

**SEPA DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS)  
SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SDOT)  
SPOKANE ST SWING BRIDGE ACCESS PROJECT**

**Description of proposal:** The City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) has issued a Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) in accordance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) for the Spokane St Swing Access Project. SDOT has been operating under the State of an Emergency declaration as of July 2020, to enact access policy for the Spokane St Swing Bridge to protect the integrity of the transportation network while the West Seattle High-Rise Bridge is closed to motorists. The Spokane St Swing Bridge is only one lane in each direction and is unable to accommodate traffic from the West Seattle High-Rise Bridge without resulting in substantial congestion and delay for priority access. Since the West Seattle High-Rise Bridge closed in March 2020, priority access to the Spokane St Swing Bridge has been restricted to only emergency vehicles, heavy freight (10,000 gross vehicle weight rating [GVWR]), transit, including vanpools, employer shuttles, school buses, and a small number of additional users including West Seattle businesses, maritime/industrial businesses, and government vehicles. Non-authorized users are restricted in both directions on the bridge between 5 AM and 9 PM daily, but are allowed overnight use between 9 PM and 5 AM. In Q1 2021, SDOT transitioned to the automated photo enforcement system, where the same approved user groups have opted-in and registered their license plates with SDOT. Unauthorized vehicles are subject to a \$75 citation for every trip across the bridge. SDOT will continue to monitor operations as photo enforcement begins and the subcommittee for the access policy will continue to provide guidance on ways to expand and restrict the authorized user pool to ensure traffic capacity.

**Proponent:** City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)  
Seattle Municipal Tower  
700 Fifth Ave, Suite 3800  
P.O. Box 34966  
Seattle, WA 98124-4996

**Location of proposal including street address, if any:** The proposal concerns access to the Spokane St Swing Bridge between SODO and West Seattle.

**Lead Agency:** SDOT

SDOT has determined that this proposal would not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information may be examined at <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/bridges-stairs-and-other-structures/bridges/west-seattle-high-rise-bridge-safety-program/low-bridge>. This information is also available to the public on request.

There is no comment period.

This DNS is issued after using the optional DNS process in WAC 197-11-355 and Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.05.355. There is no further comment period on the DNS.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2) and Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 25.05.340; the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the issue date below. **Comments must be submitted to agency contact Sara Zora by 5:00 p.m. on February 11, 2021, by email to Sara.Zora@seattle.gov, by telephone to 206-733-9973, or by mail to the above proponent address.**

**Issue Date:** January 28, 2021

**SEPA Responsible Official:** Jill Macik, SEPA Responsible Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

1/25/21

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Agency contact:** Sara Zora  
**E-mail address:** Sara.Zora@seattle.gov

**Telephone:** 206-733-9973

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Any interested person may appeal this DNS by submitting a written Notice of Appeal and a filing fee to the Office of the Hearing Examiner. Appeals of the DNS must be received by the Hearing Examiner at the address shown below or pursuant to the **Office of Hearing Examiner Operating Rules During COVID-19** document available at the website shown below. **Appeals must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 18, 2021.** Appellants should be prepared to make specific factual objections. See SMC 25.05.680 for SEPA appeal procedures.

**Hearing Examiner**, Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, Suite 4000, PO Box 94729, Seattle, WA 98124; 206-684-0521; [www.seattle.gov/examiner](http://www.seattle.gov/examiner)

**Office of Hearing Examiner Operating Rules During COVID-19:**

<https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/HearingExaminer/CODV19%20HXE%20Factsheets/Emergency%20Order%203-16-2020.pdf>