

# Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project

## January 2025 Construction Meeting

January 30, 2025

*Please note that this meeting is being recorded.*

# Welcome

## Facilitator

- Allan Vann, Skanska Public Information Manager

## Presenters

- Robin Clarke, Skanska Community Liaison

## Other staff

- Carmelo Chavez, Skanska Construction Manager
- Caz VanDevere and Dakota Lind, Webinar Support

## Meeting information

*Please note that this meeting is being recorded.*

**Time:** Noon to 1 p.m.

**Q&A:** Please submit your questions via the Q&A chat box at the bottom of your screen.

**Contact us:** Want to ask us a question after the meeting ends? Send us an email at [sr520bridge@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:sr520bridge@wsdot.wa.gov).

**Want to share this meeting with others?**  
Next week, visit the Construction Corner at [sr520construction.com](http://sr520construction.com) to view a recording of the meeting and download a copy of today's presentation.

**Stay up to date**  
Get weekly updates about current and upcoming construction activities straight to your inbox.



# SR 520 Montlake Project update

A representative from Graham is attending this meeting and available to answer questions during the Q&A portion of the meeting.

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## What you need to know

- The SR 520 Montlake Project is nearing completion.
- This project is located directly east of the SR 520 Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project.
- Still have questions? Email the team at [sr520bridge@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:sr520bridge@wsdot.wa.gov)

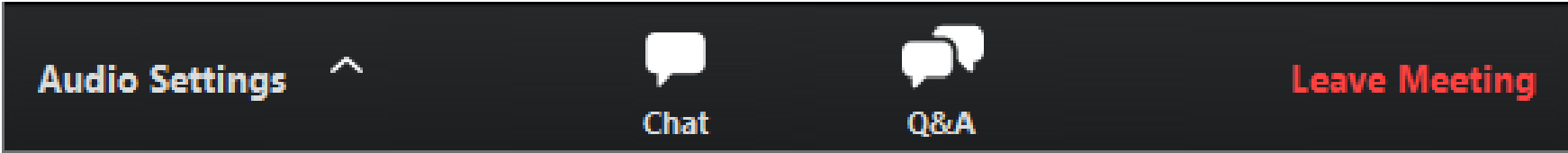


Visualization of the completed Montlake Lid.

# How to participate in this webinar

All attendees are muted. To adjust your audio settings during the meeting, click on **Audio Settings**.

Please use the **Q&A window** to ask questions or offer comments.



**CHAT** is disabled during the presentation. Please communicate with the team through the **Q&A window**.

# Agenda

- Montlake Project update
- Project schedule
- Current activities
- Upcoming work
- Work being planned
- How to stay informed
- Q&A session



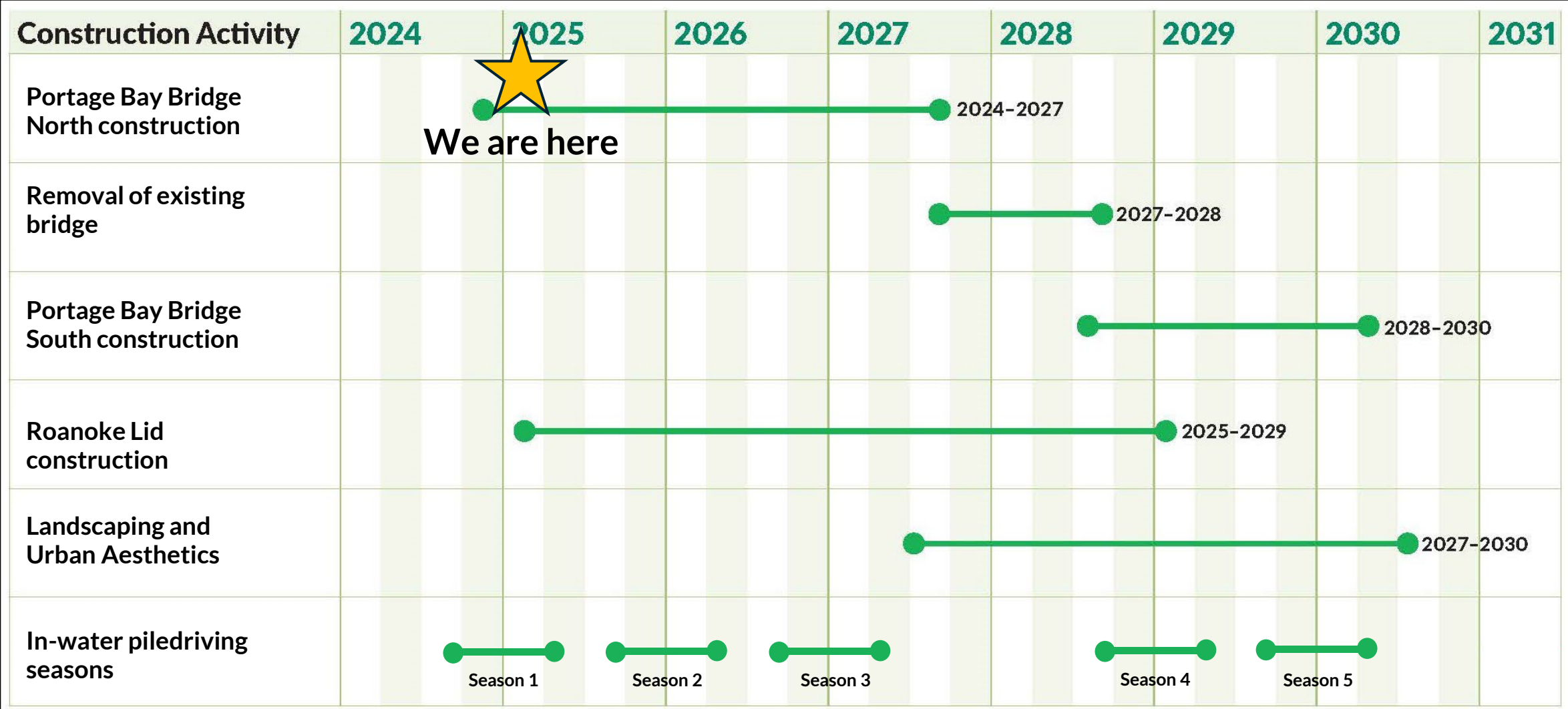
Conceptual rendering of the new Portage Bay Bridge.

# Project map



Map of major project elements.

# Project schedule



Note: In-water piledriving will occur in seasons annually from September through April. Vibration and other construction activities will occur year-round.

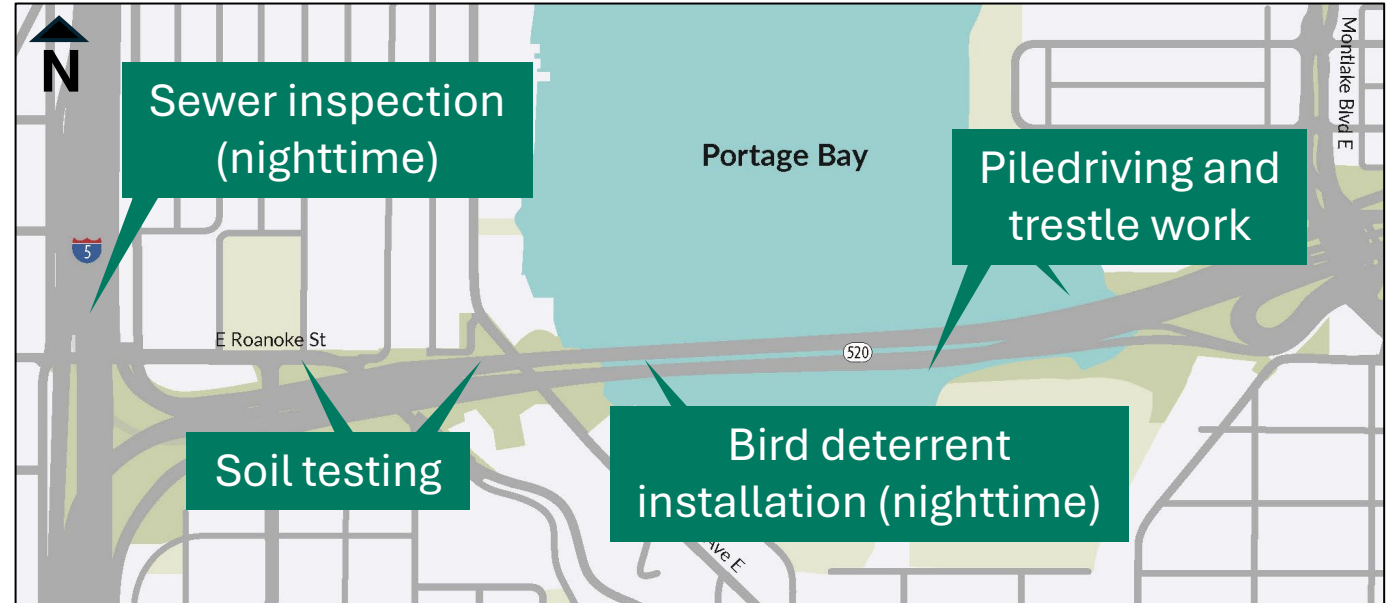
# Construction progress



# Construction progress updates

## In December and January, we:

- Continued impact piledriving
- Continued identifying and inspecting underground utilities
- Continued soil testing on Delmar Drive East, East Boyer Street and East Roanoke Street
- Installed bird deterrent devices to prevent nesting
- Inspected utilities at night along I-5 near the SR 520 interchange



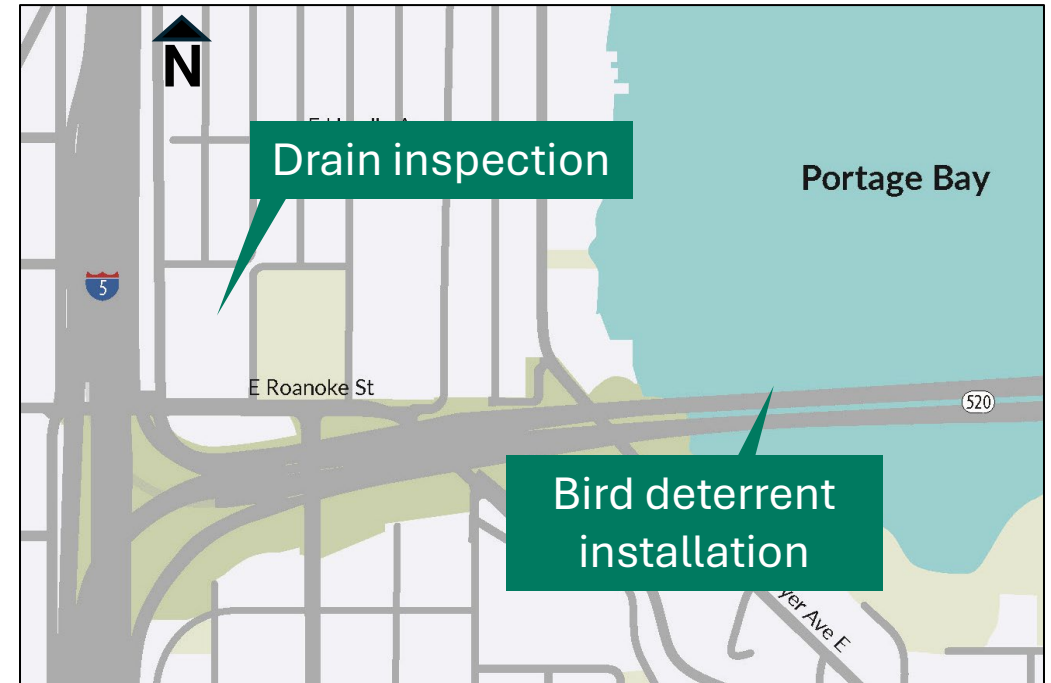
Work conducted in December 2024 and January 2025.

### Other work happening near Boyer Avenue East

The Seattle Department of Transportation is continuing to upgrade sidewalks and install curb ramps on Boyer Avenue East and East Edgar Street. Their crews are currently directing traffic in the neighborhood. More details are shared later in the presentation.

