

# SR 520 Program Update

**Julie Meredith, P.E.**

SR 520 Program Administrator

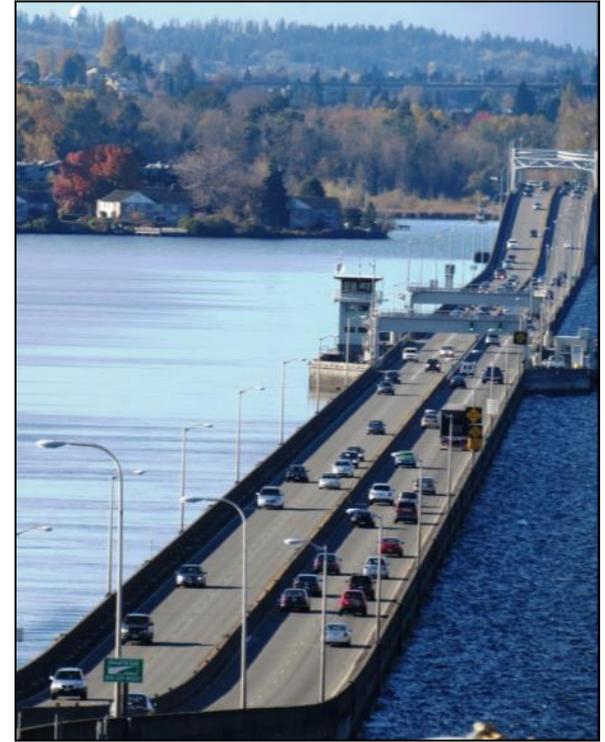
**Denise Cieri, P.E.**

SR 520 Program Deputy Administrator

**Washington State Transportation Commission  
December 10, 2014**

# Presentation Outline

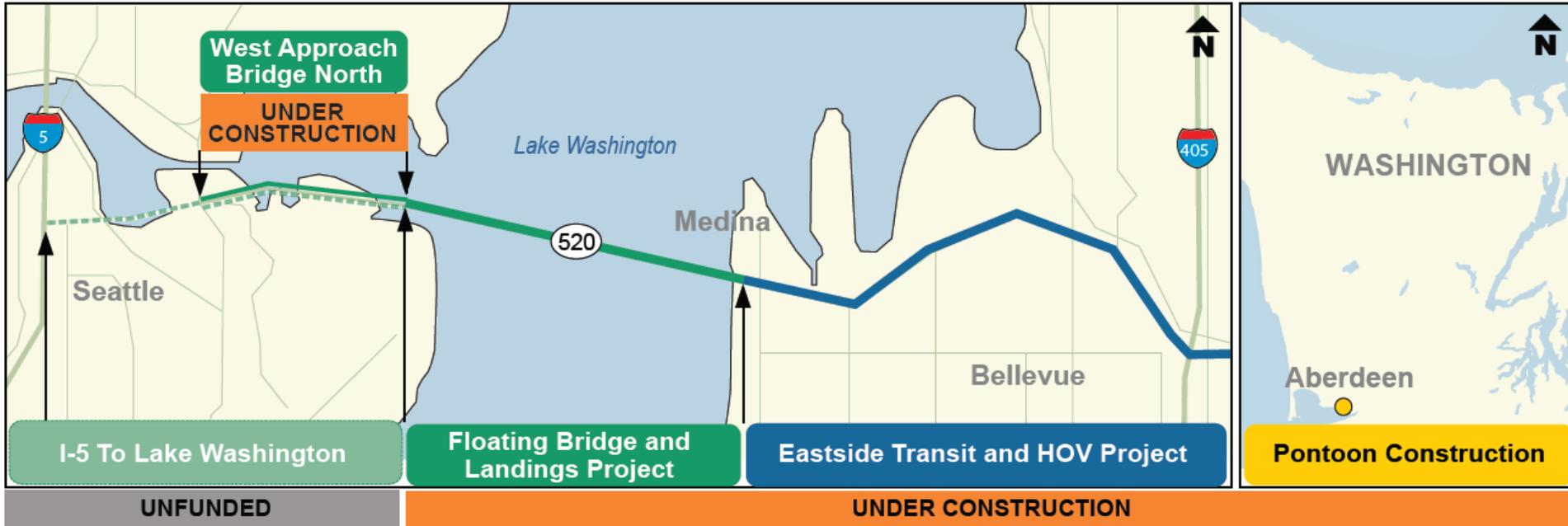
- SR 520 program overview
- Construction updates
- West Approach Bridge North in Seattle
- Next steps to complete the SR 520 corridor
- Questions and answers



