



Viaduct News



WEEKLY UPDATE

February 1, 2019

SR 99 TUNNEL OPENS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

It's almost here. After nearly three weeks of the #Realign99 highway closure, WSDOT is putting the finishing touches on the new SR 99 tunnel. In the early hours of Monday, Feb. 4, they'll begin opening the tunnel to traffic, a process that will occur ramp by ramp over the course of several hours. The tunnel will be fully open by the time you hit the road for your morning commute.

If you haven't yet taken the time to familiarize yourself with the new two-mile-long tunnel, we encourage you to do so now. [These videos](#) show you how to get around after the tunnel opens.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- The [new northbound off-ramp to Alaskan Way](#) at the south portal won't open for one to two weeks after the tunnel. That's especially important for travelers approaching downtown from the south. Until the ramp opens, travelers on northbound SR 99 won't have the option to exit before the tunnel. That means the next available exit is at the north portal, near the Space Needle.
- Buses that used to travel on the viaduct will continue their reroute until the new northbound off-ramp to Alaskan Way ramp opens. Visit King County Metro for additional information about [transit service](#).
- The expanded West Seattle Water Taxi service [continues through March 27](#).

2019 VIADUCT KEY DATES – UPDATED NOTES BELOW

February 1: Battery Street Tunnel closes

- Battery Street Tunnel closes at 10 p.m. On-ramp and off-ramp from Battery Street Tunnel to Western Avenue also close. [More information](#).

February 2-3: [SR 99 Step Forward Events](#)

- We anticipate a busy Saturday!
- [Street closures notice for the event](#).
- Saturday, February 2: Tunnel to Viaduct 8K Run/Walk
- Sunday, February 3: Tunnel Bike Ride

February 4: The New SR Route 99 Tunnel Opens to All Traffic

- Access to downtown only at Pioneer Square/Stadium District or Seattle Center/South Lake Union.
- The [new northbound off-ramp to Alaskan Way](#) at the south portal won't open for one to two weeks after the tunnel.

February 4: LENORA STREET PARKING LOT

- Crews begin fencing off the parking lot located east of the Lenora Street Pedestrian Bridge and just north of Lenora Street under the viaduct. This will establish a work zone for demolition equipment.

February 8 - July: Viaduct Removal Begins

- Be prepared for increased noise and dust near the demolition site.
- Under the viaduct, near Western Avenue between Blanchard and Bell streets, the intersection of Western Avenue and Bell Street will be closed.
- Under the viaduct, near Alaskan Way between Pike and Virginia streets, access to the Pike Place Market garage and elevator will be maintained during this closure. The Pike Street Hillclimb will also remain open.

RESOURCES:

- Learn more at the new resource webpage, [Neighborhood News](#), on the Pike Place Market website.