

October 16, 2018

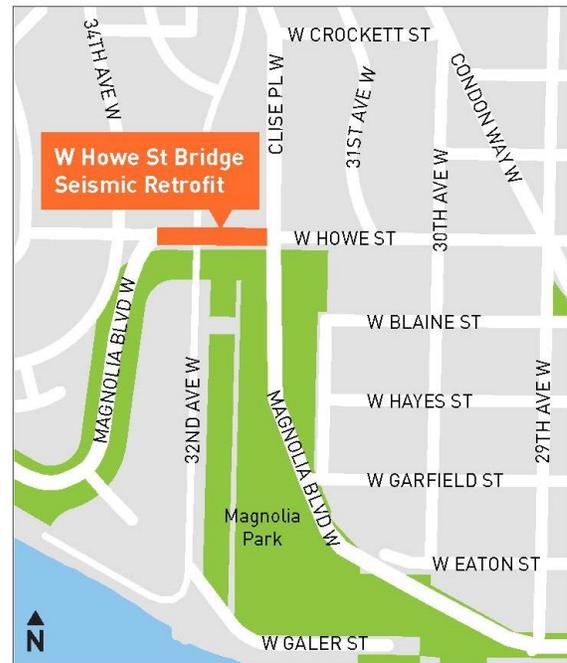
Dear Neighbor,

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is preparing to make seismic improvements to the W Howe St Bridge. This work will reduce the bridge's seismic vulnerability. We are in early design for these seismic improvements. Construction will begin as soon as summer 2019.

Project description

Seismic events, like earthquakes, could have a significant detrimental effect on Seattle's infrastructure. To address seismic risks to city infrastructure, the City of Seattle established a bridge seismic retrofit program to assess the seismic vulnerability of the City's bridges and to prioritize limited funding to reduce this transportation infrastructure vulnerability.

As part of the Levy to Move Seattle (<http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/about-sdot/funding/levy-to-move-seattle>), 16 bridges were selected for seismic retrofits, including the W Howe St Bridge. The W Howe St Bridge is an older bridge constructed in 1981 prior to modern seismic design code. The planned seismic retrofits include several modifications to seismically strengthen existing bridge components and reduce overall vulnerability during a seismic event. See figure on reverse for construction elements.



W Howe St Bridge Project Map

What you can expect during construction

Most of the work will take place underneath the bridge. When a contractor is selected in 2019, details about the construction schedule and sequence will be determined. At that point, we will be in touch with the nearby community to make sure everyone knows what to expect during construction. However, at this time, we anticipate:

- Intermittent delays or detours for people walking, biking, and driving across the bridge
- Likely closure of the staircase that provides access from W Howe St down to 32nd Ave W, to maintain a safe separation between people and the work site
- Noise, dust, and vibrations. We will be monitoring bridge vibrations throughout construction.

Nearby construction project

The W Howe St Bridge is located north of the Magnolia Wet Weather Storage Facility project site on 32nd Ave W. We are working closely with the King County Wastewater Treatment Division to understand community impacts from their project. This will help us minimize impacts as much as possible as we work on the bridge. We will continue to do our best to minimize traffic delays, detours, and construction impacts.

You can stay up-to-date on King County's progress via their webpage:
www.kingcounty.gov/depts/dnpr/wtd/capital-projects/active/south-magnolia-cso-storage.aspx.

Stay informed

- **Visit our webpage:** www.seattle.gov/transportation/w-howe-st-bridge – Learn more and sign up for our project email list!
- **Email us:** WHoweStBridge@seattle.gov – Email us any questions or concerns about this project
- **Call us:** 206-615-1485

We are looking forward to working with your community throughout this project. Please feel free to reach out to us with questions or concerns anytime.

Sincerely,



Emily Reardon
SDOT Communications Lead



Key Construction Elements