

Hello,

On April 19 I emailed you an update about SR 520 Bridge drawspan openings for tall marine vessels. Critical construction activities for the new floating bridge are currently preventing boat passage in the eastern navigation channel. Because of this, we must occasionally stop vehicle traffic to open the drawspan and allow vessels taller than 45 feet to pass through (shorter boats can use the western navigation channel). The process can take up to 30 minutes.

We worked cooperatively with the Coast Guard to create drawspan opening rules that balance the needs of mariners with the needs of the traveling public.

The good news for drivers and transit riders is that we will not be stopping traffic on the bridge during peak travel times to open the drawspan for boaters. Boaters with vessels taller than 45 feet can request an off-peak opening with one or two hours advance notice, depending on time and day of the week.

The attached press release and quick reference guide explain the new rules.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Julie

Julie Meredith, PE

SR 520 Program Director

SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program

Washington State Department of Transportation

206-770-3568 direct | 206-770-3500 main

600 Stewart Street, Suite 520 | Seattle, WA 98101