

Just the Facts: SR 520 Bridge Tolls



Why do toll rates need to increase?

Toll rate increases are necessary to ensure toll revenues meet legal requirements to cover debt payments and costs related to maintenance, preservation and operations of the SR 520 bridge.

What is being proposed and why?

The Washington State Transportation Commission is proposing a 2.5 percent toll rate increase for the State Route 520 bridge. This is the second of four planned, annual 2.5 percent rate increases. There is also a one-time 15 percent increase planned for 2016 once the new bridge opens. These incremental toll increases are needed to support the project's financial plan to make debt payments on the bonds that are financing SR 520 construction.

What would the new toll rates be under this proposal?

Tolls on the SR 520 bridge will increase 2.5 percent for all toll rates. The current peak weekday *Good To Go!* pass rate of \$3.59 will increase to \$3.70 and the peak weekday Pay By Mail rate will rise from \$5.13 to \$5.25. You can find the complete proposed toll rate schedule on the commission's website at www.wstc.wa.gov.

What can tolls be used for?

By law toll revenue can be only used to pay for SR 520 operations, maintenance, and preservation, as well as debt payments.

Are tolls increasing to pay for unplanned project costs?

No, the incremental toll rate increases, which are reviewed annually by the commission, are part of the program's adopted financial plan. Similar to any construction project, WSDOT has a risk reserve and contingency fund for the SR 520 program to help address any unforeseen expenditures that might come up during construction.

How can I provide input to the commission?

The commission will accept comments up until their May 22 meeting, when they will take final action. Comments can be submitted to the commission in writing via email or mail to the addresses listed below.

For more information contact:

Washington State Transportation
Commission

P.O. Box 47308

Olympia, WA 98504-7308

360-705-7070

transc@wstc.wa.gov

www.wstc.wa.gov

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information: This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the WSDOT Diversity/ADA Affairs team at wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov or by calling toll free, 855-362-4ADA(4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.

Title VI Statement to Public: It is the Washington State Department of Transportation's (WSDOT) policy to assure that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated, may file a complaint with WSDOT's Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO). For additional information regarding Title VI complaint procedures and/or information regarding our non-discrimination obligations, please contact OEO's Title VI Coordinators, George Laue at (509) 324-6018 or Jonte' Sutton at (360) 705-7082.