# Completed nighttime work in January

- Throughout January, crews conducted nighttime work, including:
  - Inspecting sewer drains along I-5
  - Installing bird deterrent devices along the Portage Bay Bridge
- This work was conducted under a Temporary Noise Variance (TNV)
  - Skanska offered hotel accommodations to nearby neighbors during this work.
  - Nearby neighbors received flyers in advance



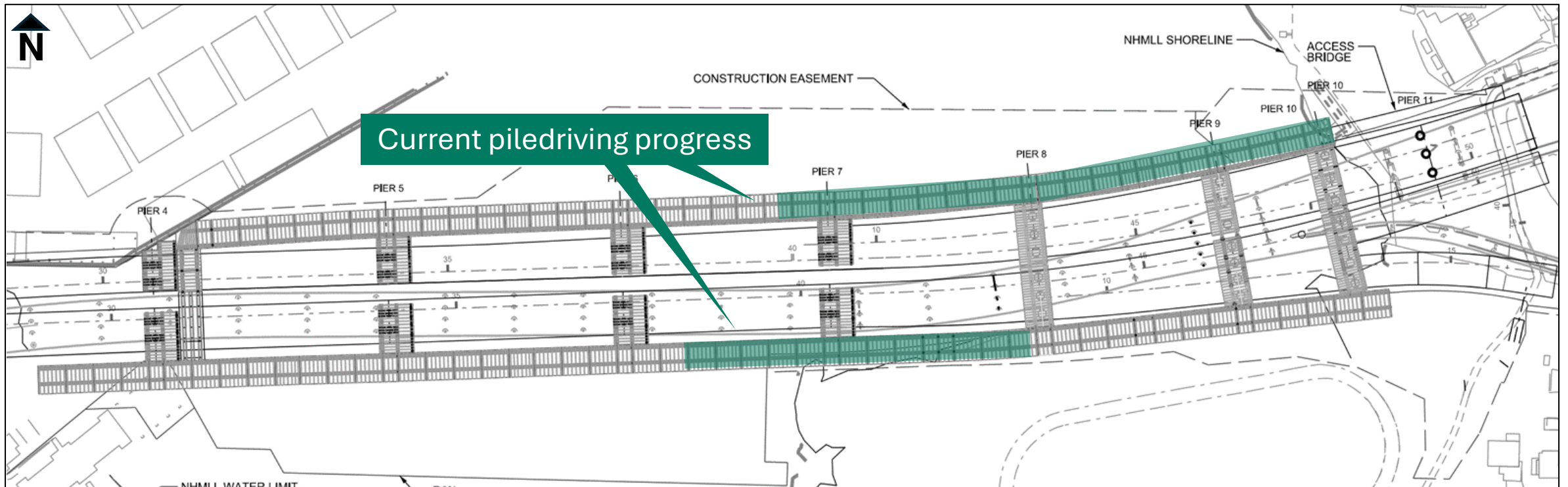
Project area map.

## Upcoming nighttime construction noise

In February, nearby neighbors may experience similar noise levels to the work we completed in January. Generally, utility inspections and bird deterrent installation will be low-impact to neighbors. We will complete this work under a different permit (the Major Public Project Construction Noise Variance) that has different guidelines for noise and hotel accommodations. Continue the presentation to learn more.

# Piledriving progress (January 2025)

- We are installing our daily goal of between two and eight piles each day.
- We have installed piling in the green sections below.



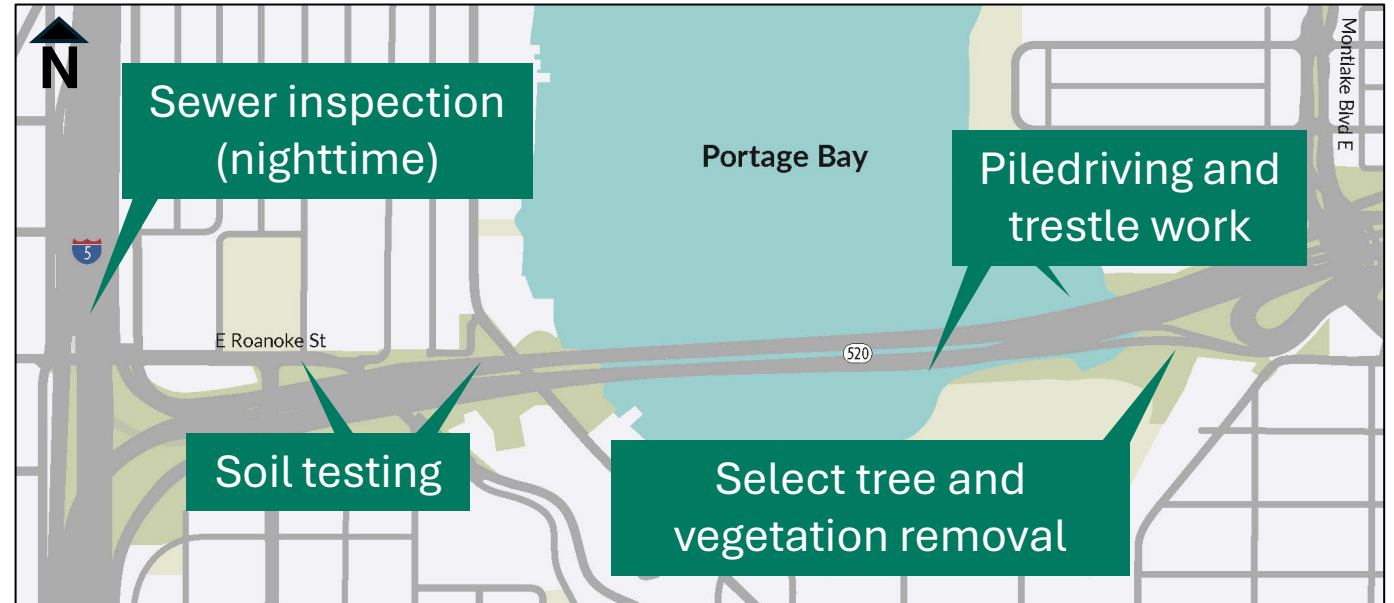
Map showing the current progress on piledriving.

# Current activities

# Current construction activities

## In February, we are:

- Impact piledriving in Portage Bay during daytime hours
- Completing more nighttime work under the MPPCNV\*
  - Working on the temporary work trestles at night
  - Continuing to test soil during daytime and nighttime hours
- Removing select trees and vegetation near the Bill Dawson Trail

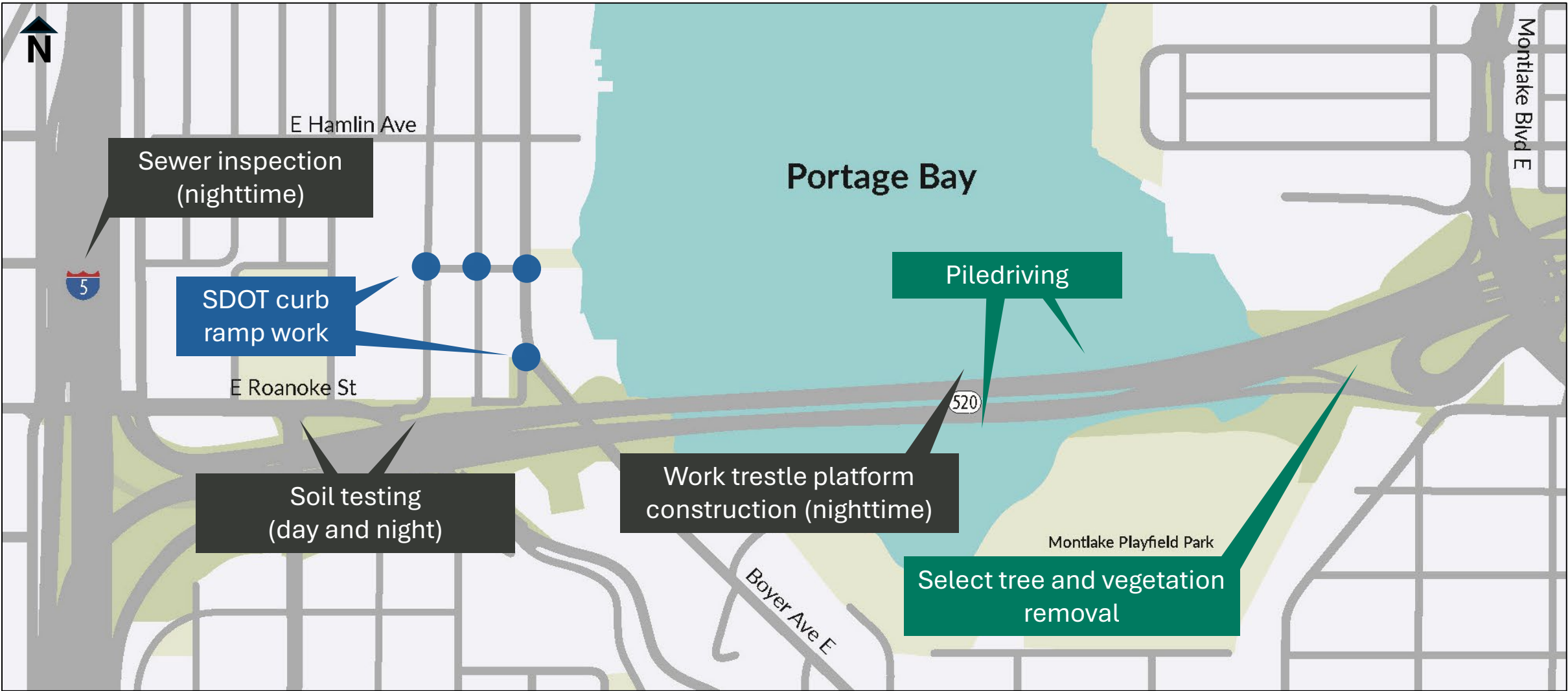


Ongoing and upcoming construction activities for February 2025.

### \*What is the MPPCNV?

In January, the city of Seattle granted a Major Public Project Construction Noise Variance (MPPCNV) that set limits for the allowable level of nighttime construction noise. This permit allows some construction activities at night without obtaining a temporary noise variance.

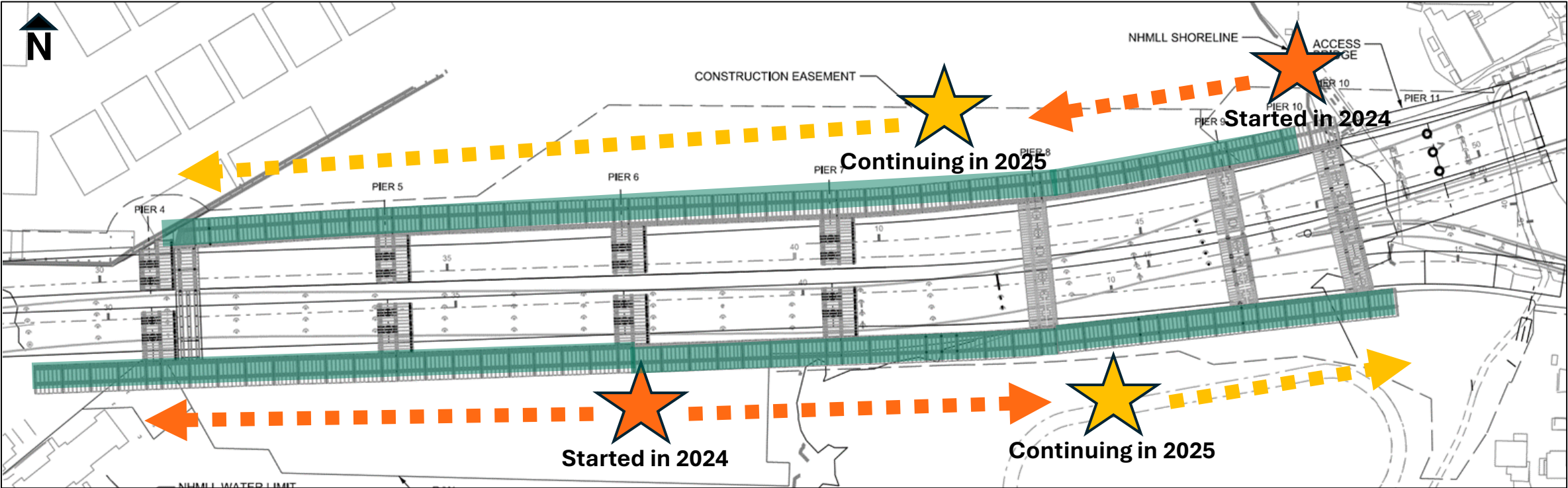
# Current construction activities



Map of current construction activities.