*View of the SR 520 floating bridge, looking west from Medina.*

# What is funded for \$2.9 billion?

## Program map



## Program schedule

- Eastside Transit and HOV Project: Opening late 2014
- Pontoon Construction Project (Aberdeen): Completion 2015
- New floating bridge: Opening spring 2016
- West Approach Bridge North: Opening summer 2017
- Remaining west side corridor: Depends on additional funding

# SR 520 Costs and funding overview

<b>SR 520 program cost estimate</b> <i>2009 legislative budget cap: \$4.65 billion</i>		<b>\$4.3 B</b>
<b>Funding received to date</b> <i>Based on 2014 Legislative authorization</i>		<b>\$2.9 B</b>
State funding (Nickel and TPA)	\$0.58 B	
Federal funding	\$0.2 B	
SR 520 Account (tolling and future federal funds)	\$1.65 B	
TIFIA loan	\$0.30 B	
Deferred sales tax	\$0.16 B	
<b>Unfunded need</b> <i>Based on 2012 CEVP cost estimate (update in process)</i>		<b>\$1.4 B</b>

Updated: April 2014

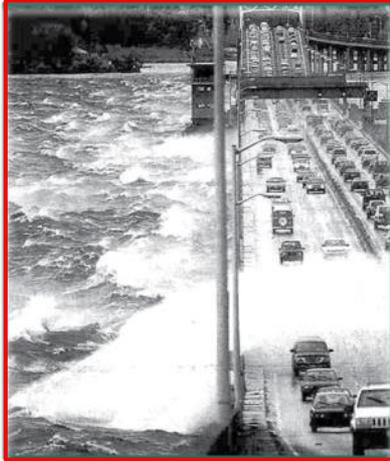
# Traffic volumes on SR 520 today

- **Traffic volumes in 2011:** Approx. 103,000 vehicles per weekday
- **Current traffic volumes:** Approx. 70,000 vehicles per weekday
- **Traffic volumes and toll revenue are meeting or exceeding projections.**



