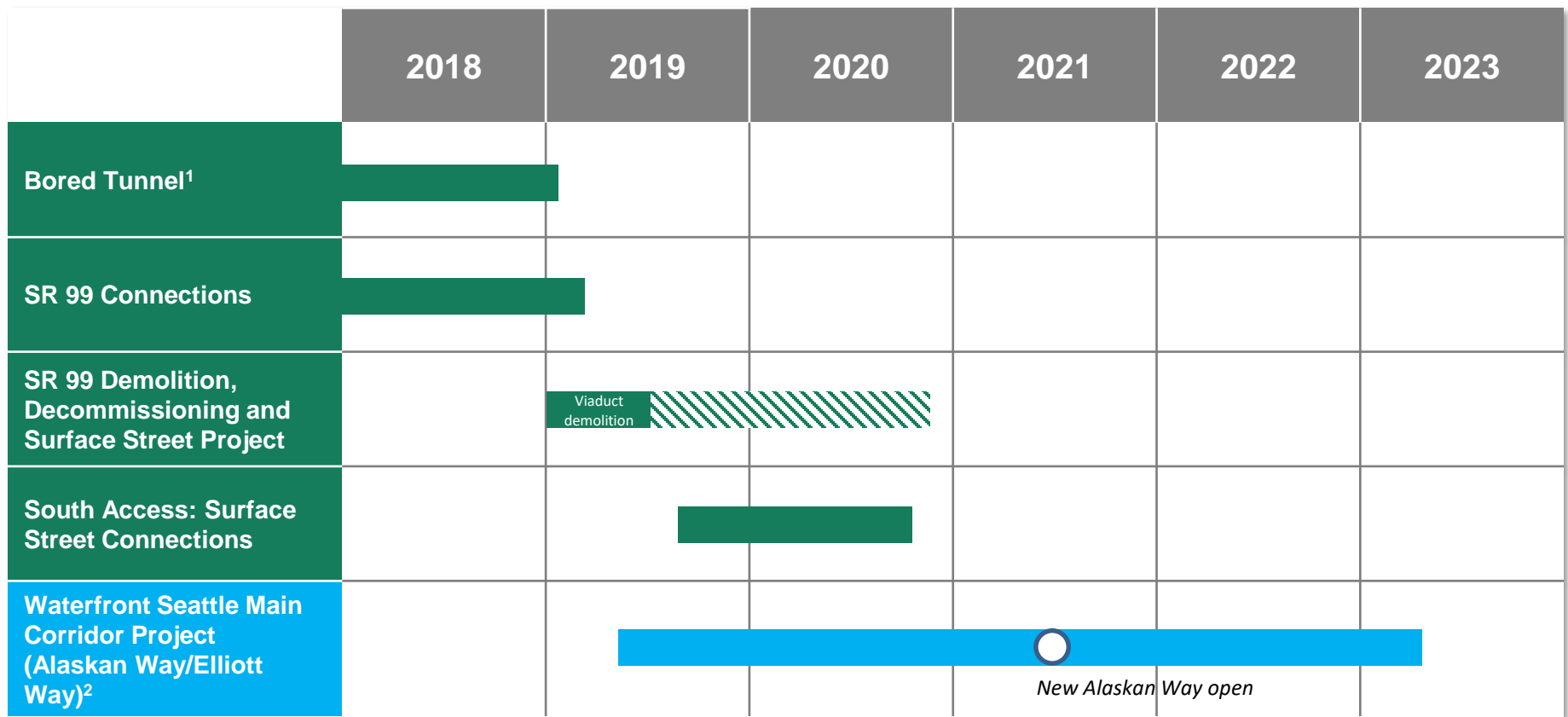
(206) 615-0801

www.seattle.gov/transportation



Back pocket

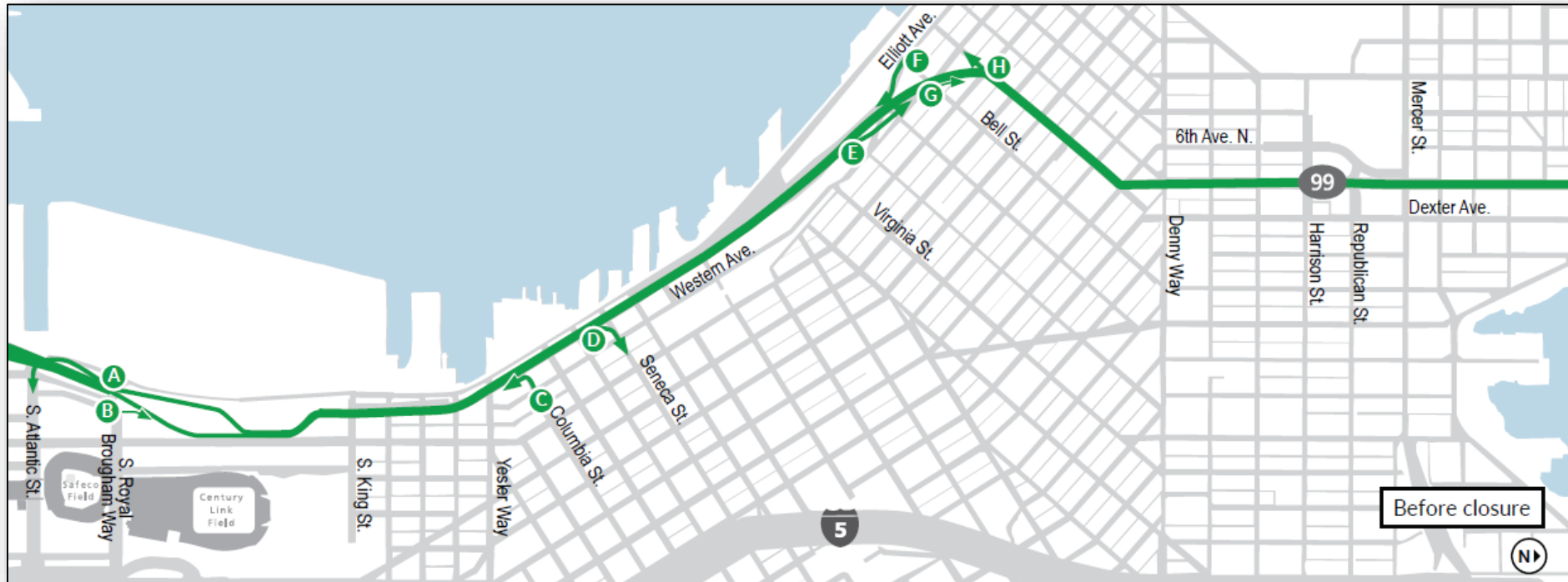
Program construction schedule