# Piledriving lookahead

- Crews are installing piles to continue building the temporary work trestle.
- Crews will install around 700 piles over the lifetime of the project.
- As piles are installed, crews will continue building the platform on the work trestle.



Map showing locations of piledriving work between November 2024 and April 2025.

# Temporary work trestle



Crews have installed piles in Portage Bay to support the temporary work trestle.



# Traffic effects in February

- Throughout January and into February, crews are testing soil on the following streets:
  - Boyer Avenue East
  - 11th Avenue East
  - East Roanoke Street
  - Delmar Drive East
  - Boylston Avenue East
- Expect lane closures and flagging in these areas.
- There will be intermittent nightly lane closures on I-5 and SR 520 in February as crews conduct soil testing and street sweeping.



An example of the type of machines used for geotechnical drilling  
(Photo by WSDOT)

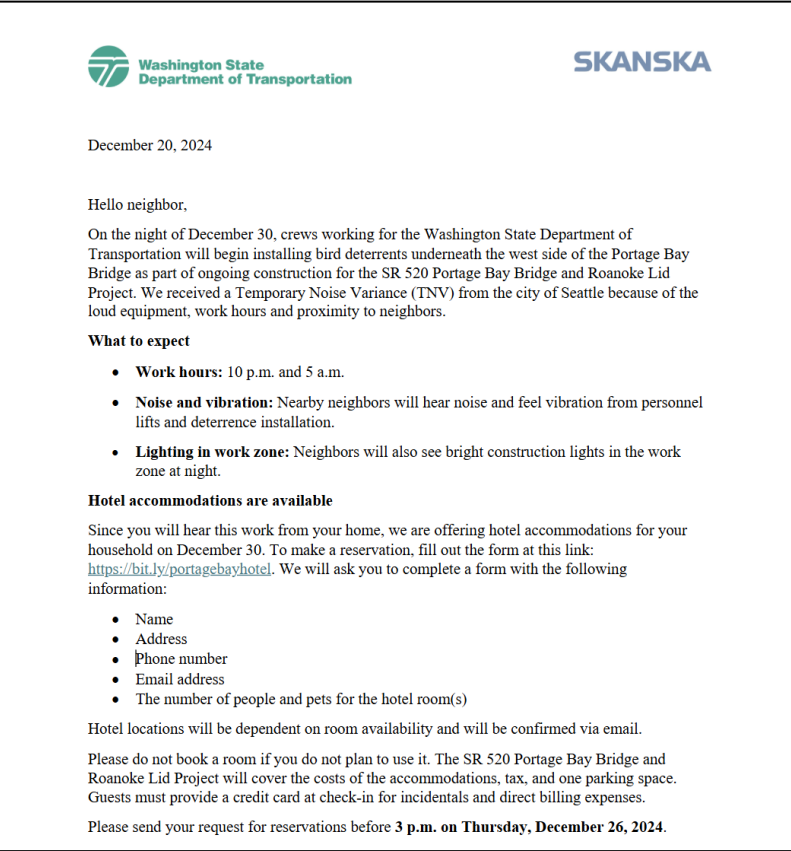
## Why do we need drill into project area?

Crews use geotechnical drilling to help better understand the underground soil and rock conditions in our work zones. This data can help us design the project and help inform how we build certain structures or foundations.

# Upcoming nighttime work

# Updates to nighttime work activities

- Up until now, completing any work at night required us to obtain a **Temporary Noise Variance (TNV)** from the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI).
  - TNVs typically required offering hotel accommodations to neighbors within 300 feet of the nighttime work zone.
  - We notified nearby neighbors in advance for all nighttime work – including low-impact work like street sweeping, utility inspections on I-5 and more.



An example of a letter we distributed to neighbors before starting nighttime work.

Going forward, most nighttime work will be conducted under the **Major Public Project Construction Noise Variance (MPPCNV)** instead of TNVs.

[Continue reading →](#)

# About the MPPCNV

- The **MPPCNV** is a project-wide permit granted by the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) to conduct certain types of nighttime work without obtaining individual TNV permits.
- The MPPCNV sets limits for the allowable level of nighttime construction noise and defines the type of work that is allowed at night without a TNV.
- The permit will go into effect on February 5 and last for 72 months (6 years).

**WSDOT SKANSKA**  
SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program  
Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project

JANUARY 2025

**Major construction beginning for SR 520 Portage Bay Project**  
Work will occur at night under a project-long noise variance

**Project overview**  
Major construction on the Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project is now underway in Seattle's Portage Bay, Roanoke Park and Montlake neighborhoods. When complete in 2031, the project will have built:

- Two parallel, seismically stronger bridges with three lanes in each direction
- A community-connecting highway lid between 10th Avenue East and Delmar Drive East, with landscaped open space on top
- An extension of the regional SR 520 Trail across Portage Bay, a new bicycle and pedestrian crossing over I-5 and connections to the city of Seattle's trail networks.

**Nighttime work under a Major Public Project Construction Noise Variance**  
Skanska, the contractor building the project, will perform nighttime work under a city of Seattle-approved Major Public Project Construction Noise Variance (permit No. 6903010-NV) beginning in February 2025. Working at night limits disruptions to weekday traffic and supports the safety of the traveling public and our crews. This variance sets noise limits for nighttime construction activities for the duration of the Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project.

Because nighttime work cannot be avoided, the 72-month noise variance also establishes a variety of operational requirements when crews are working between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. on weekdays, and between 10 p.m. and 9 a.m. on weekends and legal holidays.

**Steps for limiting nighttime noise from construction**  
Following a public comment period, WSDOT worked with the city of Seattle and Skanska to establish the conditions for minimizing noise from our project construction. Below are some of the requirements noted in the city's noise variance:

- Use noise meters throughout the project construction area to verify that nighttime activities remain within the decibel limits set by the city, and provide noise-monitoring reports to the city and the public to demonstrate compliance.
- Deploy an independent noise inspector during all nighttime work to oversee noise monitoring and report on compliance directly to the city of Seattle. The inspector has authority to halt project work if noise exceeds the limits set by the city.
- Prohibit noisy impact work at night, such as auger shaking, jack hammering and impact pile driving.

The full set of noise variance requirements can be viewed on the SR 520 Construction Corner.

**Additional, voluntary noise-mitigation measures**

- Offer alternative accommodations to nearby neighbors when nighttime work is expected to be particularly noisy or extend for longer periods.
- Provide contractor incentives for maintaining positive community interactions, such as responsiveness to neighborhood concerns about noise, dust, lights, and work-site appearance.

Nearby neighbors received this flyer in their mailboxes earlier this month.

**Why do we need to work at night?**  
Completing all construction activities during daytime hours would bring some major challenges with traffic, the construction duration, cost and the safety for our crews and the traveling public. Want to learn more? Read the [permit application](#) on the Construction Corner.

# Construction under the MPPCNV

## Activities allowed under the MPPCNV



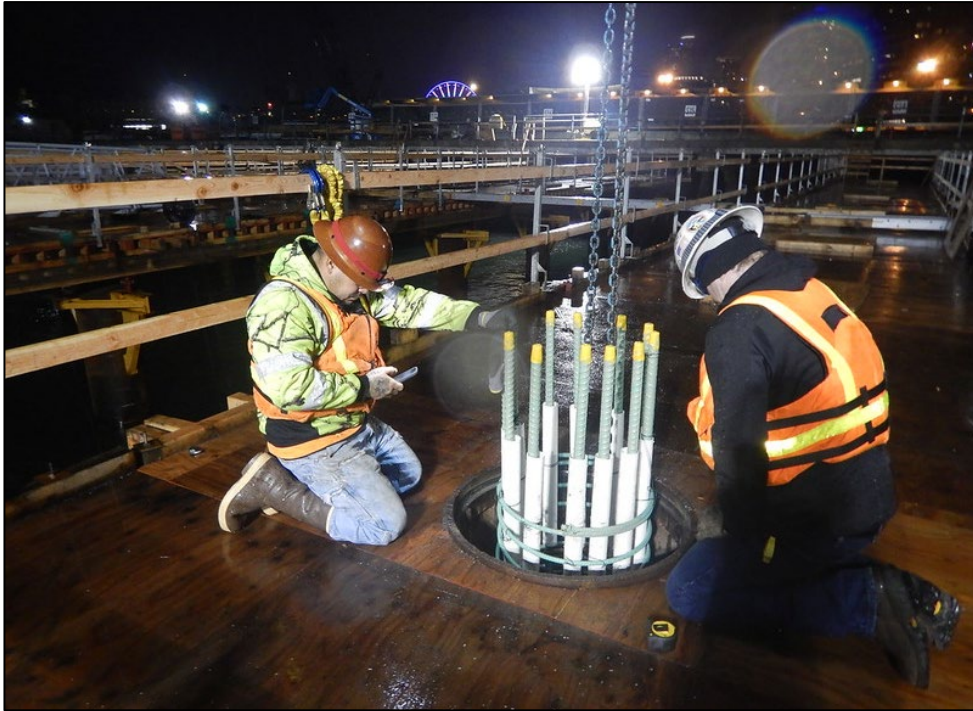
**Excavations** for digging, trenching, embankment and paving using equipment including dozers, excavators, vibratory rollers and drill rigs.



**Concrete sawing** with equipment including compressors, dump trucks, loaders, debris trucks and street sweepers.

# Construction under the MPPCNV

## Activities allowed under the MPPCNV



**Installing support structures (forms), rebar and concrete** using hydraulic cranes, concrete pumps, compressors and concrete trucks.



**Paving, signing and striping** using rollers, concrete trucks, delivery trucks, dump trucks, loaders, street sweepers, sign and stripe trucks.

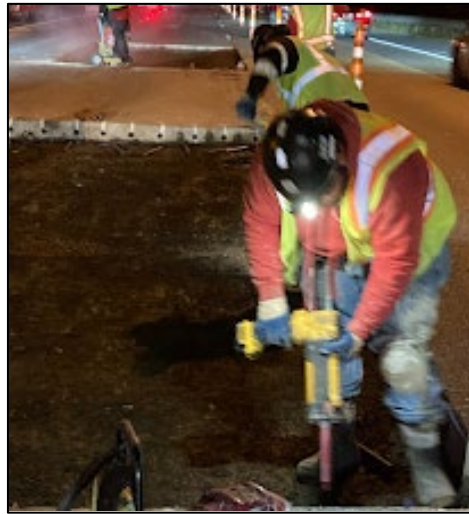
# Construction under TNVs

We will still need to complete some noisy construction activities at night. This will require a TNV, advance notice to nearby neighbors and hotel accommodation offers.

Example activities include:



Removing concrete structures over SR 520



Using jackhammers



Removing concrete roadways

## More about noisy nighttime construction

While we may complete nighttime work throughout the entire project area, most of the noise-generating nighttime work will be concentrated near the location of the future Roanoke lid. We need to work at night in this area because building the temporary overpass, permanent overpasses and the Roanoke lid will require closures on SR 520, which cannot happen during the day. If we need to obtain a TNV, we will notify nearby neighbors in advance. Impact piledriving is not allowed at night.

# Upcoming nighttime work

Starting February 5, we will begin working under the MPPCNV to:

- Continue building the temporary work trestle platforms
- Test soil conditions
- Identify and inspect underground utilities
- Install bird deterrent devices

## Permitted nighttime construction hours

**10 p.m. to 7 a.m.\***  
Monday through Friday

**10 p.m. to 9 a.m.\***  
Weekends and holidays

\* Impact pile driving will be limited to 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekends and legal holidays

### Stay up to date with nighttime construction

To stay informed on our upcoming nighttime construction activities, please continue attending our monthly construction meetings or visit the [Construction Corner](#) to view a map of current construction activities and traffic effects. As a reminder, we will always notify nearby neighbors in advance if we need to obtain a TNV for our nighttime construction.



# Mitigating nighttime construction noise

As a reminder, we are mitigating nighttime construction noise by:

- Installing acoustic fencing around staging sites and select work zones
- Using temporary noise shields around equipment
- Prohibiting impact work without a TNV (e.g. auger shaking, striking pavement with an excavator, jackhammering and impact piledriving)
- Reviewing noise monitor data throughout the neighborhood
- Stopping work if our noise monitors record levels that exceed what is allowed in our permits

## More about our noise compliance

Noise compliance is enforced by Skanska's environmental and quality assurance consultants as well as WSDOT's on-site independent noise monitor (INM), and real-time data monitoring done by designated project personnel. Noise levels are recorded 24/7, and monitoring alerts are sent for exceedances that happen during daytime and nighttime operations. We will also have third-party quality assurance and environmental inspectors onsite to monitor for compliance for noise mitigation measures outlined in the MPPCNV.

