PRESS RELEASE FROM CITY OF SEATTLE

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Images and materials available using this link.

Seattle’s waterfront construction continues - work to shift traffic onto new southbound lanes of Alaskan Way this weekend

SEATTLE (November 11, 2021) – Starting the evening of Friday, November 12, 2021 (weather permitting), Waterfront Seattle will reduce Alaskan Way to one lane each direction to move southbound traffic on Alaskan Way S onto new concrete lanes. This will also include opening a new southbound transit lane, new sidewalks and a portion of the new bike path on the west side of Alaskan Way. Work is anticipated to be complete by Monday morning, November 15.

This shift will start as early as 7 PM on Friday, November 12 and continue through Sunday, November 14, with nighttime work. Access on Alaskan Way S will be maintained with one lane in each direction between S King and Columbia streets. Traffic officers will be on site to assist in directing traffic.

“This weekend’s traffic shift represents significant construction progress of the new Alaskan Way,” said Angela Brady, Deputy Director of the Office of Waterfront and Civic Projects. “We thank all of our partners for their ongoing support as we continue to build Seattle’s new waterfront.”

Once the traffic shift is complete, the new Alaskan Way will provide two new southbound general-purpose travel lanes on Alaskan Way S between S King and S Main streets, and a southbound transit lane between S King and Columbia streets. This new transit lane will provide a more reliable route for thousands of daily riders traveling between West Seattle and downtown. A northbound transit lane will open in early 2022, along with new bus stops on Alaskan Way.

New improvements will also include sidewalks on the west side of Alaskan Way S, signalized crosswalks across Alaskan Way S at S Main and S Washington streets, and a 2-way bike facility between S King St and Yesler Way. Landscaping, art, and other final elements are not yet complete. Note that the ultimate and final configuration of Alaskan Way S between S King St and Yesler Way is scheduled to occur in early 2023, once Washington State Ferries (WSF) completes the majority of its work to replace the busy ferry terminal at Colman Dock, allowing the City to remove the “counterflow lane” which currently accommodates travel between Pier 48 and Colman Dock. We are working closely with WSF on scheduling and access needs throughout construction of both projects.

These improvements are being built as part of the City’s Waterfront Seattle Program.