

# We're **REVIVING** the Ship Canal Bridge

## Heads up, Seattle! Long-term northbound lane reductions across the I-5 Ship Canal Bridge

### 2026 dates to know

- ✓ Full closure the weekend of Jan. 9 - 12\*
- Months-long two-lane reduction Jan. 12 - June 5#
- Full closure weekend of June 5 - 8\*
- Work zone removed for FIFA World Cup June 8 - July 10
- Full closure weekend of July 10 - 13\*
- Months-long two-lane reduction July 12 - end of 2026#
- Full closure weekend end of 2026\*

\* Full northbound I-5 closures extend from I-90 to Northeast 45th Street

# Two-lane reductions extend from SR 520 to Northeast 45th Street

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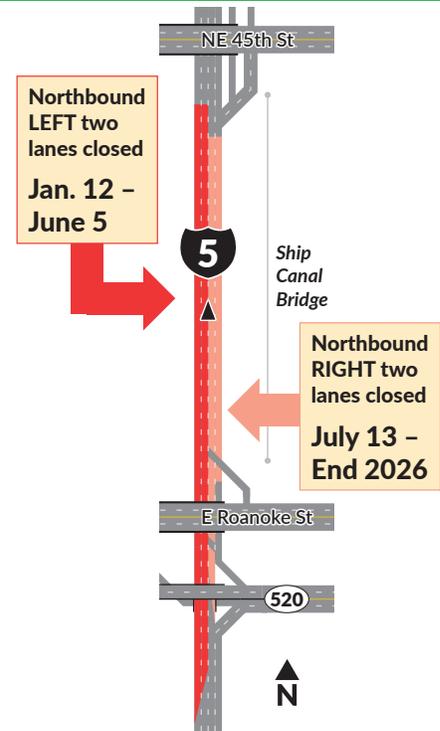
## What to expect in 2026

On Jan. 9, 2026, WSDOT resumed work on northbound I-5. This work will require **months-long lane reductions** to complete the repairing and resurfacing of the upper bridge deck, replacing aging bridge expansion joints, improving drainage and addressing other maintenance issues. Planned preservation efforts will help extend the life of the bridge which was built in 1961 and prevent more unplanned traffic disruptions.

WSDOT will need to use **weekend-long full northbound I-5 closures** from I-90 to Northeast 45th Street to set up and remove work zones across the bridge. Schedule of closures and reductions:

- ✔ **Jan. 9 - 12:** weekend-long full northbound I-5 closure (work zone set up)
- **Jan. 12 - June 5:** months-long two lane reduction in the left lanes
- **June 5 - 8:** weekend-long full northbound I-5 closure (work zone removal)
- **June 8 - July 10:** Revive I-5 will pause work and remove the Ship Canal Bridge work zone for FIFA World Cup matches in Seattle
- **July 10 - 13:** weekend-long full northbound I-5 closure (work zone set up)
- **July 13 - end of 2026:** months-long two lane reduction in the right lanes
- **End of 2026:** weekend-long full northbound I-5 closure (work zone removal)

Weekend-long full closures for work zone set up or removal are weather dependent. Crews need dry weather to restripe lanes. That means if the weather is too rainy, crews will reschedule work.



**The Revive I-5 Ship Canal Bridge work zone will be removed for FIFA World Cup matches in Seattle.**

## Express lanes

Express lanes will run northbound only, 24 hours a day whenever there are lane closures or reductions for Revive I-5 construction. Northbound-only express lanes are a system-balancing tool, held in reserve, to absorb incidents, surges and breakdowns as conditions change throughout the day. Those traveling northbound can enter the express lanes from mainline northbound I-5 around Seattle's Chinatown-International District (entrance on the left) with additional entrances from downtown Seattle. However, there are height restrictions and some ramps may be HOV-only.

The first exit from the express lanes is Northeast 42nd Street in the University District. There is no access to SR 520 from the express lanes. Express lanes return to mainline I-5 at Northgate.

Express lanes will not run southbound so expect delays, especially during the morning commute.

## Plan ahead

This is one of the most disruptive construction years the Puget Sound region has experienced in decades, with sustained work on I-5, I-405, SR 167, SR 520 and I-90. That means the public will need to find a long-term solution to how they travel to and through Seattle. Options include finding an alternate route, changing the time you leave or taking a different mode, like transit, whenever and wherever possible.

Visit our transit partners or use tools like Flip Your Trip, or WSDOT's Travel Center map or mobile app to plan your travel.

## Up next

Revive I-5 will continue in the southbound I-5 lanes across the Ship Canal Bridge in 2027 with a combination of full closures and lane reductions. Details will be shared as they become available.

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