# Acoustic fences

- Starting in February 2025, crews will begin installing acoustic fences in areas around the project.
- Acoustic fences reduce the impact of construction noises for nearby neighbors.
- We will install acoustic fences through April 2025.

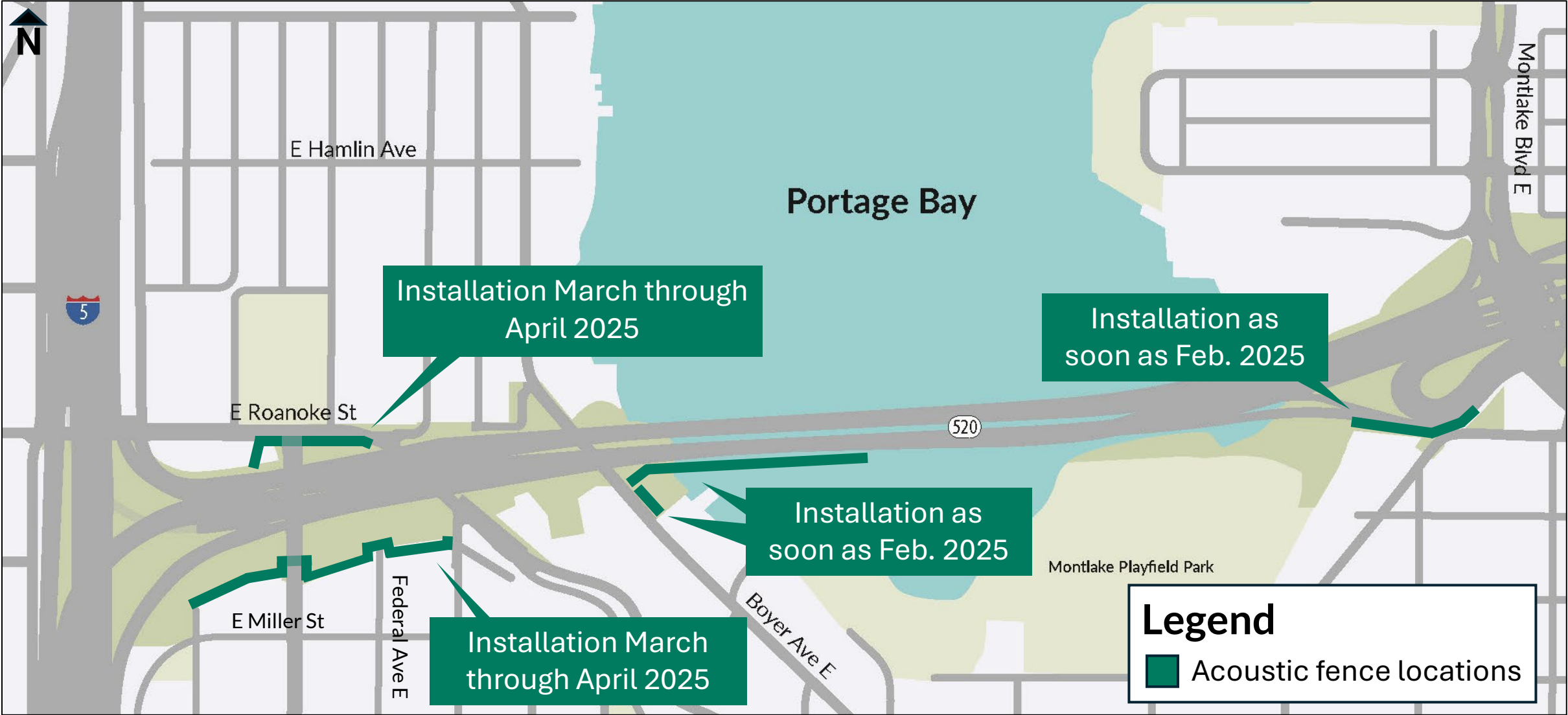


Photo of an Acoustifence®, a common type of acoustic fence.

## Reducing noise in your neighborhood

The Acoustifence® is a highly effective way to reduce noise from construction sites. This specific type of fence is used on many construction projects.

# Acoustic fence map



Map of acoustic fence locations in the project area.

# Nearby construction projects

# Reminder: SDOT curb ramp & sidewalk work

- In November, the Seattle Department of Transportation began upgrading some sidewalks, curb ramps and pedestrian crossings in the Portage Bay neighborhood.
- For questions and information, contact:

Matthew Howard  
Communications and Outreach Lead  
(206) 775-8723  
[TOUPCurbRamps@seattle.gov](mailto:TOUPCurbRamps@seattle.gov)



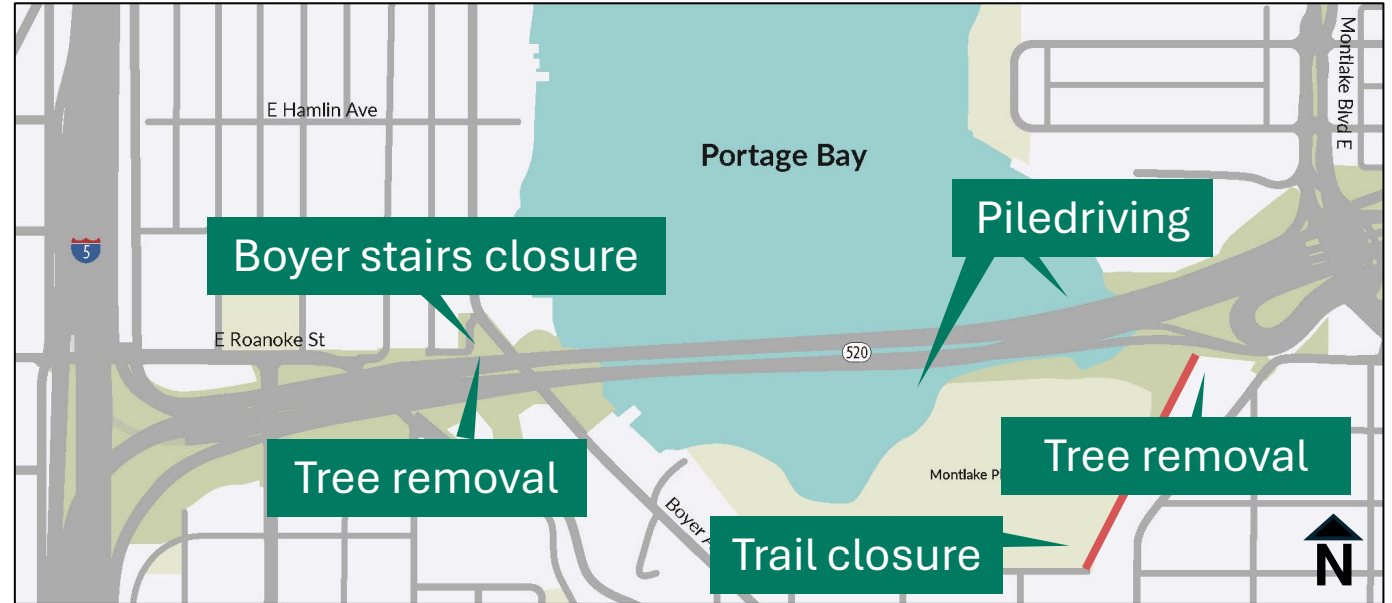
Map of the curb ramp upgrades (Photo/SDOT)

# Other upcoming work

# Upcoming construction activities

Over the next three months, we will:

- Continue impact piledriving\*
- February 2025:
  - Tree and vegetation removal in the Montlake area
  - Short-term Bill Dawson Trail closures
  - Acoustic fence installation
- April 2025:
  - Tree and vegetation removal in the Roanoke area
  - Begin long-term closures of the Boyer Stairs and Bill Dawson Trail



Project area map.

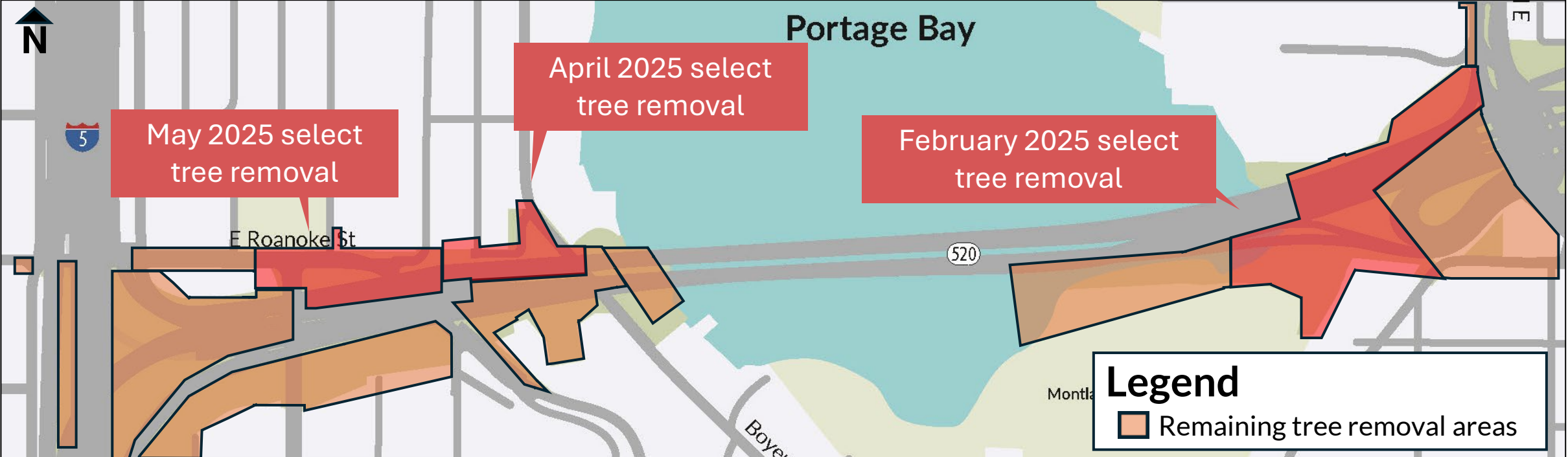
**\*Reminder:**

**Season 1 for in-water impact piledriving ends April 30, 2025**

While we will stop using an impact hammer to install piles in Portage Bay by April 30, crews will continue vibrating piles and installing piles on land after Season 1 ends. The next season for in-water impact piledriving will begin in September 2025.

# Tree removal schedule

- Tree and vegetation removal in Montlake is scheduled to begin in the third week of February 2025.
- Earlier this month, we posted tree removal notices on the affected trees.

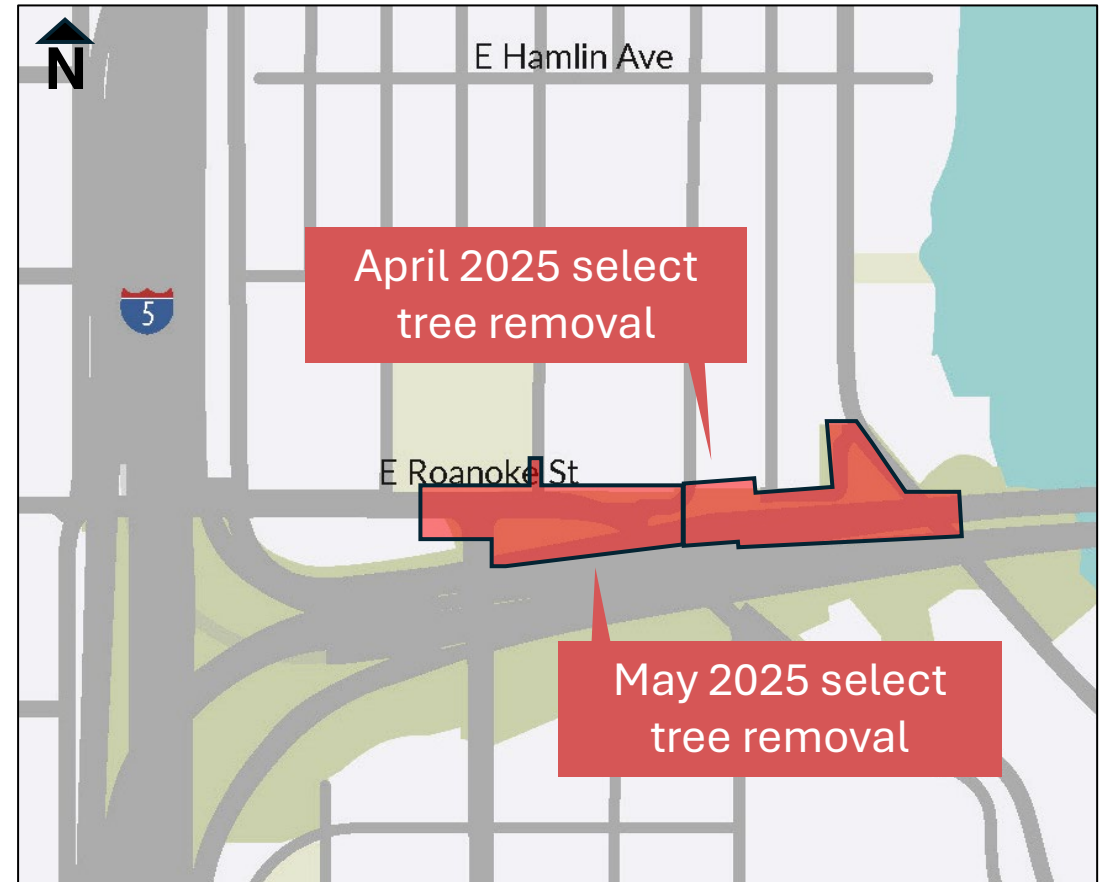


We will remove trees and vegetation in stages. We are currently scheduling the tree removals in the orange areas.



