



King County

Department of Local Services
Road Services Division

July 10, 2025

TO: Stacy Graves, Assistant Planner, Permitting Division

FM: Katie Merrell, Environmental Engineer, Environmental Unit *KM*

RE: Construction Hours Noise Variance Request
Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge #493C Replacement Project #1138914

King County Department of Local Services, Road Services Division (Roads) is requesting a Construction Hours Variance to work outside of normal hours of operation per King County Code (KCC) 12.86.550. The following information is provided in support of this request.

Project: Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge #493C Replacement Project #1138914

Applicant/Contact: Katie Merrell
Environmental Engineer III, Environmental Unit
Road Services Division, King County Department of Local Services
201 South Jackson Street (Mailstop: KSC-LS-0313)
Seattle, WA 98104

Project Location: The Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge #493C is in unincorporated King County on SE May Valley Road and crosses over Fifteen Mile Creek southwest of the intersection with Issaquah-Hobart Road SE. The project area is approximately 3.5 miles south of the City of Issaquah, within the NW Quarter of Section 15, Township 23N, Range 06E, Willamette Meridian. The site is located at latitude N 47.48369 and longitude W 122.029521.

Project Description: Work associated with replacing the bridge includes utility relocation, roadway reconstruction, drainage improvements, site restoration, and fish habitat mitigation. The project will be built on a on a drilled pile foundation, no pile driving is proposed for the project.

Construction is anticipated for 2026 and will be completed by a contractor. At this location, SE May Valley Road will be fully closed, and a detour route will be implemented.

Variance Requested: To expedite project work and provide more flexibility for the timing of the road closure and in-water work windows, Roads is requesting a Construction Hours Variance for **14 days** within the construction period, which is from June 15 to September 30.

Justification for Variance:

- SE May Valley Road is a heavily traveled arterial that serves as a regional roadway corridor, it is a designated lifeline route and a school bus route.
- The bridge replacement is intended as a safety improvement for a structurally deficient and functionally obsolete structure that lacks an appropriate hydraulic opening for a fish-bearing stream. The bridge replacement minimizes future roadway safety hazards if the bridge were to fail and ensures adequate and safe access for the traveling public, residents, emergency personnel, and other services.

- Roads anticipates that allowing work outside of normal construction hours will potentially decrease the total number of days that the project is in construction. It is unknown by exactly how many days fewer the project would be in construction if the variance is issued.
- Working less days may reduce economic hardship if the closure prevents or delays people from traveling to work, or from accessing childcare, eldercare, healthcare, or other services.
- Working less days may help reduce potential erosion, water quality, and air quality impacts.
- Allowing work in the evenings/early morning, as needed may have less impact on the public because there will be less traffic on the road during this time. Less traffic minimizes safety issues and traveling inconvenience for the public.
- Approximately 18 homes are located within 500 feet of the project location and may be affected by project noise (see the enclosed map).
- No known sensitive receivers are located within 500 feet of the work area.

Mitigation Measures: Per KCC 16.82.105.B.6, proposed measures are provided to minimize noise impacts to avoid health and safety hazards outside of normal hours of operation. The forested conditions and topography surrounding the project are anticipated to provide additional sound attenuation. To further reduce noise impacts, the following mitigation measures will be implemented:

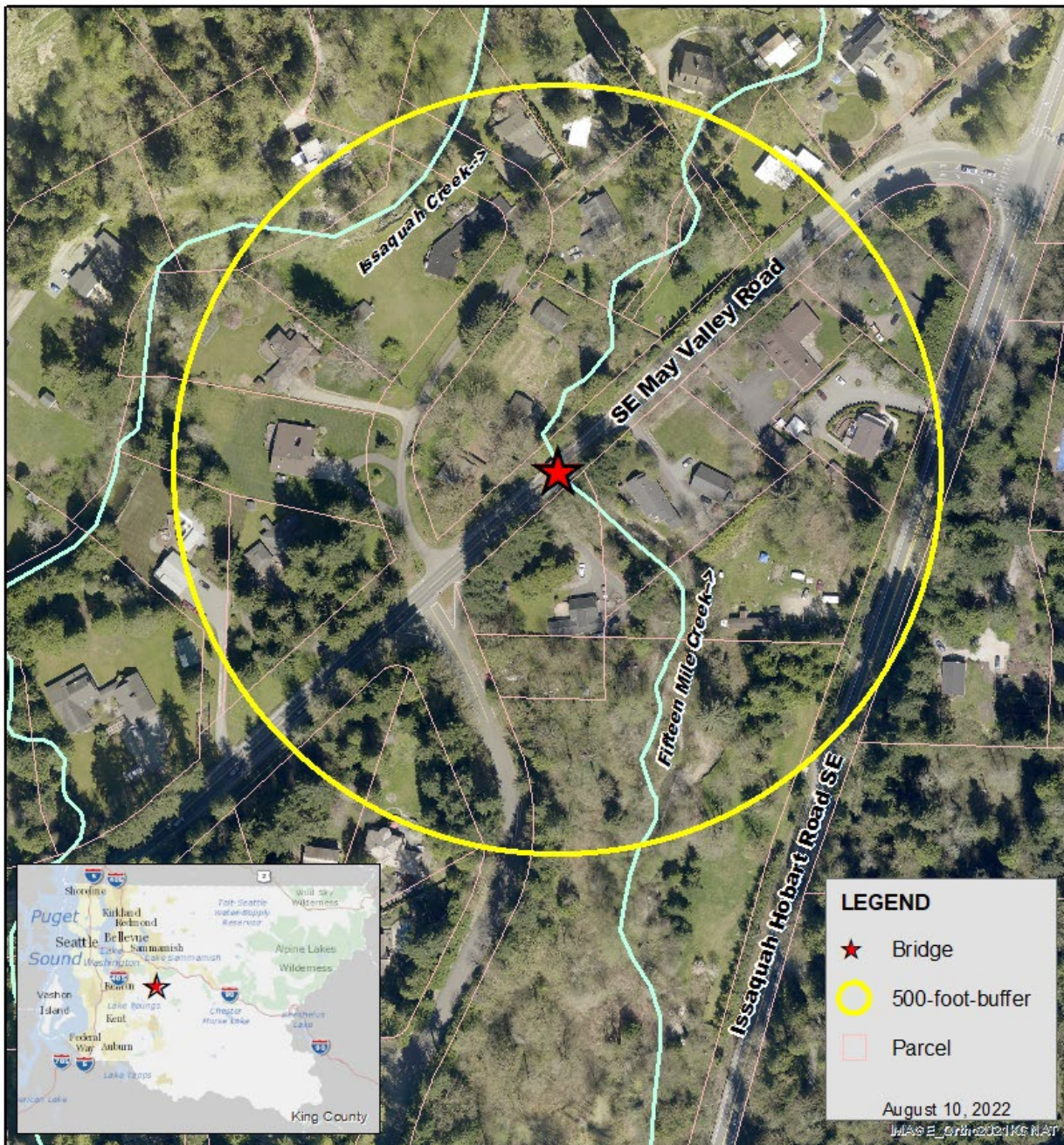
- Specific mitigation measures listed in attached Equipment Table shall be implemented to the extent feasible.
- All vehicles should be equipped with backup warning devices, except pure tone devices, to the extent allowed or required by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries. Workers may use back-up observers in lieu of back-up warning devices for all equipment except dump trucks in compliance with WAC Chapter 296-155-610 and 296-155-615. Workers shall use back-up observers and back-up warning devices, except pure tone devices, for dump trucks in compliance with WAC Chapter 296-155-610.
- All trucks shall have well-maintained bed liners as inspected and approved by the Engineer.
- Truck tailgate banging is prohibited. All truck tailgates shall be secured to prevent excessive noise from banging.
- All equipment shall be properly muffled and comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations.
- Music, loud voices, radios, and other such amplifying equipment shall not be used in a manner that is heard outside the immediate work area.
- A copy of the construction hours variance shall be always kept on the project site.
- A 24-hour complaint number (listed below), as well as a list of designated contact persons, shall be provided for the purpose of forwarding complaints.
- Roads will provide additional verbal and/or written notice to parcel owners within approximately 500 feet that might be potentially affected by noise at least 14 days prior to the start date of the work.
- Public outreach for the upcoming work may also employ use of social media outreach.
- The project webpage is being developed that will provide additional information for the public.
- Permitting Division will be notified prior to the actual start date of the work per the conditions of Construction Hours Variance.
- Roads will maintain an accurate record of the work completed on this project per ongoing coordination with the contractor.
- Contact information during construction is as follows:

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- Victor Daggs, King County Roads, Construction Supervisor
206-423-1063, Victor.Daggs@kingcounty.gov
- Roads 24-hour complaint/information number
206-477-8100

Thank you for your assistance with this project. If there are any questions, please call me at 206-477-3548 or email me at Katie.Merrell@kingcounty.gov.

Enclosures



Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge #493C Replacement Project #1138914 Construction Hours Variance

300 150 0 300 Feet



The information included on this map has been compiled by King County staff from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice.
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Equipment Table

Equipment	Sound Level (dBA) ^a					Mitigation Measures
	At 50 ft	At 100 ft	At 200 ft	At 300 ft	At 500 ft	
Air compressor	78	70	63	59	53	When possible, air compressors will be located in areas shielded from direct line of sight from residences or temporary noise shields will be used.
Chainsaw	84	76	69	65	59	Chainsaws will only be used during daytime hours.
Chipping hammer	85	77	70	66	60	When possible, contractor will locate shield between chipping hammers and area residents with direct line of sight.
Compactor	83	75	68	64	58	When possible, contractor will locate shield between compactors and area residents with direct line of sight.
Concrete hammer drill	85	77	70	66	60	When possible, contractor will locate shield between concrete hammer drills and area residents with direct line of sight.
Concrete saw	90	82	75	71	65	When possible, contractor will locate shield between concrete saws and area residents with direct line of sight.
Concrete truck	81	73	66	62	56	To the extent feasible, cement trucks will be used during daylight hours only.
Crane	81	73	66	62	56	To the extent feasible, cranes will be used during daylight hours only.
Dump truck	76	68	61	57	51	Non-pure tone back up alarms will be utilized; truck tailgate banging is not allowed.
Generator	81	73	66	62	56	When possible, generators will be located in areas shielded from direct line of sight from residences or temporary noise shields will be used.
Grinder	85	77	70	66	60	When possible, contractor will locate shield between grinders and area residents with direct line of sight.
Jackhammer	89	81	74	70	64	To the extent feasible, jackhammers will be used during daylight hours only.
Mini-excavator	81	73	66	62	56	Use of mini-excavators will be minimized to the extent feasible during nighttime work.
Pickup truck	75	67	60	56	50	Contractor shall avoid parking and idling vehicles next to residences.
Vac-truck	85	77	70	66	60	To the extent feasible, vac-trucks will be used during daylight hours only.

^aBased on published noise levels (L_{max} at 50 ft) for common construction equipment and soft-site noise attenuation (WSDOT Biological Preparation Manual, 2020 Update).