



# 42nd Ave S Bridge Replacement Project

March 2021

## Project Overview

The 42nd Ave S Bridge is an important arterial that crosses the Duwamish River and connects the City of Tukwila to surrounding communities and resources. The bridge, built in 1949, is reaching the end of its life span and needs to be replaced. In April 2017, the existing bridge received a sufficiency rating of 7.56 out of 100 and is considered Structurally Deficient and Functionally Obsolete by the Federal Highway Administration. The City is exploring options for a new bridge design and will be gathering feedback from the public on a variety of project features.



Existing 42nd Ave S Bridge

## What's Happening Now?

Crews are onsite conducting fieldwork activities that will inform engineers of existing site conditions so they can begin preparing preliminary design plans. We have begun engaging surrounding stakeholders and the public to identify design options and project opportunities.

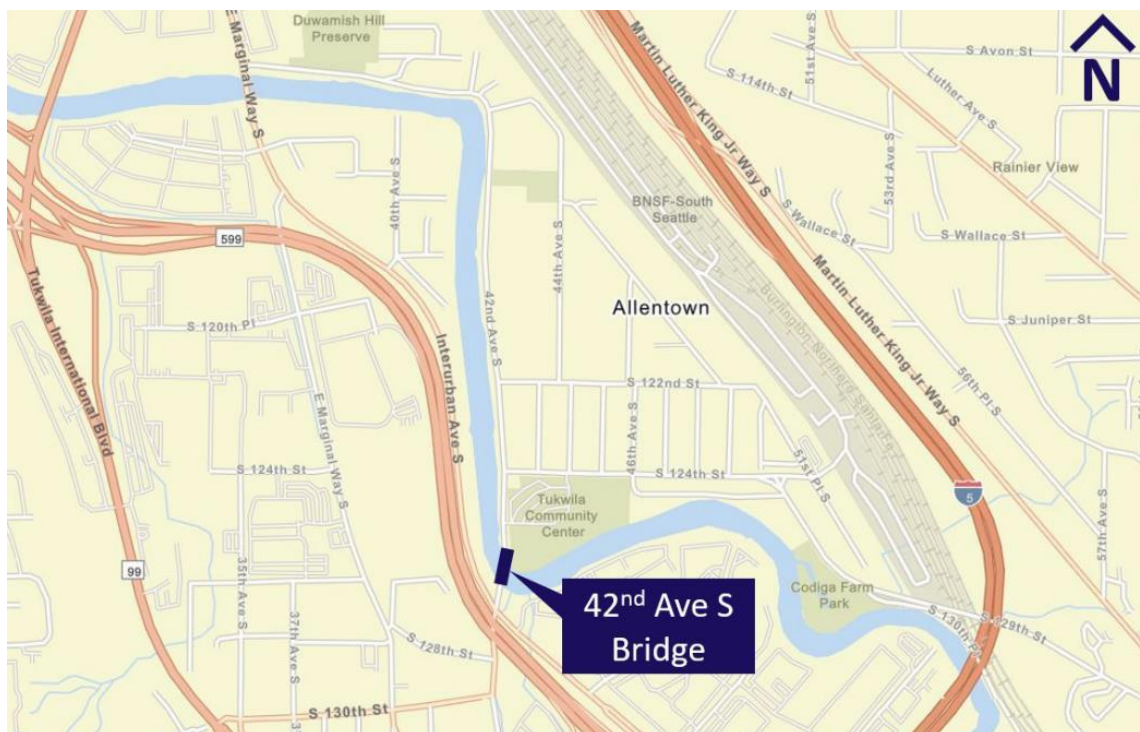
## Project Timeline

The project is currently in the design phase which will continue through 2024.

Sign up for project updates:

<http://TukwilaWA.gov/42nd>

## Project Area Map



## Project Contact

Adam Cox, Project Manager

(206) 431-2446 Adam.Cox@TukwilaWa.gov

### Late 2020

- Consultant team contracted
- Initial fieldwork begins

### Early 2021

- Stakeholder interviews
- Submit federal funding applications

### Spring 2021

- Online Open House
- Collect feedback for Type/Size/Location (TS&L) Report

### Summer 2021

- Develop project alternatives

### Late Fall 2021

- TS&L Report complete
- Virtual public meeting presentations

## Stakeholder Interview Summary

The first phase of community engagement for the 42nd Ave S Bridge project is focusing on building relationships with key stakeholders, establishing local avenues for project communications, and ensuring outreach plans are in alignment with stakeholder needs. Outreach during this phase includes interviews and briefings with key community stakeholders to gather initial feedback about the project, potential solutions, decision criteria and tradeoffs and outreach approach.

## Stakeholder Interview Questions

### Experience using the bridge

- What methods of travel do you use that take you over the bridge?
- What has been your experience crossing the bridge?
- What kind of issues, if any, do you and your family experience when using the bridge?

### Future use of the bridge

- What ideas do you have for making the bridge a welcoming gateway into the Tukwila or Allentown community?
- Keeping in mind federal funding limitations, what do you hope the City of Tukwila prioritizes and considers when developing design and construction concepts for the bridge?

### Engagement

- Due to COVID-19, we are unable to meet with folks in person and hold an in-person open house. As an alternative we plan to host an online open house for residents and bridge users. Are there ways you would suggest the City gather feedback from the community?
- What is the best way for us to keep you informed and engaged throughout the project?
- Are there other specific community groups or residents that you suggest we talk with?

### Conclusion and next steps

- Do you have any remaining questions about the project that we did not cover?
- Do you have any additional thoughts that you want to make sure we capture?
- Before we conclude, are there any questions you have about the project that you would like to make sure we cover?

## BNSF Alternative Access Study Update

The City remains committed to the BNSF Access Study and the 42<sup>nd</sup> Ave S Bridge Replacement, but views them as separate projects. The BNSF access study has been delayed because of the critical need to replace the 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Bridge, and the City's civic and legal responsibility to ensure that the bridge does not fail and preserve public safety.

The City has limited staffing and funding resources and we are consistently forced to prioritize projects – particularly large infrastructure ones. Because the bridge currently rates a 7 out of 100, the City must make the 42<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Bridge our number one infrastructure replacement project.

There are three realities that make the alternative access project challenging:

1. high up-front cost of the necessary Environmental Impact Study (EIS);
2. the reality of potential litigation, regardless of what final route is determine; and
3. the lack of available grant funding for such a project.

We share the neighborhood's desire to get the trucks off the residential streets and onto a dedicated alternate access. Staff and Council are working together to identify next steps for the BNSF alternative access route and we will be reaching out for input as we move forward.