

Freight & Rail Program



Update to Seattle Freight Advisory Board
July 21, 2026

Our Vision

Seattle is an equitable, vibrant, and diverse city where moving around is safe, fair, and sustainable. All people and businesses can access their daily needs and feel connected to their community.

Values & Goals

- Safety
- Equity
- Sustainability
- Mobility & Economic Vitality
- Livability
- Excellence
- Maintenance & Modernization



Freight Program Team



Alisha Peña
Freight Team Lead



Erin Harris
Senior Transportation Planner
STP / Freight Standards

Blake Morrison
Senior Civil Engineer
Freight Roadways



Baker Council
Senior Transportation Planner
SFAB / PSRC / SIA / UFL engagement

Treysea Tate
Associate Civil Engineer
Freight / Class 1 Rail



Our Work in the Freight Space

What Kinds of Freight and Where?

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Our Work in the Freight Space

Programmatic Work as Subject Matter Experts

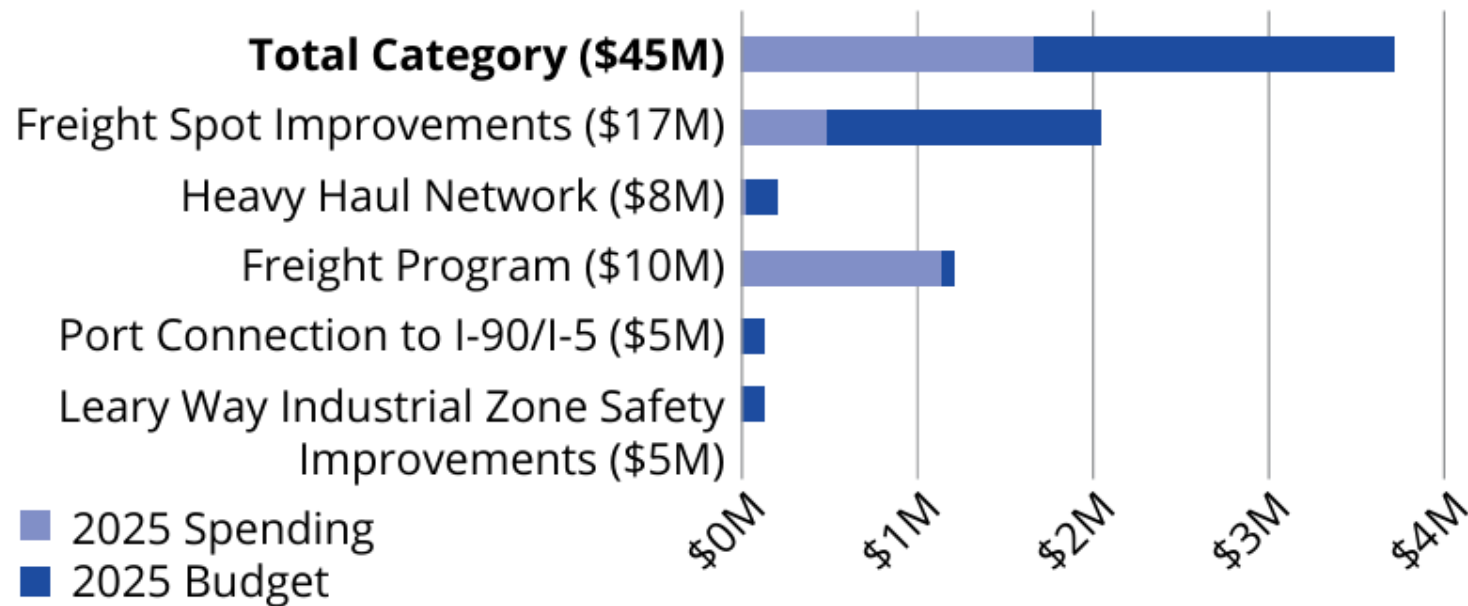
- Project Design Review
- Elevating freight and rail considerations into other plans
- Operations and maintenance coordination for freight routes
- Collaboration and coordination with industry
- Staff the Seattle Freight Advisory Board
- Led development of Seattle Freight Master Plan (now Freight Element in Seattle Transportation Plan)
- Advocate for investments in freight networks
- Champions of all things freight, rail, maritime and industrial