# Why does SR 520 need replacing?

## SR 520 bridge is vulnerable to windstorms and earthquakes

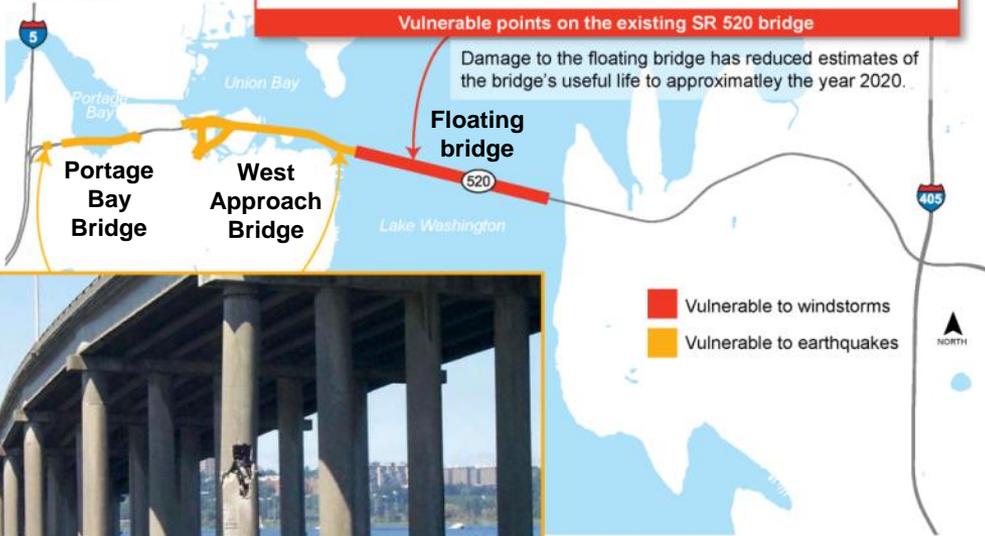
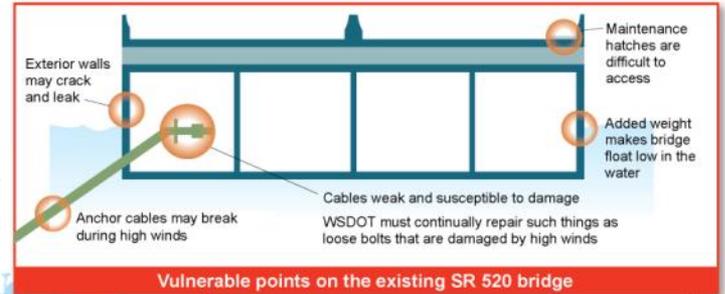


Waves batter the SR 520 floating bridge (top).  
Example of earthquake-vulnerable hollow columns (bottom).

### Current vulnerabilities



A torn cable joint found during a routine inspection in February 2006. The cables connect the floating bridge pontoons to their underwater lakebed anchors.



# Construction update: Eastside Transit and HOV Project



*On Sept. 15, crews opened the new transit/HOV lanes on the Eastside, which stretch from Medina to near I-405 in Bellevue, providing new bus and carpool trip reliability.*

# Construction update: Eastside transit stops

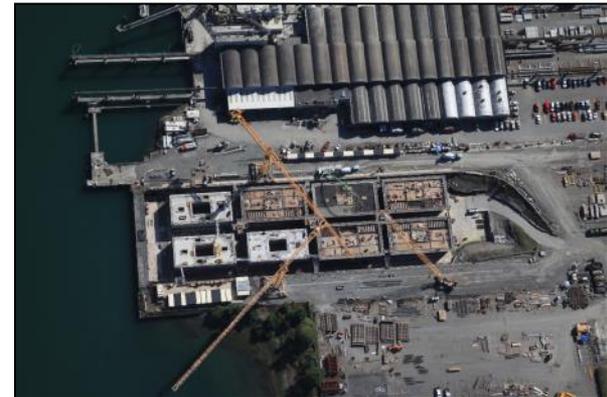


*The new median transit stop at Evergreen Point Road opened in June 2014. The new transit stops at Evergreen Point Road and 92nd Avenue Northeast will improve transit trips and reliability for riders in the region.*

# Construction update: Pontoon Construction



*On Sept. 26, 2014, crews floated the fifth cycle of pontoons from their casting basin in Aberdeen, Wash. Work is currently underway on the final cycle. A total of 33 pontoons are being built in Aberdeen, and the project will wrap up in 2015.*

