Montlake Freeway Station closure begins June 22, 2019

Based on a joint agreement between WSDOT, King County Metro Transit (Metro), Sound Transit (ST), and the Seattle Department of Transportation, the Montlake Freeway Station will close beginning June 22, 2019 to prioritize rider safety and facilitate a shorter construction period for the Montlake Project. Metro routes 252, 255, 257, 268, 311, ST Express routes 545, 555, and Community Transit Route 424 will no longer stop in the Montlake area.

For riders who can take advantage of transit access to the University of Washington area using ST Route 542 between Redmond and the University District, WSDOT is partnering with ST to provide funding for additional evening and weekend service. Metro routes 167, 271, 277 and ST routes 540, 541, 542, 556 will continue to serve Montlake Boulevard East and the University of Washington Link station. Bus riders with bikes can board at stops that are open during construction. See more at: kingcounty.gov/metro/bike/sr520.

Route options to/from the Montlake area

Kirkland:
- **To/from Totem Lake or Kingsgate**: Take Route 277 during weekday peak hours. On evenings and weekends, transfer from Route 255 to Route 542 at Evergreen Point.
- **To/from downtown Kirkland**: Take Route 540 during weekday peak hours. On evenings and weekends, transfer from Route 255 to Route 542 at Evergreen Point.
- **To/from Brickyard**: Transfer from Route 255 to Route 542 at Evergreen Point.
- **Downtown Seattle**: Link light rail provides direct service.

Redmond:
- **To/from downtown Redmond or Overlake**: Route 542 provides direct service.
- **To/from Bear Creek**: Transfer from routes 268 or 545 at Evergreen Point to Route 542.

Issaquah, Eastgate and Bellevue: Route 555 riders can take Route 271.

Northgate: Route 555 riders can take Route 67.

Woodinville: Transfer from Route 311 to routes 541 or 542 at Evergreen Point.

For more information, contact:
- King County Metro Transit - Cindy Chen, Community Relations: CChen@kingcounty.gov or 206-263-8952
- Sound Transit - Corrie Adams, Customer Outreach Specialist: Corrie.Adams@soundtransit.org or 206-903-7528
- SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program: SR520bridge@wsdot.wa.gov or 206-770-3554
The long-range benefits

Upon completion of the SR 520 Montlake Project anticipated in 2023-2024, the new, landscaped Montlake lid will incorporate a multimodal transit center for local and regional bus service, replacing the current highway-level Montlake Freeway Station.

Relocating the highway-level stops to the Montlake lid:

- Creates convenient, ADA-accessible connections between regional and local bus routes in the Montlake area.
- Provides quicker, safer access on and off of the highway for transit/HOV.
- Connects bus riders to safer pedestrian crossings along Montlake Boulevard East.

Planning ahead for the region

WSDOT, the Seattle Department of Transportation, King County Metro Transit (Metro), and Sound Transit (ST) are working collaboratively on developing multimodal improvements in the SR 520 corridor that support regional transit planning efforts and connect transit riders to key destinations.

New transit/HOV connection to Seattle’s South Lake Union neighborhood. To respond to increasing demand, WSDOT is planning to construct a reversible transit/HOV connection between SR 520 and the I-5 express lanes with improved transit access to Mercer Street. This new connection, initially planned to open in 2029, will now open as early as 2023.

Planning for North Eastside Mobility. Metro, in coordination with ST, worked with communities in Bothell, Kenmore, Kirkland, Redmond, and Woodinville to better understand the region’s mobility needs and explore new travel options to complement existing bus service. Proposed changes to North Eastside service, based on community input, are at King County Council for consideration.

You can learn more on the King County Metro Transit website:
kingcounty.gov/depts/transportation/metro/programs-projects/routes-and-service/north-eastside-mobility

Stay connected during construction

WSDOT, Metro, and ST will continue outreach to bus riders regarding changes to bus access and service in advance of and during SR 520 Montlake Project construction. You can sign up for alerts from Metro and ST, and find updates from WSDOT on the SR 520 Program website:
wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/SR520Bridge/About/transit.htm

Bus stop locations on new Montlake lid

Rendering of the new Montlake lid mobility hub

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