# Select tree removal in Portage Bay

- Select tree removals near Boyer Avenue East are scheduled for April 2025.
- Tree removal in this area will be conducted in preparation for utility work later in the summer.
- Tree removal near East Roanoke Street is scheduled for May 2025.



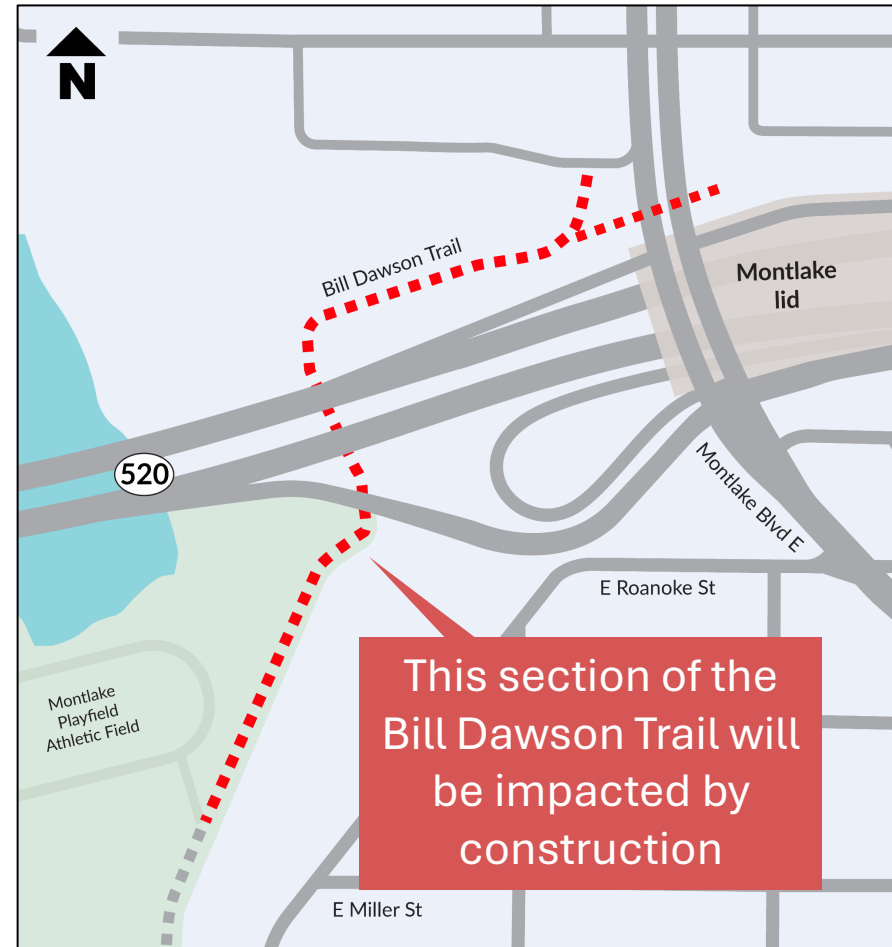
Map of the Roanoke Park and Portage Bay neighborhoods

## Working in the Boyer hillside area

After we remove trees, we will begin relocating underground utilities that will connect to the Roanoke Park neighborhood. To connect these areas, we will move the utilities under the Boyer Stairs, which will require us to rebuild them. The stairs will be closed for 5 years during this work. We will share more information and an anticipated closure date at a future monthly construction meeting.

# Short-term Bill Dawson Trail closures

- The trail will close periodically throughout February and March 2025 for tree removal and equipment staging.
- Short-term closures will consist of flagging operations with delays of around 15 minutes or 1–3-day trail closures with advanced notice posted to Construction Corner.



Map showing the section of the Bill Dawson Trail that will be closed.

# Long-term Bill Dawson Trail closure

- This spring, we will close the Bill Dawson Trail between Montlake Boulevard and the Montlake Playfield for **five years**.
- The new tunnel under Montlake Boulevard will also be closed during construction.
- We will share the official closure date via our email updates and by posting signs along the trail in advance.

## Determining a closure date

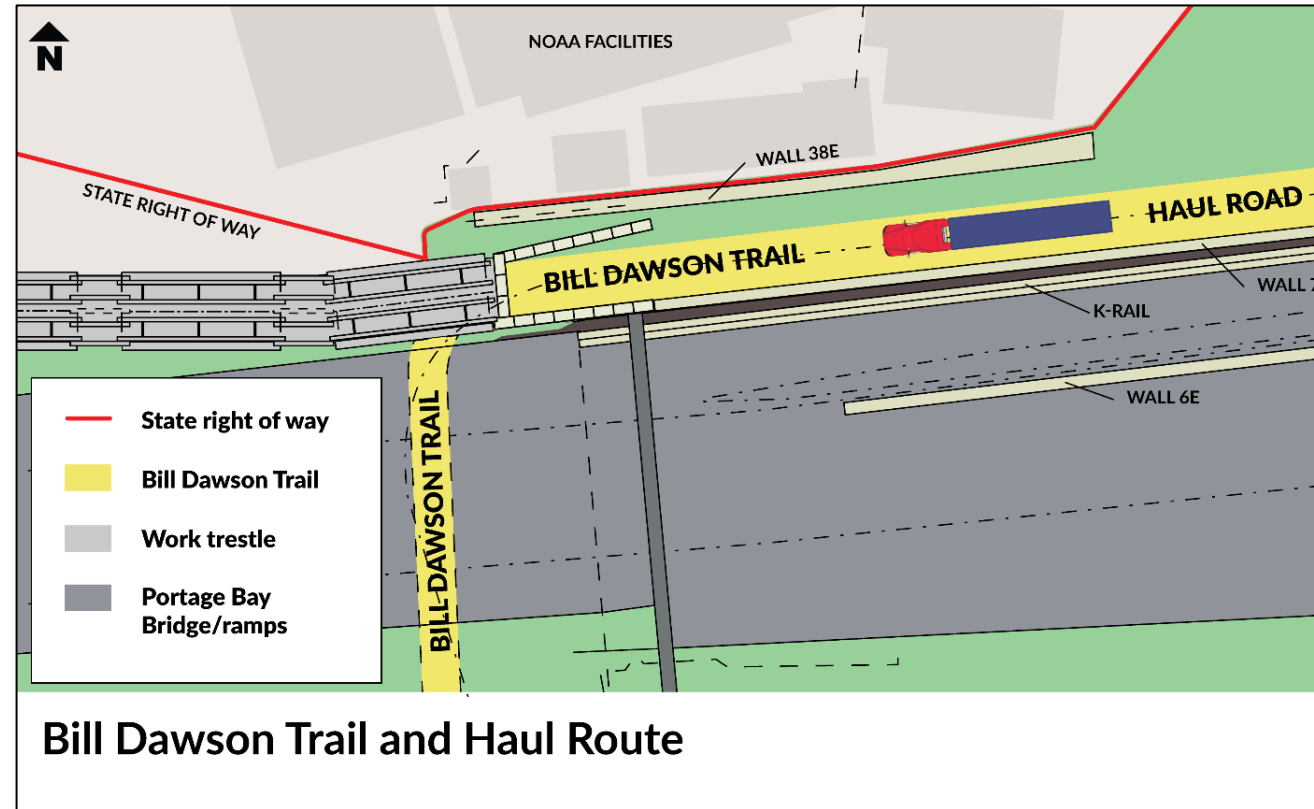
We will need to close the trail once our temporary work trestle connects to the Montlake neighborhood via the Bill Dawson Trail. As we continue making progress on the trestle, we will have a better idea of a closure date. Stay tuned for more details!



A map of an example detours for the trail closure.

# Construction on the Bill Dawson Trail

- To access our work zone in Portage Bay, we need to build a haul route from Montlake Boulevard to the temporary work trestle.
- Due to limited space, we will need to take over a portion of the Bill Dawson Trail for our haul route to the trestle.
- Why we need to close the trail:
  - Maintain safe access to the work trestle
  - Eliminate conflicts with trail users and heavy equipment operators
  - Safely transport cranes, drill rigs, personnel-lifts and other equipment over the trail



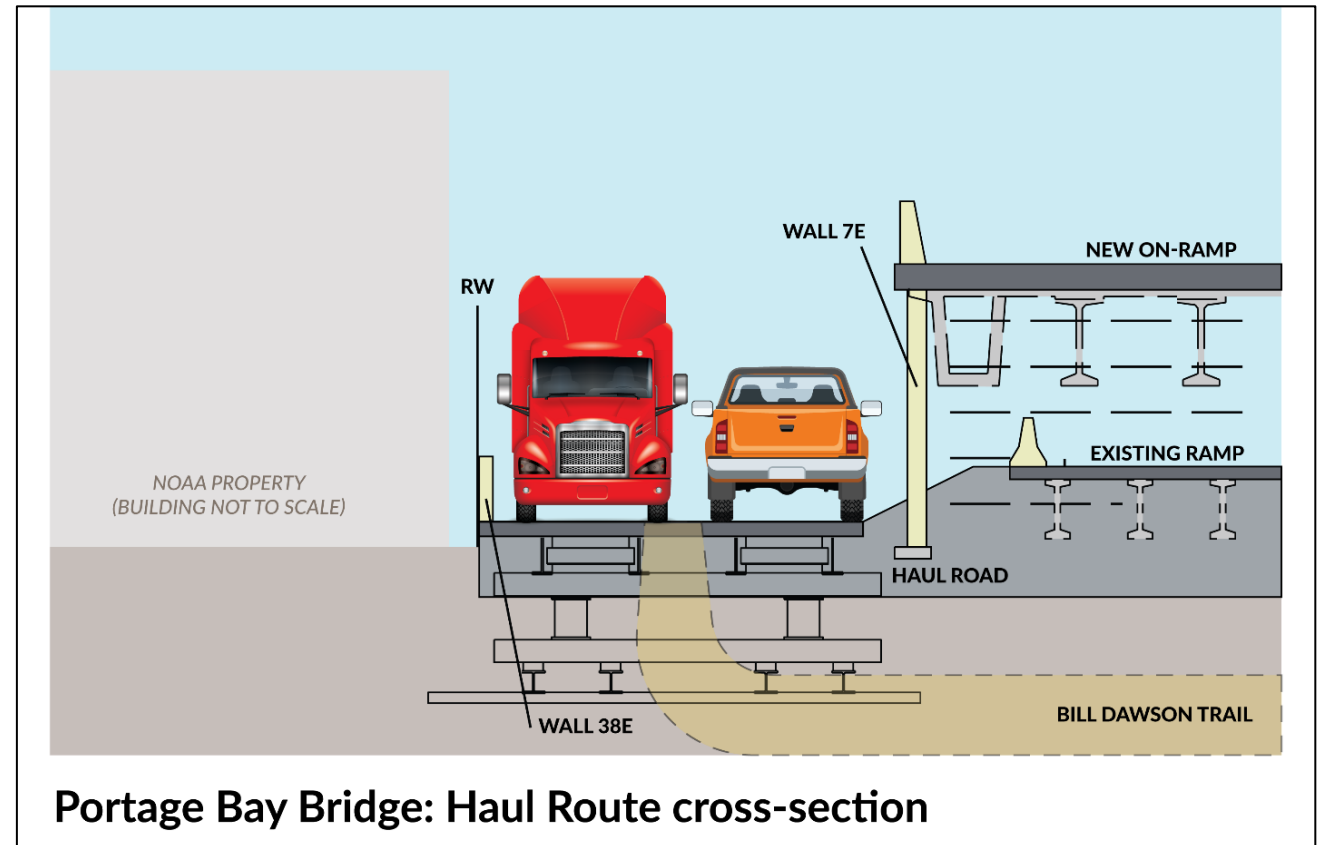
# Construction on the Bill Dawson Trail

In addition to safety for our crews and trail users, we need to use parts of the trail to build the new Portage Bay bridges above the Bill Dawson Trail.

