



# YESLER BRIDGE REHABILITATION PROJECT UPDATE

March 2017

## Placement of new Yesler Bridge girders

Last week we successfully completed the placement of new girders across 4th Ave S. Thank you for your patience as we completed this major milestone! In the next few months, our project team will work to rehabilitate north and south columns, cladding, capitals and corbels and pedestrian railings.



*View after setting of new girders.*



*View before setting of new girders.*

## 4th Ave S sidewalks

Crews opened the sidewalk on the west side of 4th Ave S between S Washington and Jefferson Streets late last week. Crews continue work to widen the bridge footings, and installation of a large electrical utility vault next to the eastern bridge abutment. The sidewalk on the east side of 4th Ave S will be closed until late April. Thank you for your patience as we continue construction activities.

## Project history

Henry Yesler, an entrepreneur and one of Seattle's earliest European settlers, heard that Elliot Bay was ideal for a saw mill. He paddled a canoe up to the Puget Sound in 1852. While waiting for the mill equipment to arrive, Yesler built his famous log cookhouse near shore. The cookhouse was a main gathering place for social and civic activities including Seattle's first sermon, first court case, and first election.



*Native American mill workers at Yesler sawmill cookhouse, 1866. Courtesy of UW Special Collections and Historylink.org.*

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