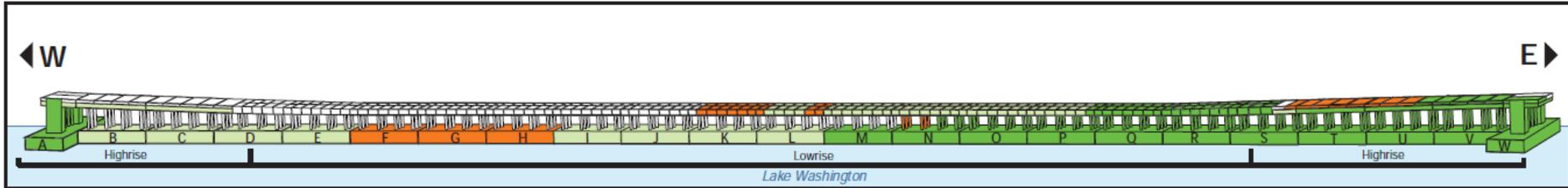


*Photos of pontoon construction in Aberdeen and Tacoma, Wash.*

# SR 520 Pontoons – Status and Locations

Updated: Dec. 4, 2014

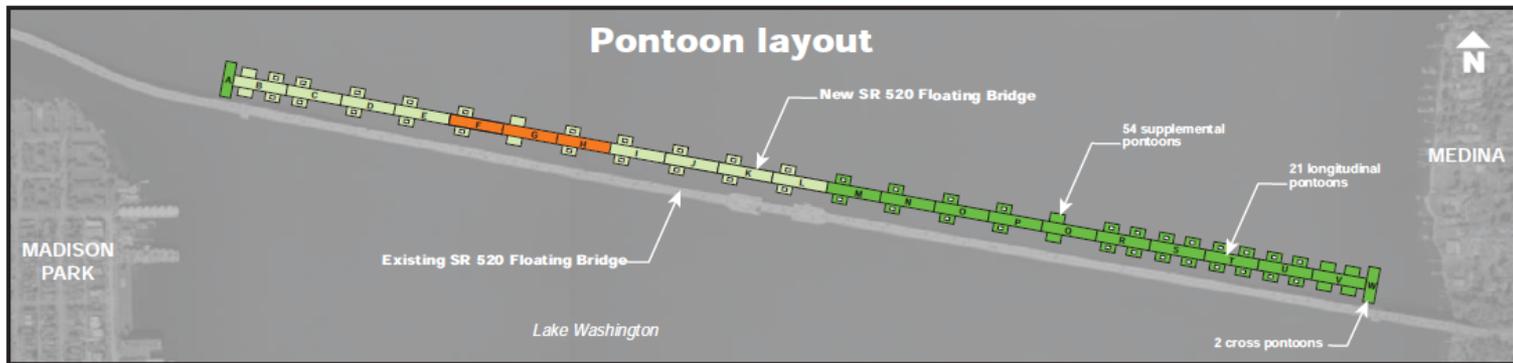
## Floating bridge assembly



**GRAPHIC KEY AND FACTS**

- 776 low-rise roadway deck sections
- 23 high-rise roadway deck spans
- 331 girders
- 772 columns
- 21 longitudinal pontoons + 2 cross pontoons

In Final Location  
 Construction Complete  
 Under Construction  
 Future Construction



Low-rise roadway deck includes pre-cast deck panels being constructed in Kenmore.

- 378 out of 776 pre-cast deck panels have been constructed. 148 of 776 have been placed.

High-rise roadway deck includes girders and cast-in-place deck.

- 7 out of 23 cast-in-place deck spans have been constructed.
- 306 out of 331 girders have been constructed. 196 of 331 have been placed.

The number of columns shown is a representation of the total number of columns.

- 314 out of 772 columns have been installed.