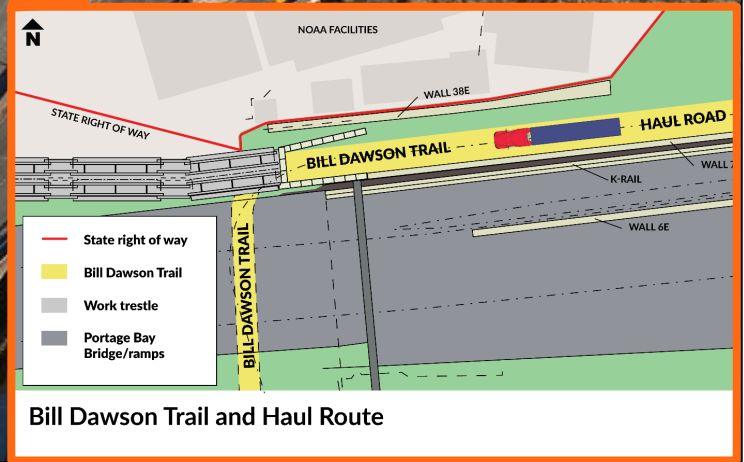
- Large girders will be transported through the area and used to build permanent supports for the new Portage Bay bridges above the Bill Dawson Trail.
- Part of the trail will be blocked with embankments (a raised mound/wall made of earth) to provide support for future bridge structures.

## Why does the haul route need to go over an existing trail?

We are building the project in a tight, confined space and we have limited options to complete our construction activities. Moving the haul route would either require us to acquire property from the nearby NOAA facility or create a long-term closure on the existing Portage Bay bridge and on-ramps.



# Accessing the temporary work trestle

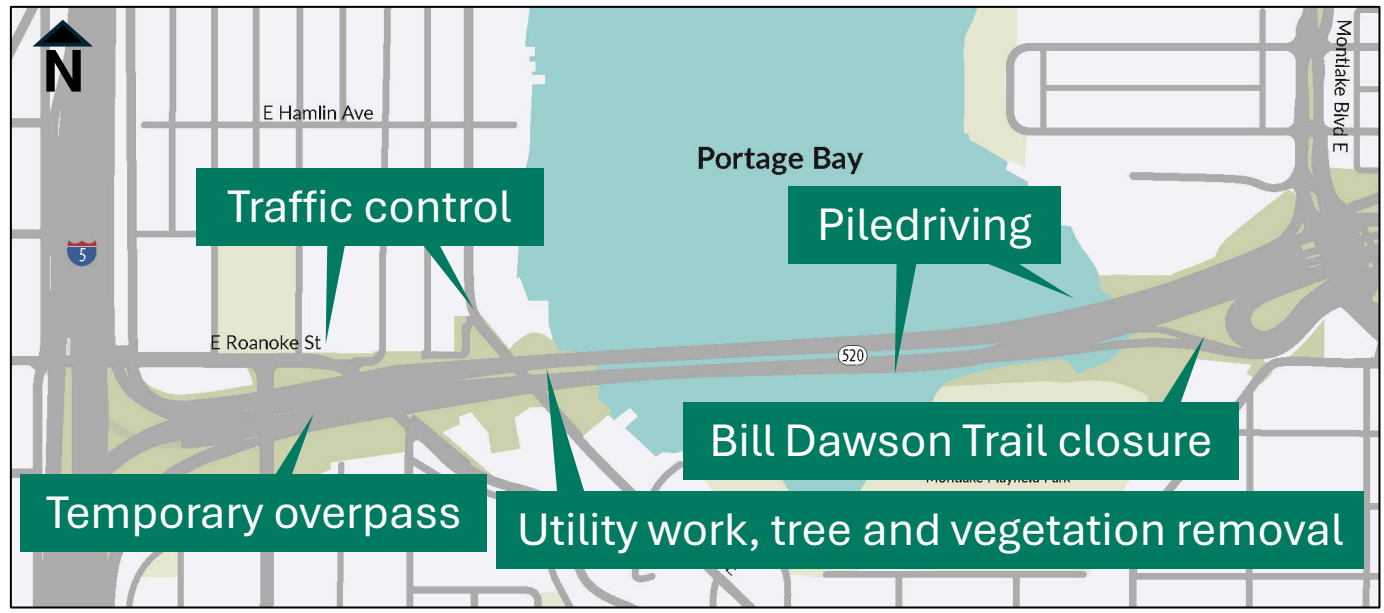


# Planning upcoming construction activities

# Work being planned

## Through 2025, we will:

- Continue impact pile driving through April 30, 2025\*
- Continue vibratory pile-driving from May through August
- Traffic effects on city streets and intermittent full closures of SR 520 over Portage Bay
- Finalize the design of the temporary overpass near 10th Avenue East and Delmar Drive East



Project area map.

**\*Reminder:**  
**Season 1 for in-water impact piledriving ends April 30, 2025**

We will stop using an impact hammer to install piles in Portage Bay after April 30. Crews will continue vibrating piles and installing piles on land after Season 1 ends. The next season for in-water impact piledriving will begin in September 2025.



# Season 1 for in-water work ends in April

- The first season of in-water impact work will be completed by May 1 and impact piledriving will pause until the next season begins in September 2025.
- Between May and September 2025, you can expect crews to continue vibration piledriving and continue building elements for the temporary work trestle.
- Crews will conduct some impact piledriving on land near the Boyer Hillside later this year.



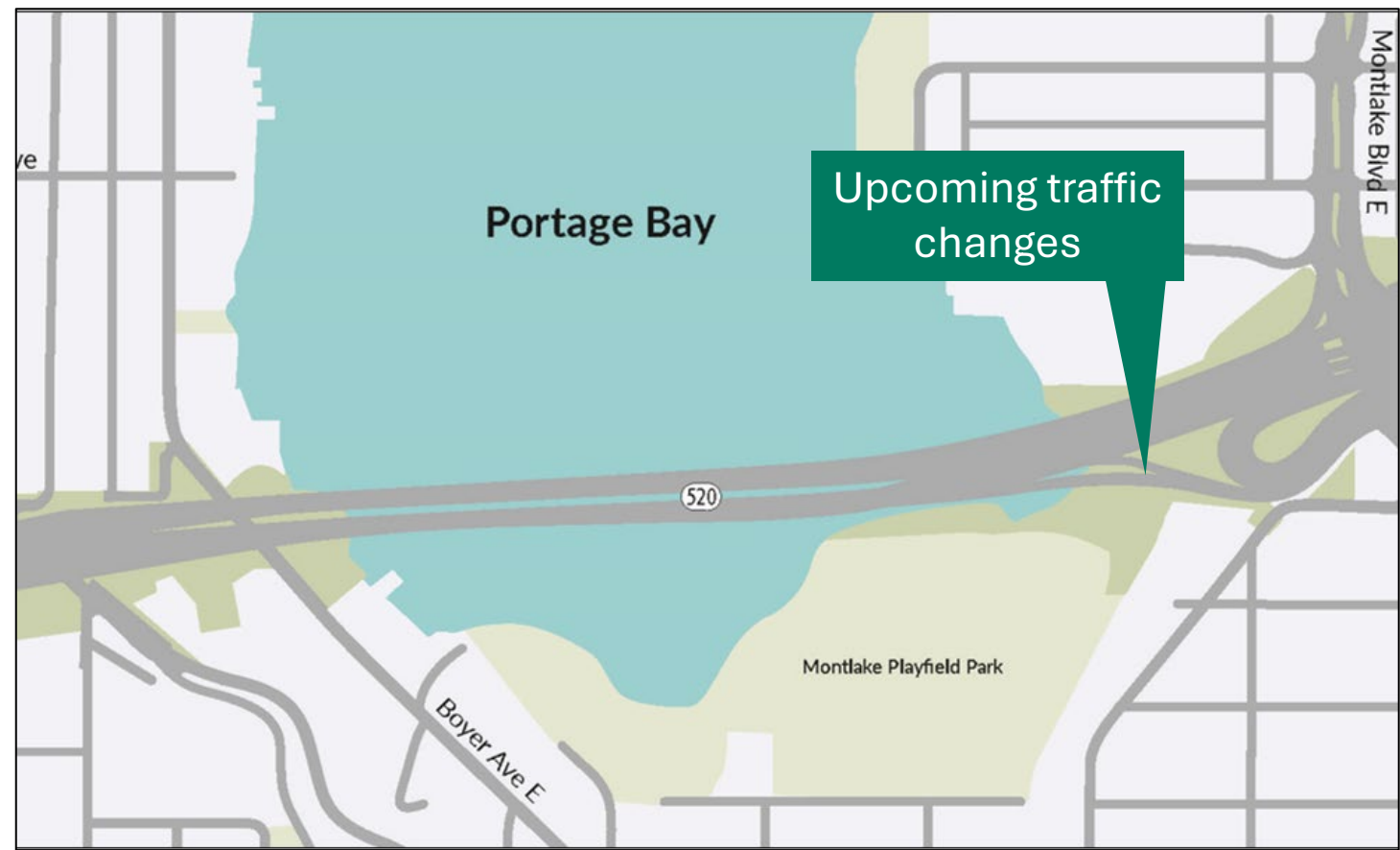
Image of the current in-water work barge.

# Traffic effects starting this summer

The first major traffic shift for this project will happen on the off-ramp at the east end of the Portage Bay Bridge, near Montlake Boulevard.

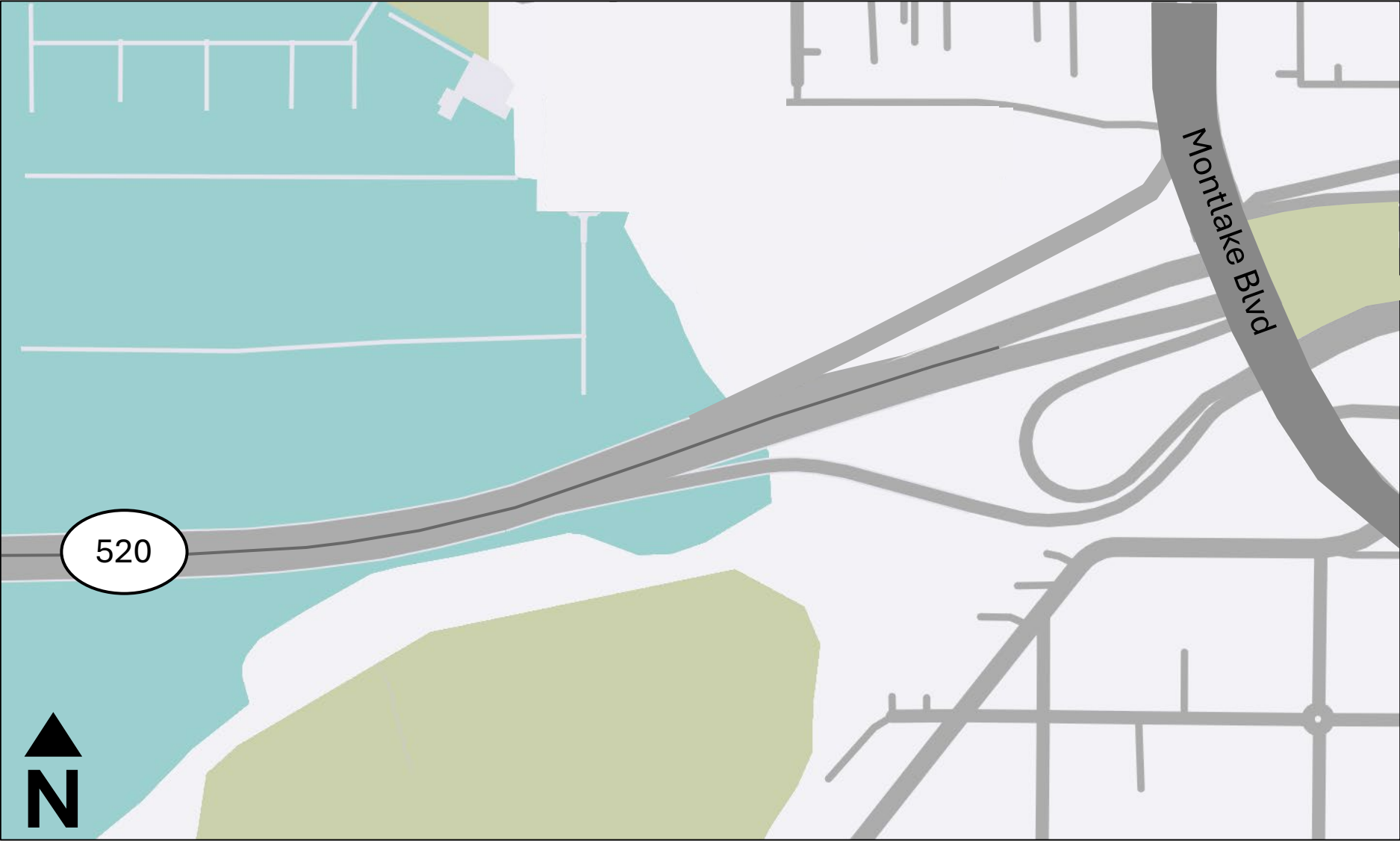
This work will also require at least two full weekend closures and several nighttime full closures of the Portage Bay Bridge.

