



WSDOT Statement Regarding the Signature Bridge Proposal from the Montlake Neighborhood

Montlake Community Proposal

Members of the Montlake community have recently proposed constructing a high-level signature bridge to replace the western segment of SR 520 from I-5 across Portage Bay to Lake Washington. This could be a suspension-type bridge or cable-stayed bridge or other options not yet identified. This new proposal is based on the 6-Lane Alternative and assumes the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge is replaced first.

The proposal attempts to address: (1) the width of the Montlake and Portage Bay segments as currently proposed by the Project team; (2) traffic at Montlake interchange; (3) the community's desire for a signature bridge; and (4) increased integration between the Sound Transit North Link Station and SR 520 transit.

Other proposal elements:

- Eliminates the Montlake interchange and Montlake transit flyer stop
- Provides a continuous greenbelt from Montlake Playfield to the Arboretum
- Adds a second signature bridge from the SR 520 west approach across the Lake Washington Ship Canal to the Husky Stadium area
- Develops a new interchange and a transit hub at the Husky Stadium area at NE Pacific Street and Montlake Boulevard

WSDOT works with the Community

WSDOT has met with the Montlake group to talk about the proposal and the goals they are trying to reach. We are pleased that this alternative starts with the assumption of the 6-Lane Alternative and the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge being built first. It shows the community's desire to work with the SR 520 team, attempts to develop a proposal that meets the traffic and transit needs and suggests an option that may fit better within the communities it serves.

The SR 520 team's next steps are to conduct screening on the structural and engineering feasibility, as well as environmental and cost review. It is not yet clear what the findings will be from the structural, engineering, and traffic analysis. There are also other environmental factors to be considered, such as noise, visual and ecosystem effects. WSDOT will continue to work with Montlake and nearby community leaders and Seattle and Eastside elected officials to share results from the analysis and to develop elements of the proposal that can be incorporated into the 6-Lane Alternative.

WSDOT looks forward to hearing comments from Montlake and surrounding communities regarding this proposal. On a parallel path, WSDOT has already begun looking for opportunities to reduce the footprint of the 6-Lane Alternative and increase transit coordination with Sound Transit and King County METRO. This is a perfect time for WSDOT and the project area communities and jurisdictions to work closely together as the alternatives are refined. We look forward to continuing these partnerships.

For More Information

Visit the website at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520Bridge

Call the information line at: 206-781-3922

Send an email to: SR520Bridge@wsdot.wa.gov

Send a letter to:

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