¹ Per Seattle Tunnel Partners' most recent schedule

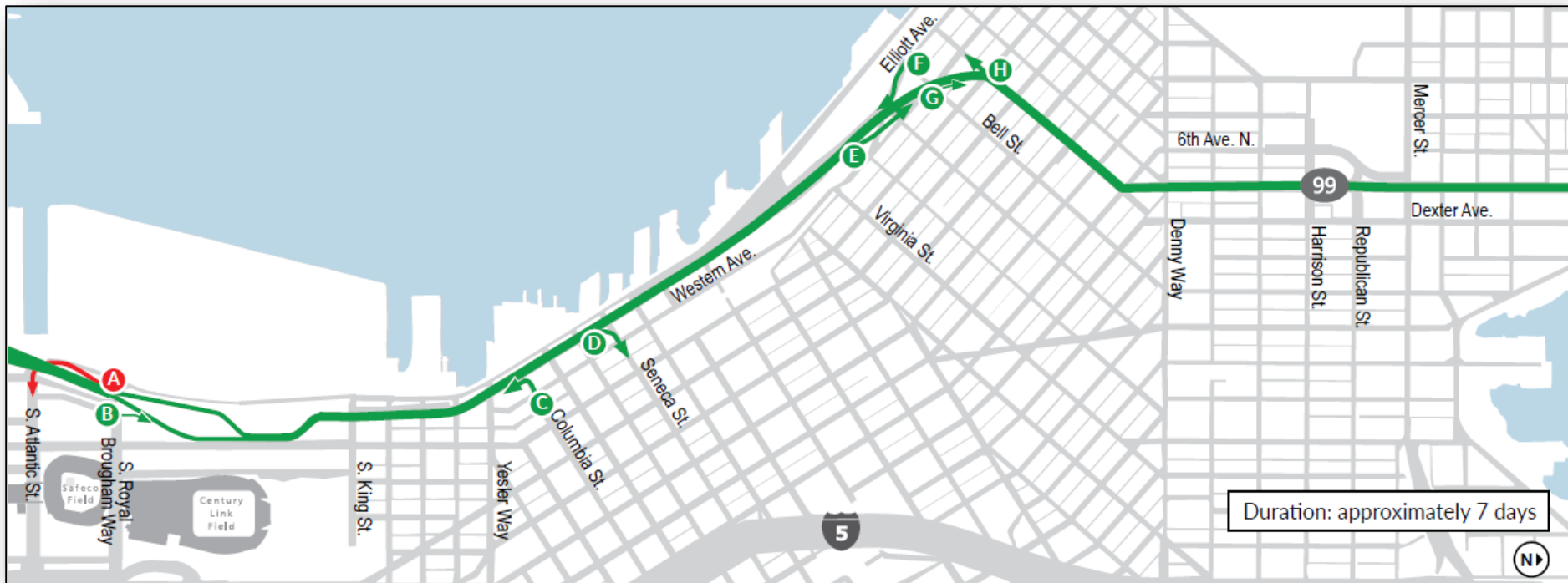
² Per City of Seattle's Waterfront Seattle schedule