These closures will be announced in advance.



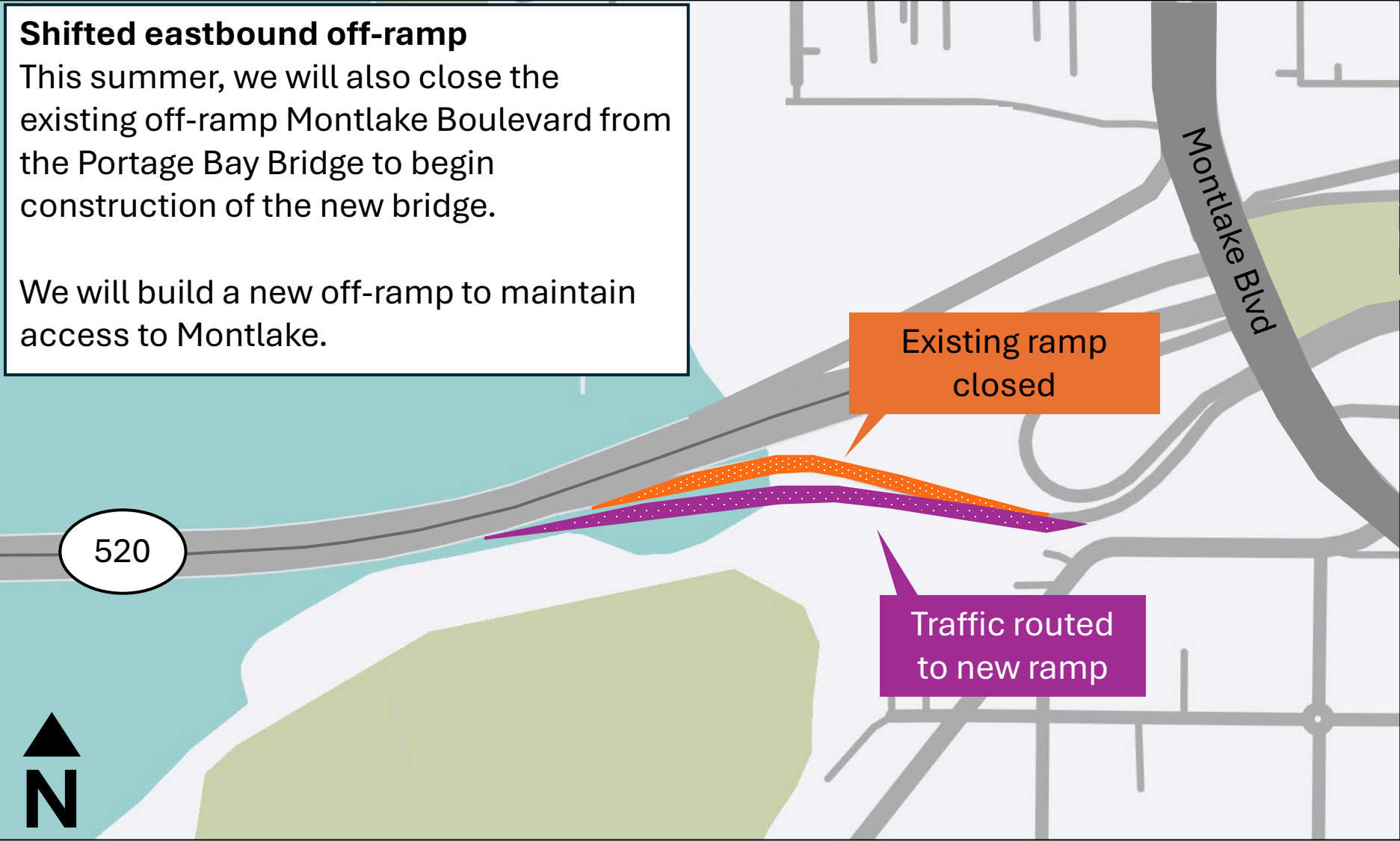
Area for upcoming traffic changes.

# Montlake interchange: Existing conditions



# Montlake interchange: Shifted off-ramp

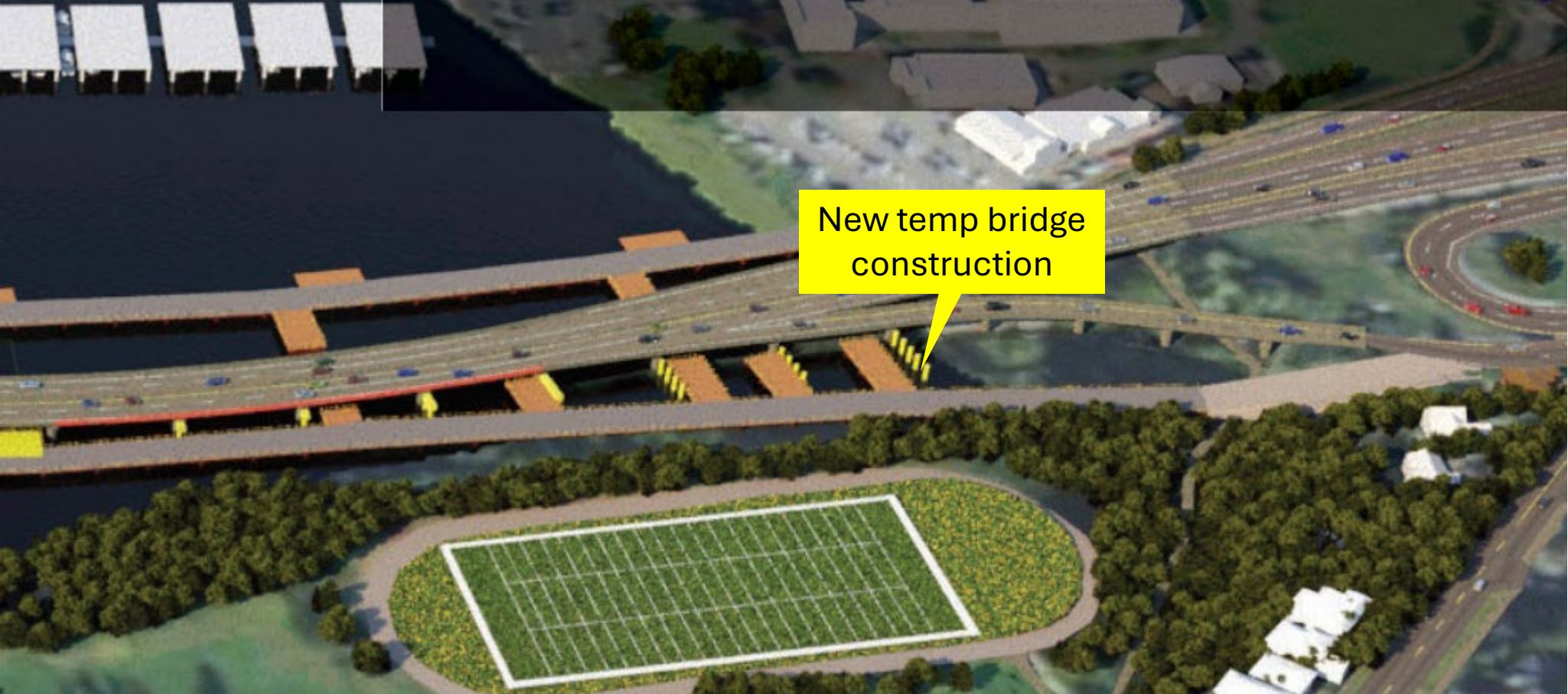
**Shifted eastbound off-ramp**  
This summer, we will also close the existing off-ramp Montlake Boulevard from the Portage Bay Bridge to begin construction of the new bridge.  
  
We will build a new off-ramp to maintain access to Montlake.



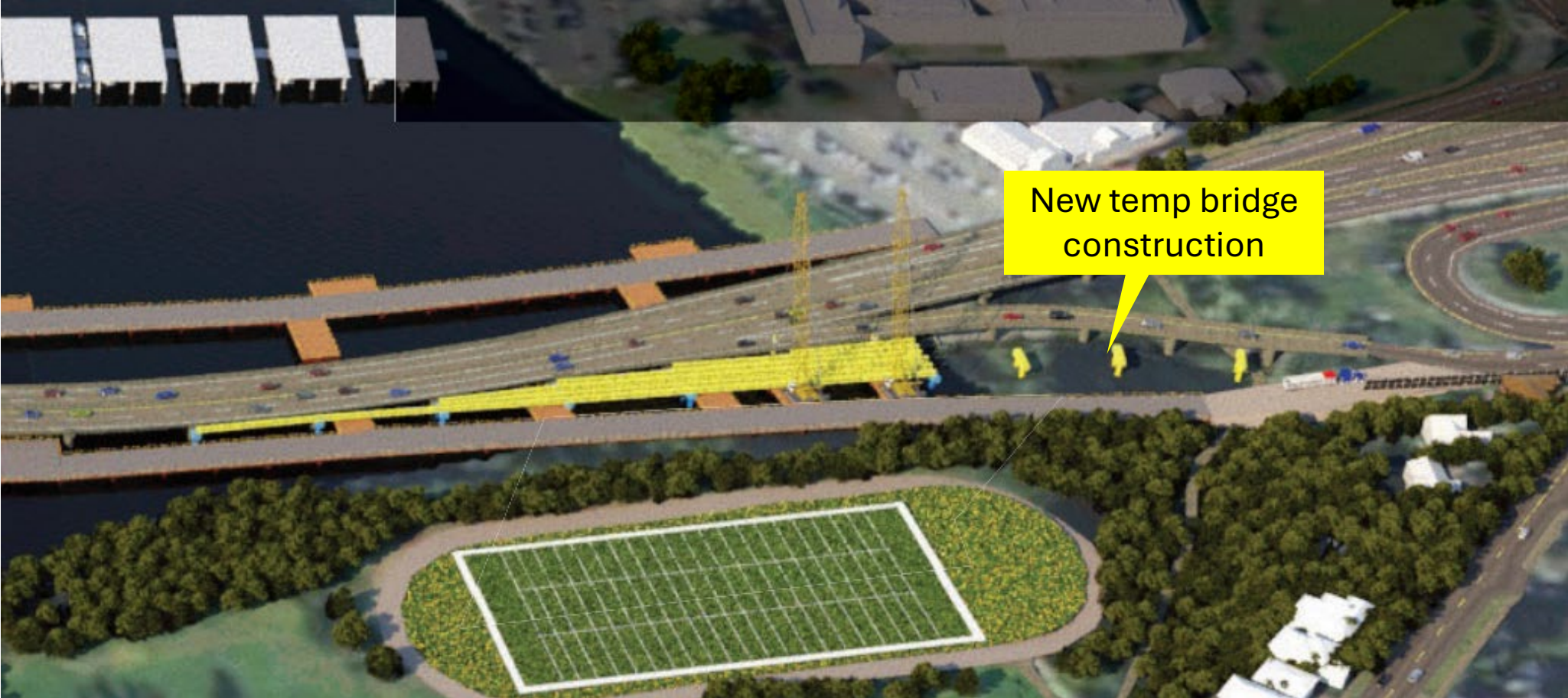
# Montlake interchange construction details