Our Work in the Freight Space

2025 Annual Levy Report – Work Completed

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

2025 Program Allocation and Spending (Life-of-Levy allocations in parentheses)



- Made 6 rail crossing improvements
- Advanced design at 5 grade crossings
- Made 7 additional freight improvements
- Initiated rail crossing elimination study
- Continued work on Freight and Bus (FAB) pilot project

Our Work in the Freight Space

2025 Annual Levy Report – Work Completed



Before and after sinkhole repair at Diagonal Ave S / Colorado Ave S / S Oregon St

Our Work in the Freight Space

2026/2027 Current Roadway Projects



Additional truck parking coming to Seattle

- Industrial Area Maintenance Initiative
 - S Alaska St between Colorado Ave S & Utah Ave S
- Westlake Ave Freight and Bus (FAB) Lane
 - Finalizing contract with Urban Freight Lab for evaluation and prepping signage for FAB lane
- Truck Parking – Norfolk & MLK
 - Just initiated project

Our Work in the Freight Space

2026/2027 Current Rail Projects



Future rail removal at S Idaho St

- Railroad Crossing Asset Maintenance
 - Minor maintenance to existing railroad advance warning signs and markings
 - E Marginal Way Corridor sign/marketing design
 - FRA Quiet zone affirmation process, Waterfront
- S Holgate St Closure Mitigation Study
 - Federal Railroad Administration grant funded planning study
 - Mitigation of potential impacts due to the build out of Amtrak Maintenance Facility
- Various grade crossing surface enhancements
 - Rail removal:
 - S Idaho St, Diagonal Ave S (west of E Marginal Way, Airport Way (north of Boeing Access)
 - New grade crossing surfaces:
 - SW Manning, SW Spokane, 11th Ave SW

Seattle Transportation Levy Freight & Urban Goods Movement

Levy Investment: \$45M | Expected Additional Leverage: \$12M – \$15M

Make freight improvements to support trucks delivering goods and providing services.

Freight Spot Improvements (\$17M)

- Make at least 32 investments to support the freight network, including adjustments to improve truck movement, intersection upgrades, and additional truck parking.

Heavy Haul Network (\$8M)

- In partnership with the Port of Seattle and alignment with the Heavy Haul Network Agreement, identify and pave streets that carry the heaviest truck traffic.

Freight Program (\$10M)

- Make freight improvements to support trucks delivering goods and providing services.

Port Connection to I-90/I-5 (\$5M)

- Implement spot or corridor improvements connecting Port of Seattle facilities through SODO to Interstate 90 and/or Interstate 5.

Leary Way Industrial Zone Safety Improvements (\$5M)

- Implement spot or corridor improvements connecting Maritime, Manufacturing, and Logistics (MML) Zones within the Ballard-Interbay-Northend Manufacturing and Industrial Center (BINMIC) to Interstate 5 and/or State Route 99.

**First large
funding infusion
for freight!**

Questions?



Contact

Stay in touch

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Freight Spot Improvements (\$17M)

Make at least 32 investments to support the freight network.

- Non-arterial pavement improvements
- Truck movement improvements
- Intersection upgrades
- Truck parking
- CVE support – inspection / weigh station
- Urban Freight Lab partnership
- Rail Spot Improvements



Photo Credits: SDOT

Before



After



S Dakota St between 6th Ave S & 7th Ave S

Photo Credits: SDOT

Freight Spot Improvements

Industrial Non-Arterial Repair Program

The goal of this program is to identify roads in the MIC's that can be maintained near term to delay a failed condition in the long term.