SR 99 closure overview



Item	Description	Item	Description
A	Southbound off-ramp to South Atlantic Street	E	Northbound off-ramp to Western Avenue
B	Northbound on-ramp from South Royal Brougham Way	F	Southbound on-ramp from Elliott Avenue
C	Southbound on-ramp from Columbia Street	G	Northbound on-ramp from Western Avenue
D	Northbound off-ramp to Seneca Street	H	Southbound off-ramp to Western Avenue

Jan. 4, 2019: South Atlantic Street ramp to I-5, I-90 closes



Item	Description	Item	Description
A	Southbound off-ramp to South Atlantic Street	E	Northbound off-ramp to Western Avenue
B	Northbound on-ramp from South Royal Brougham Way	F	Southbound on-ramp from Elliott Avenue
C	Southbound on-ramp from Columbia Street	G	Northbound on-ramp from Western Avenue
D	Northbound off-ramp to Seneca Street	H	Southbound off-ramp to Western Avenue

Jan. 11, 2019: Mainline SR 99 closure begins



Item	Description	Item	Description
A	Southbound off-ramp to South Atlantic Street	E	Northbound off-ramp to Western Avenue
B	Northbound on-ramp from South Royal Brougham Way	F	Southbound on-ramp from Elliott Avenue
C	Southbound on-ramp from Columbia Street	G	Northbound on-ramp from Western Avenue
D	Northbound off-ramp to Seneca Street	H	Southbound off-ramp to Western Avenue

Tunnel and most ramps open



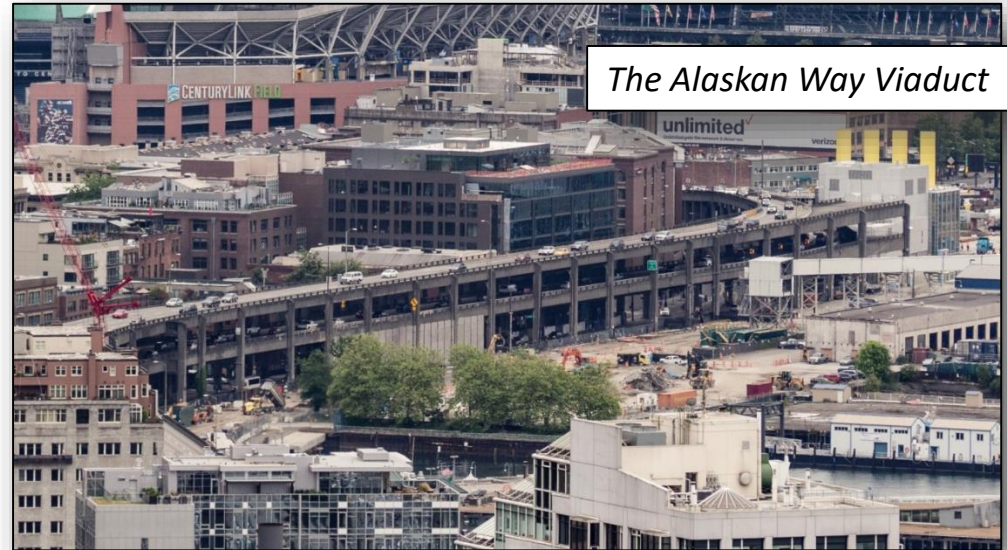
Item	Description	Item	Description
1	Southbound off-ramp to Stadiums, Interstates, and Ferries	5	Northbound off-ramp to Mercer Street / I-5
2	Northbound on-ramp from South Royal Brougham Way	6	Southbound on-ramp from Sixth Avenue North
3	Northbound off-ramp to Alaskan Way S. / Downtown	7	Southbound off-ramp to Denny Way / Downtown
4	Southbound on-ramp from South Dearborn Street	8	Northbound on-ramp from Aurora Avenue North

All ramps to and from SR 99 open



Item	Description	Item	Description
1	Southbound off-ramp to Stadiums, Interstates, and Ferries	5	Northbound off-ramp to Mercer Street / I-5
2	Northbound on-ramp from South Royal Brougham Way	6	Southbound on-ramp from Sixth Avenue North
3	Northbound off-ramp to Alaskan Way S. / Downtown	7	Southbound off-ramp to Denny Way / Downtown
4	Southbound on-ramp from South Dearborn Street	8	Northbound on-ramp from Aurora Avenue North

Overview of viaduct removal



Scope of work

- Removing the viaduct structure and its foundations (including ramps at Seneca and Columbia streets)
- Restoring roadway beneath the viaduct
- Approx. 6 months

Decommissioning the Battery Street Tunnel



Scope of work

- Decommissioning systems; filling and sealing the tunnel
- Electrical and sewer utility work
- Improved street lighting from First Ave to Denny Way
- Repaving and striping

Contractor's approach

- Begins shortly after tunnel opens
- Approx. 24 months
- First year of work mostly within tunnel
- Staging at tunnel's south portal
- Fill tunnel from within and from surface

Reconnecting north surface streets

Kiewit plan highlights:

- Constrained and complex work zone requires phased approach
- Total duration 13-15 months
- Northbound transit lane added early
- Transit constraints at end during Denny intersection work

