

Medina gets lidded overpass on SR 520

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By JOURNAL STAFF



Photo by Sky-Pix Aerial Photography

A lidded overpass in Medina is taking shape over state Route 520, and crews are expected to start work today on a retaining wall farther down the highway near Bellevue Way Northeast.

The work is part of the \$306 million Eastside Transit and HOV Project being built by Eastside Corridor Constructors, a joint venture of Granite Construction Co. and PCL Construction Services.

The retaining wall will support a new eastbound 520 exit ramp to Bellevue Way. It will be created by drilling 39 shafts that are 8 feet in diameter and up to 80 feet deep. The shafts will be filled with concrete and rebar.

The Medina lid is one of the project's three overpasses; the others are at 84th and 92nd avenues Northeast. At Medina, there will be a transit stop with a park-and-ride lot, landscaping and a pedestrian connection to a local park.

Crews will close 520 between Interstate 405 and Montlake Boulevard from Thursday night to Friday morning to install utilities across all highway lanes. The same stretch will be closed Sept. 21-24 so that crews can install a fish-friendly culvert and shift the alignment of the highway lanes.

Eastside Corridor Constructors is building three lanes in each direction of Route 520 from Medina to Bellevue under a design-build contract. The project is also rebuilding interchanges. Work is slated to finish in December of 2013.