

SR 520 Trail: Improving bicycle and pedestrian connections throughout the SR 520 corridor

The Washington State Department of Transportation is committed to improving connectivity, access and safety for all users in the SR 520 corridor, including bicyclists and pedestrians. The SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program is building a safer and more reliable SR 520 from I-5 in Seattle to I-405 on the Eastside. As part of these improvements, we are building a dedicated path for bicyclists and pedestrians. The SR 520 Trail, which stretches across Lake Washington, provides access to existing local and regional trails.

Toll-free travel between Seattle and Eastside

The new SR 520 Trail is 14 feet wide, separated from highway traffic by a concrete barrier. Along the way you'll find scenic viewpoints and resting areas for taking in the views of Lake Washington. Bicyclists and pedestrians don't pay a toll to cross the new floating bridge.

Bicyclists may notice steel plates covering the floating bridge expansion joints. These plates are necessary for the safety of path users and the structural integrity of the bridge. WSDOT plans to replace the plates this summer with thinner joint covers, which should provide a smoother ride.



A family reads an informational sign about the construction of the SR 520 floating bridge at one of the lookouts over Lake Washington on the SR 520 Trail.



Cyclists on the SR 520 Trail take advantage of sunny weather with a ride over Lake Washington.

A scenic, nonmotorized way across Lake Washington

In late 2017, WSDOT extended the SR 520 Trail across Lake Washington, creating the first ever cross-lake connection for bicyclists and pedestrians on the SR 520 corridor. In 2018, more than 328,000 bicyclists and pedestrians crossed an electronic counter at the trail's western end.

"Where the I-90 Bridge feels like a means to get across the lake, the 520 Bridge is also a destination of its own."

- Tom Fucoloro, *The Seattle Bike Blog*, 1/3/18

Partnerships

A variety of local stakeholder groups worked with WSDOT to determine the best way to connect the SR 520 Trail to local trails and, in time, extend the path to I-5. These groups included:

- Cascade Bicycle Club
- Seattle Neighborhood Greenways
- Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board
- Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board

