



King County

Department of Local Services
Road Services Division

July 9, 2026

TO: Stacy Graves, Assistant Planner, Permitting Division

FM: Katie Merrell, Environmental Engineer, Environmental Unit

Initial

RE: Construction Hours Noise Variance No. GRDE18-0115/GRDE22-0009
Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge No. 493C Replacement Project No. 1138914

King County Department of Local Services, Road Services Division (Roads) is requesting seven (7) additional calendar days for a Construction Hours Variance to work outside of normal hours of operation per King County Code (KCC) 12.86.550. Roads previously received a 14-day variance on August 18, 2025. This request seeks 7 additional days for a total of 21 variance days to be used between June 15 and September 30. This extension will expedite construction and provide vital scheduling flexibility for the current road closure and upcoming in-water work windows. The following information supports this request.

Project Location: The Fifteen Mile Creek Bridge No. 493C is located in unincorporated King County on SE May Valley Road. It 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 (Latitude: N 47.48369, Longitude: W 122.029521).

Project Description: Work associated with removing and replacing the bridge includes utility relocation, roadway reconstruction, drainage improvements, site restoration, and fish habitat mitigation. The bridge will be built on a drilled pile foundation; no pile driving is proposed. Construction is currently underway under Roads' contract with ACI Construction. SE May Valley Road is closed at this location, and a detour route is active.

Construction Contacts:

- Fabia Fu, Roads, Resident Engineer
206-477-5826, ffu@kingcounty.gov
- Victor Daggs, Construction Supervisor
206-423-1063, Victor.Daggs@kingcounty.gov
- Jessy Jose, Project Manager
206-477-3542, Jessy.Jose@kingcounty.gov

Justification for Variance:

- **Critical Corridor:** SE May Valley Road is a heavily traveled arterial serving as a regional corridor, a designated lifeline route, and a school bus route.
- **Safety Improvement:** The replacement addresses a structurally deficient and functionally obsolete bridge that lacks an appropriate hydraulic opening for a fish-bearing stream. Replacing it eliminates future roadway hazards and ensures safe access for residents, emergency personnel, and the public.
- **Reduced Construction Timeline:** Allowing work outside normal hours will potentially decrease the overall duration of project construction. While the exact number of saved days is unknown, a

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shorter timeline reduces economic hardships related to travel delays (e.g., accessing work, childcare, healthcare).

- Environmental Protection: Fewer total construction days minimizes potential erosion, water quality impacts, and air quality impacts.
- Lower Public Impact: Evening and early morning work minimizes traffic disruption, safety issues, and traveling inconveniences for the public.
- Proximity to Receivers: Approximately 18 homes are located within 500 feet of the project location and may be affected by noise (see enclosed map). There are no known sensitive receivers (e.g., schools, hospitals, or nursing homes) located within 500 feet of the work area.