- Current number of pontoons on Lake Washington: 68

- Total number of pontoons constructed to date: 74

- Pontoons currently under construction: 3

**Link to pontoon tracking page:**

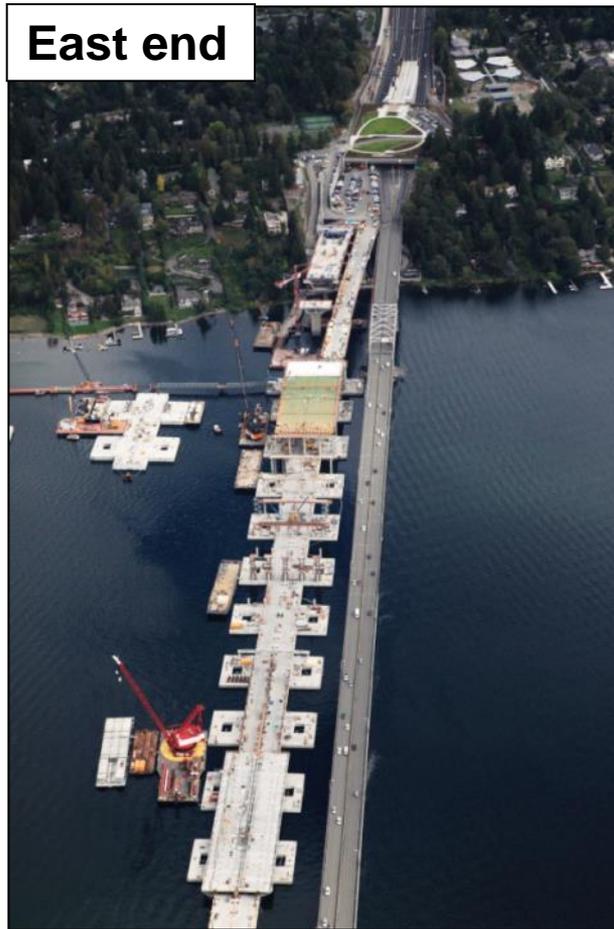
[www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520bridge/BridgeAndLandings/520bridgeassembly.htm](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/SR520bridge/BridgeAndLandings/520bridgeassembly.htm)

# Construction Update: Floating Bridge and Landings Project



Map of floating bridge construction sites in Lake Washington, Tacoma and Kenmore.

East end



Floating bridge assembly continues on Lake Washington to the north of the existing bridge. New pontoons are being joined together on the lake.

West end



# Construction Update: West Approach Bridge North



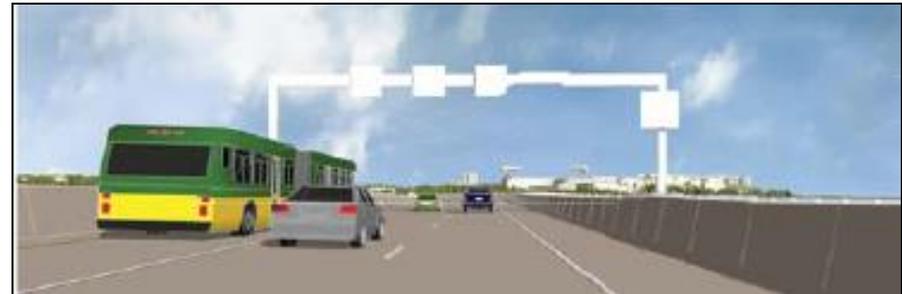
*The WABN project officially broke ground on Oct. 15, 2014.*



*Crews remove a girder from the old "Ramps to Nowhere" on Oct. 18, 2014.*



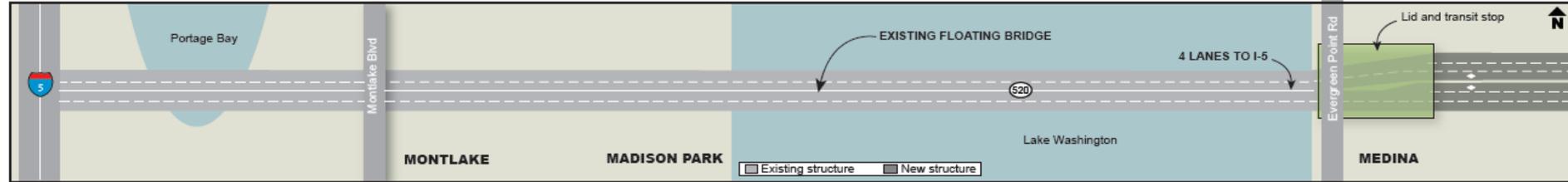
*Visualization of new bicycle/pedestrian path, looking west.*