Ideally, these roadways are industrial non-arterials with intact structural sections that see consistent truck traffic, queuing and/or parking



Freight Spot Improvements

Rail Spot Improvements

- Repair / replace existing at-grade rail crossing surfaces in partnership with BNSF and Union Pacific Railroad
- Repair and/or replace MUTCD-compliant railroad advanced warning signs and markings
- Remove derelict rail citywide and support pavement repair in those locations
- Citywide railroad coordination:
 - Planning studies
 - Railroad permits and safety flagging
 - Constructability review
 - Quiet Zone Maintenance



S Hanford St @ Colorado Ave S, DOT# 101034Y

Photo Credits: SDOT



Photo Credit: SDOT

Freight Program (\$10M)

Make freight improvements to support trucks delivering goods and providing services, utilizing a suite of freight best practices, oftentimes in partnership with local freight and maritime industry partners:

- SFAB, SODO BIA, NWSA/Port of Seattle
- Industrial Zone Design Guide
- Partnering with UFL as lead researchers, the Freight and Bus (FAB) lane pilot project, on Westlake Ave N, is an innovative effort to allow freight trucks in a bus lane without decreasing transit time



Heavy Haul Network (\$8M)

In partnership with the Port of Seattle and alignment with the Heavy Haul Network Agreement, identify and pave streets that carry the heaviest truck traffic.

EX: Add anything additional to note about Heavy Haul like maybe the Safe and Swift Agreement

Port Connection to I-90/I-5 (\$5M)

Implement spot or corridor improvements connecting Port of Seattle facilities through SODO to Interstate 90 and/or Interstate 5.



Photo Credit: SDOT

Leary Way Industrial Zone Safety Improvements (\$5M)

Implement spot or corridor improvements connecting Maritime, Manufacturing, and Logistics (MML) Zones within the Ballard Interbay-Northend Manufacturing and Industrial Center (BINMIC) to Interstate 5 and/or State Route 99.



Photo Credit: SDOT

Progress of Levy Bucket

Postponed Roadway Projects

- Truck Parking – Norfolk & MLK
 - Postponed to 2027
- Industrial Area Maintenance Initiative
 - S Alaska St between Colorado Ave S & Utah Ave S has been postponed to 2027



Photo Credit: WSDOT

Progress of Levy Bucket

Postponed Rail Projects

- \$1.5M was reallocated from the Freight Spot Budget. The following Rail projects are affected:

Derelict rail removal

- Diagonal Ave S (east of E Marginal Way) postponed to 2027
- W Marginal Way postponed to 2028
- Old Brewery Line (east of Airport Wy) postponed to 2028

Railroad crossing surface improvements

- S Brighton St, 809643K, postponed TBD
- S Willow St, 809645Y, postponed TBD
- Carleton Ave S, 809648U, postponed TBD
- 14th Ave S, 809659G, postponed TBD
- SW Manning St, 906449H postponed to 2028/2029

Our Work in the Freight Space

Programmatic Work as Subject Matter Experts

- Project Design Review
- Elevating freight and rail considerations into other plans
- Operations and maintenance coordination for freight routes
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- Staff the Seattle Freight Advisory Board
- Led development of Seattle Freight Master Plan (now Freight Element in Seattle Transportation Plan)
- Advocate for investments in freight networks
- Champions of all things freight, rail, maritime and industrial

Non-Levy Tasks

- Freight Team provides freight and railroad subject matter expertise during planning and design of various capital projects including but not limited to the following:
 - 1st Over Argo Bridge
 - 4th Over Argo Bridge
 - Renton Ave Sidewalk and Neighborhood Greenway
 - Dravus Bridge
- Annual Traffic Report
- Unified Care Team