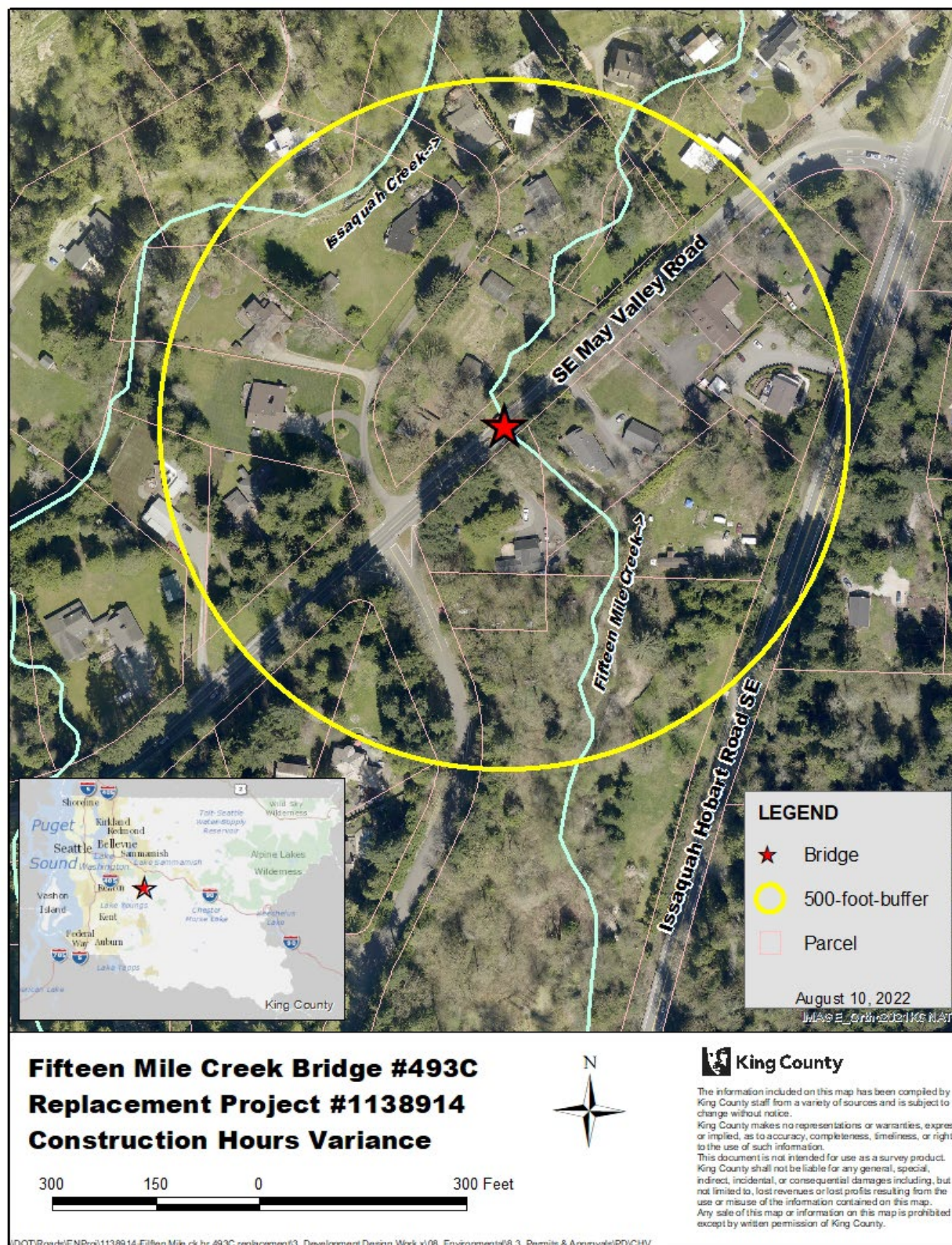
Mitigation Measures: The surrounding forested topography is anticipated to provide additional sound attenuation. In addition, per KCC 16.82.105.B.6, the following measures are proposed to minimize noise impacts and avoid health and safety hazards outside of normal operating hours.

- Implement specific mitigation measures listed in the attached Equipment Table to the extent feasible.
- Equip all vehicles with backup warning devices (excluding pure tone devices) to the extent allowed or required by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries.
- Use back-up observers in lieu of backup warning devices for equipment other than dump trucks, in compliance with WAC 296-155-610 and 296-155-615. Dump trucks must use both back-up observers and backup warning devices (except pure tone devices) per WAC 296-155-610.
- Ensure all trucks have well-maintained bed liners inspected and approved by the Engineer.
- Prohibit truck tailgate banging. All tailgates must be secured.
- Properly muffle all equipment in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations.
- Prohibit the use of music, loud voices, radios, or other amplifying equipment that can be heard outside the immediate work area.
- Always keep a copy of the construction hours variance on-site.
- Provide a 24-hour complaint number and a list of designated contact persons to forward community concerns. Roads 24-hour complaint/information number is: 206-477-8100
- Directly contact residents when feasible, and utilize social media outreach, and a project webpage (<https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/local-services/transit-transportation-roads/roads-and-bridges/projects-and-programs/fifteen-mile-creek-bridge>) to keep the public informed.
- Maintain an accurate record of completed work through ongoing coordination with ACI Construction.

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

Enclosures

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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).