



PRESS RELEASE FROM CITY OF SEATTLE

Contact: Lauren Stensland, 206-949-5746, info@waterfrontseattle.org

City of Seattle begins construction of a new Union Street pedestrian bridge, stairs and elevator

SEATTLE (March 10, 2021) – In downtown Seattle, the City will build a [new pedestrian bridge, stairway and elevator on Union Street](#) connecting Western Avenue and Alaskan Way. Construction is expected to begin as early as March 15.

The existing pedestrian stairway at Union Street will be closed at that time to allow the new bridge to be built. There will be pedestrian detours in place at the University Street Hillclimb and the Pike Street Hillclimb. These changes are happening as a part of the construction of the [City's Waterfront Seattle Program](#). Waterfront Seattle is constructing improvements to key east-west streets to strengthen connections between downtown and the waterfront.

The new Union Street project will provide a safe, accessible connection with a wider walkway, stairway, and an elevator. The pedestrian bridge walkway, elevator and stairs will have pedestrian lighting integrated in the railings of the bridge and stairs, underneath the bridge deck, and within the elevator.

The project will also feature artwork by Seattle artist Norie Sato. Inspired by the natural environment, her artwork will reflect the flora and fauna found on the waterfront and brings attention to the shoreline ecology that persists in the midst of the waterfront's built infrastructure. Her artwork at Union Street will include a steel abstracted fern frond framing the passageway, and a screen on the bridge that layers abstracted imagery of seagull wings over that of a fern.

The project is anticipated to complete construction by late 2022.