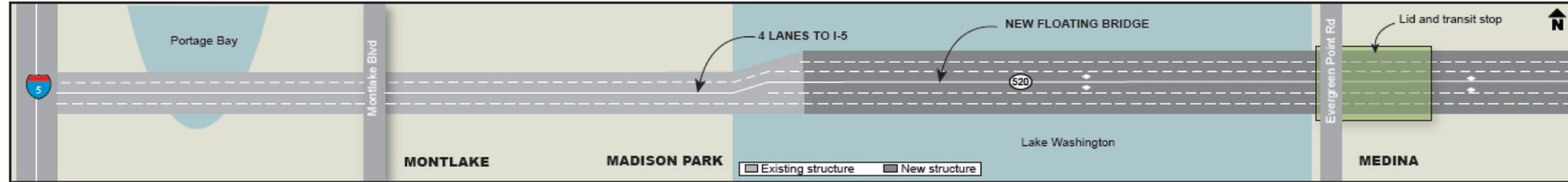
*Visualization of new WABN corridor, looking east.*

# Phased implementation of SR 520 improvements

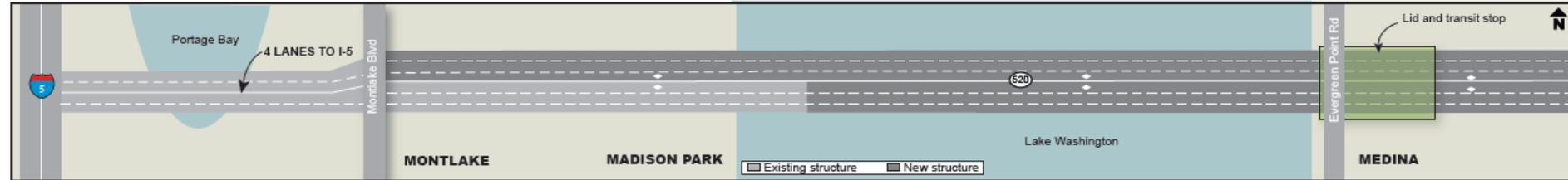
**Summer 2014: Eastside Open To Traffic - 6 Lanes to Evergreen Point Road**



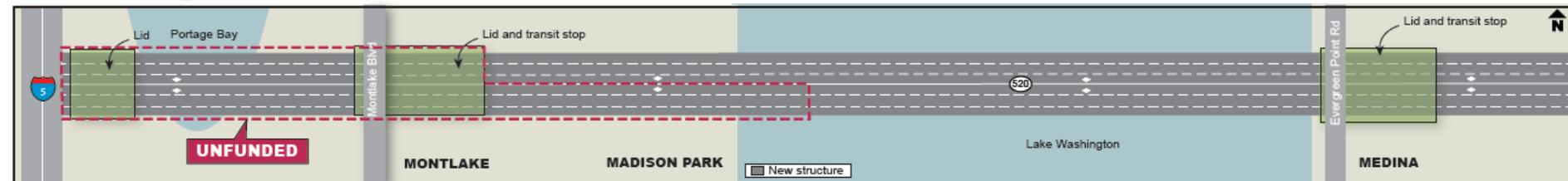
**Spring 2016: Floating Bridge Open To Traffic - 6 Lanes to the West End of the Floating Bridge**



**Summer 2017: West Approach Bridge North Open To Traffic - 6 Lanes to Montlake**



**With Full Funding: Full Corridor Complete - 6 Lanes to I-5**



# Design coordination in the City of Seattle

- **Summer/fall 2014:** As directed by the Legislature in ESSB 6001, WSDOT worked closely with the city of Seattle to refine the design of the west side of SR 520.
- **Late 2014 – early 2015:**
  - WSDOT will share a design report to document the refinements.
  - WSDOT will also share updated cost estimates for the unfunded program, currently estimated at \$1.4 billion.
- **Early 2015:** WSDOT will present this information to the Legislature during the 2015 legislative session.

## Design refinements include elements such as:

- New Montlake lid
- New Portage Bay Bridge
- Non-motorized connections around the corridor



*An artist's rendering of the new Montlake lid in Seattle, along with future non-motorized connections in the area.*

# Questions?

For more information on the SR 520 Program, please contact:

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