



**Seattle**  
Office of the Waterfront  
and Civic Projects

## **PRESS RELEASE FROM CITY OF SEATTLE**

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Images and materials available [using this link](#).

### **City will begin construction of improvements on Pike and Pine streets**

**Seattle** (February 15, 2023) – Construction will begin this week on the Pike Pine Streetscape and Bicycle Improvements Project that will enhance the pedestrian and cycling experience on Pike and Pine streets between Pike Place Market and Capitol Hill.

This project is a part of the new waterfront that will be opening in phases between now and 2025. It is a 20-acre linear park that extends from S King St in Pioneer Square to Belltown, with tendrils to the east and west connecting the waterfront into rich cultural downtown neighborhoods and the downtown core. The opportunity to completely reimagine what the waterfront will be for Seattle, the region, and the world was made possible with the removal of the Alaskan Way Viaduct.

"In *One Seattle*, every person, no matter how they get around, should be able to get where they're going safely – this exciting project will connect our downtown and new waterfront through enhancements that improve safety, accessibility, and vibrancy," said Mayor Bruce Harrell. "From this effort to the development of 20 acres of new parkland, the transformation of our waterfront is centered in a clear commitment to ensuring downtown is a neighborhood for everyone – with great amenities and dynamic opportunities for all."

"Improving key east/west connections between the waterfront and downtown is an important part of the Waterfront Program," said Angela Brady, Acting Director of the Office of the Waterfront and Civic Projects. "Pike and Pine streets are essential spaces for our city and our communities, and we look forward to making these 24 blocks more accessible and enjoyable for all."

[Pike Pine Streetscape and Bicycle Improvements project](#), developed in coordination with the [Downtown Seattle Association's](#) Pike Pine Renaissance and the Seattle Department of Transportation, includes improvements to crosswalks and sidewalks, more greenery, protected bike lanes and new public seating and artwork, all with a more consistent character and identity from end to end. The project will make Pike and Pine streets one-way streets from 1st Ave to Bellevue Ave, with Pike St being one-way eastbound and Pine St being one-way westbound. In addition, it will fill in the gaps in the existing bike network to create a continuous protected bike lane on Pike and Pine streets between 2nd and Melrose avenues. Bikes will be separated from traffic by curbed buffers or ground plantings.

"Great downtowns are walkable, and while our center city does have a strong walkability we need to enhance our strengths and the Pike Pine Renaissance project will do that," said DSA President & CEO Jon Scholes. "Along with the private investment we've seen on Pike and Pine and the Convention Center's improvements at the street level, this public investment is really going to change how we experience one of our city's busiest corridors. A vibrant, interesting and more cohesive pedestrian experience will

help better connect Capitol Hill and the rest of downtown to the waterfront and really show off some of our city's incredible assets."

"Protected bike lanes that are separated from traffic are the gold standard for safe and welcoming bike infrastructure, so we are excited to see this project advancing to construction," said Cascade Bicycle Club Executive Director Lee Lambert. "When completed, the Pike and Pine corridor will be on par with the widely used 2nd Avenue or Greenlake protected bike lanes – and we look forward to the city implementing more protective and connected bike routes across Seattle."

Work will start on the blocks between 4th and 6th avenues on Pike St. Access to business and residences will be maintained and advanced notice will be provided for night and weekend work. Bicyclists will be detoured as needed while improvements to the bicycle lane are constructed.

"Pike and Pine streets are at the heart of downtown Seattle's urban core. This improvement project will help people easily reach many of Seattle's great destinations – Pike Place Market, the Convention Center, Paramount Theater, downtown retail, Capitol Hill's restaurants and coffee shops, and so much more. Whether walking, biking, or taking transit such as the light rail and the Streetcar, residents and tourists alike will have a safer, more comfortable trip," said Greg Spotts, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation.

Gary Merlino Construction is the contractor for this project, and the awarded construction contract cost is approximately \$17.45M. Construction is anticipated to be complete by fall 2024.

The Waterfront Seattle Program includes five additional east-west connection projects, including the Union Street Pedestrian Bridge which opened to the public in December 2022, the [Marion Street Pedestrian Bridge](#) and the [Overlook Walk](#) both currently under construction, the [Pioneer Square Pedestrian Improvements](#) project which will begin construction later this year, and the [Bell St Improvements](#) project is currently in the design phase.

We encourage people to sign up for [our Pike Pine construction emails](#), where we will communicate weekly progress and impacts, and to learn more about the new Pike Pine streets project at [waterfrontseattle.org](#). Note that the Waterfront Program is supported by the [Friends of Waterfront Seattle](#), a non-profit public/private partner to the City of Seattle. It is responsible to fund, program, steward and activate the park now and in perpetuity and will seek the community's generosity to be champions of Waterfront Park.