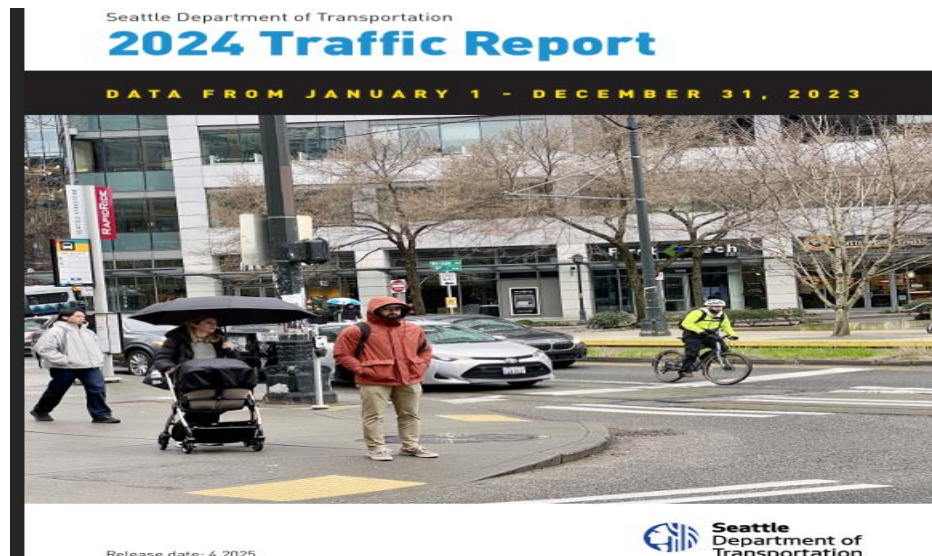
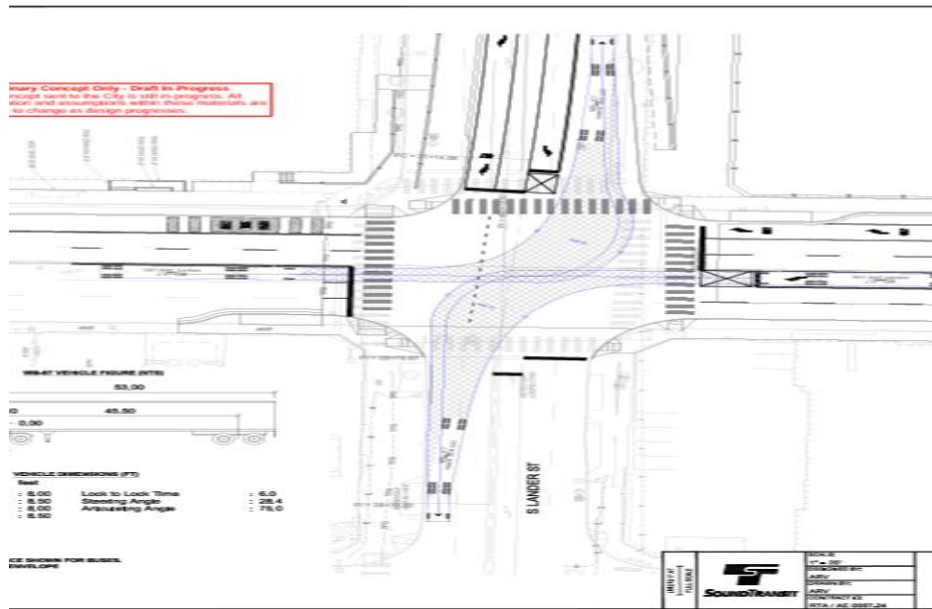


Photo Credit: SDOT

Progress of Levy Bucket

Completed

- Industrial Area Maintenance Initiative
 - *Insert three projects here.
- Railroad Crossing Asset Maintenance





Progress of Levy Bucket

In Progress

- S Idaho Rail Removal
 - Local business outreach is in progress that will inform weekend closure of the intersection and business access needs during that time
- Industrial Area Maintenance Initiative
- Railroad Crossing Asset Maintenance
 - Minor maintenance to existing railroad advance warning signs and markings
 - E Marginal Way Corridor sign/marketing design
 - FRA Quiet zone affirmation process, Waterfront
- Westlake Ave Freight and Bus Lane
 - Finalizing contract with UFL for evaluation and prepping signage for FAB lane
- Holgate Study