# Montlake interchange construction details



# Montlake interchange construction details



# Montlake interchange construction details



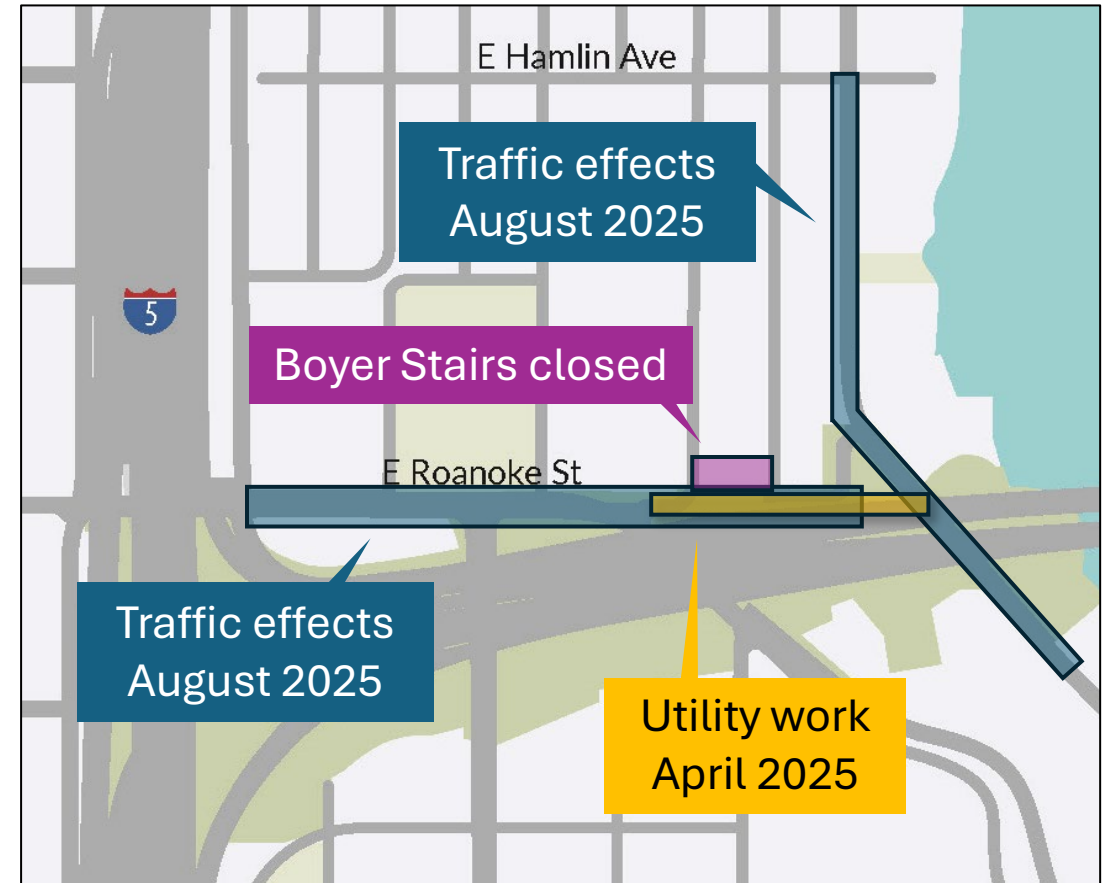


# Montlake interchange construction details



# Utility work in Roanoke this summer

- Utility work along East Roanoke Street is scheduled to begin in April 2025.
- We have adjusted this scheduled so other construction elements can be built before utility work begins, such as installing walls on the hillside.
- Expect single-lane closures and flagging when additional work begins in August 2025.
- Reminder: the Boyer Stairs are scheduled to close in April 2025 **for up to five years.**



Map of the Roanoke Park and Portage Bay neighborhoods

# Staying in touch and Q&A

# How to stay informed



### PORTAGE BAY CONSTRUCTION HOTLINE

206-319-4520

24-hour phone line for construction related questions. This is a new hotline for the Portage Bay Project.



### CONSTRUCTION CORNER WEBSITE

One-stop shop for construction information during the Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid project.  
**sr520construction.com**

Questions?  
Email the project team at  
**sr520bridge@wsdot.wa.gov**



### EMAIL UPDATES

Receive regular email updates about upcoming construction work with our weekly newsletter. Subscribe here:  
**sr520construction.com**



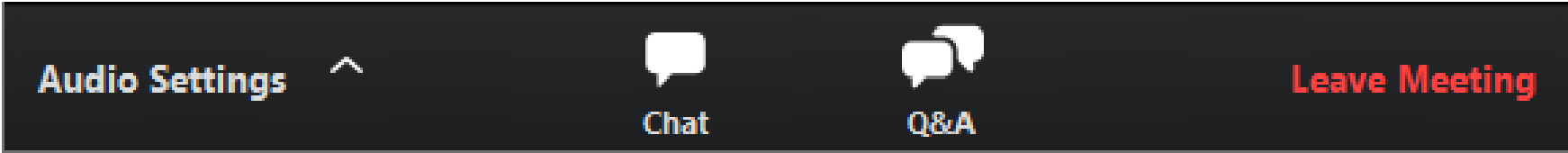
### MEETINGS

Attend our open houses and monthly construction meetings. Sign up for email updates to receive invitations to the meetings.

**Thank you!**

# Comments and questions

Please use the **Q&A window** to ask questions or offer comments.



**CHAT** is disabled during the presentation. Please communicate with the team through the **Q&A window**.



# Meeting recordings

Want to review this meeting again? Visit the project website to find meeting materials and recordings.

Remember to click on the "Related links" tab!

You can also find our meeting materials on [sr520construction.com](https://sr520construction.com)

## SR 520 Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project

### Project overview

The Portage Bay Bridge and Roanoke Lid Project will replace the aging Portage Bay Bridge with a seismically resilient structure that includes improved bus/carpool travel and an extension of the SR 520 Trail. This project also builds a landscaped lid between Seattle's Roanoke Park and North Capitol Hill neighborhoods.

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Timeline        | 2024-2031                                   |
| Project status  | Construction                                |
| Funding         | 1.375 billion                               |
| Project hotline | <a href="tel:206-319-4520">206-319-4520</a> |

### What to expect

This project starts on November 6, 2024.

There are no immediate traffic restrictions for this project. The first traffic restriction/changeover is anticipated to be in summer 2025.

Please visit [SR520Construction.com](https://SR520Construction.com) for updates on traffic and information about the project, bridge, tree removals and construction staging.



[View full image](#)

This project will complete SR 520's reconstruction between Bellevue and Seattle.

[Stay informed by subscribing to our email updates](#)

- History and background
- Timeline
- Funding
- Maps & drawings
- Related links**
- Contact

### Monthly Portage Bay Project construction update meeting

Our next Portage Bay Project monthly meeting will be held online at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 12. [Register for the meeting online.](#) Missed our last monthly meeting? You can [view the presentation online](#) (PDF 3.1MB) or [view the meeting recording on YouTube](#).



# Reference slides



# Project map



Map of major project elements.

# Additional reminders

# Working in Portage Bay

- We will use barges, tugboats, cranes and the temporary work platform to build the new bridges.
- To reduce construction effects in the bay, we will:
  - Use reinforced hydraulic hoses and floating oil containment devices (oil booms) to lower the risk of leaks in Portage Bay.
  - Use underwater bubble "curtains" to reduce noise and vibration.



Rendering of the temporary work trestle in Portage Bay.

## Did you know?

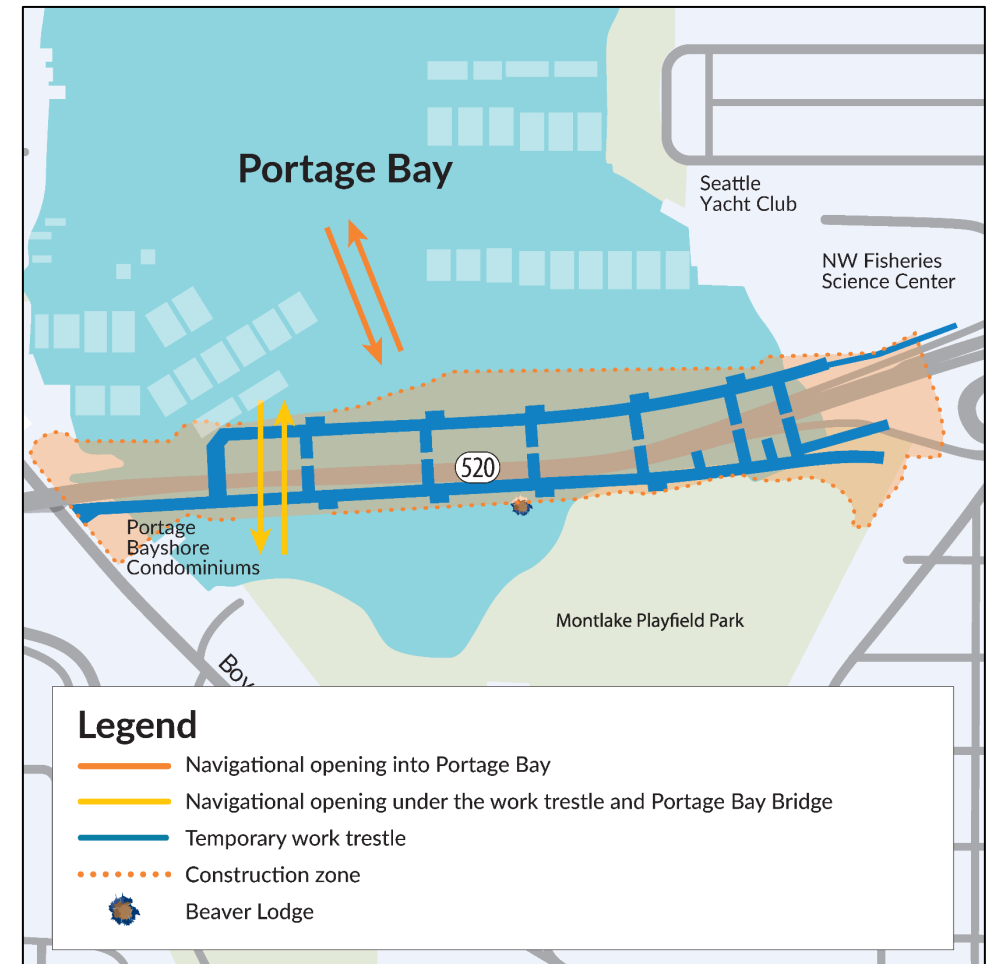
We will primarily use barges to move materials and equipment to the work zone from the Lakepointe staging site in Kenmore. This will help reduce truck traffic on local streets. Visit the [Construction Corner](#) to learn more about barges and staging.

# Maintaining access for boaters

- Portage Bay is an active area for recreational boaters and lake users.
- We are coordinating with nearby dock and slip owners during construction.
- We will maintain 24/7 access for boaters in and around the work zone.
  - We will mark the navigational channel with signage and buoys.

## Did you know?

There is a beaver lodge located in Portage Bay between the existing bridge and the Montlake Playfields. We've taken steps to make sure the lodge isn't impacted by our work. Check out the [Beaver Lodge FAQ](#) on the [Construction Corner](#) to learn more.



We will maintain at least one navigational channel under the work trestle.

# Reminder: how we will remove trees

- We will post tree removal notices at least 30 days in advance.
- We will use a combination of large machinery and hand tools to remove trees.
- Expect large machinery and daytime work:
  - Monday through Friday - 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
  - Saturdays - 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
  - Some Sundays - 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Crews will use a variety of techniques to mitigate the effects of tree removal depending on the conditions of the work area.



An example of machinery used to remove trees.

**Learn more about tree and vegetation removal**  
Want to learn more about the tree removal process?  
Check out the *Tree and Vegetation Removal FAQ* on  
the [Construction Corner](#) to learn more.