



# 43rd Ave. SE Improvement Project Road Closure FAQ

August 2016

## 1. Where is the road closure on 43rd Ave. SE and how long will it be closed?

43rd Ave. SE is closed at 188th St. SE to vehicle traffic until construction of the 43rd Ave. SE improvement project is complete, which is expected to be 2022. Sign up to receive an email notification when the project webpage is updated by visiting [www.snohomishcountywa.gov/43rdAveSE](http://www.snohomishcountywa.gov/43rdAveSE).

## 2. Why is the road closed?

The decision to close 43rd Ave. SE at 188th St. SE was difficult but a necessary temporary measure to ensure the safety of all road users. The existing road south of the closure does not meet current design standards for the steadily increasing traffic volume. Once the 187th Place SE connection to 35th Ave. SE was built, it was identified as a reasonable alternative; hence the decision to close the road.

## 3. Why is the road closed now if the 43rd Ave. SE improvement project construction isn't supposed to occur until 2022?

43rd Ave. SE is closed at 188th St. SE because the existing road south of the closure does not meet current design standards for the steadily increasing traffic volume.

In addition to the closure, Snohomish County Public Works recognized 43rd Ave. SE as a route that would provide better access and connectivity between 180th St. SE and SR 524 / Maltby Road. The county is currently in the early stages of its design phase for the 43rd Ave. SE improvement project. The process of developing road projects takes several years. Many factors must be considered, including: location of homes; public right-of-way; stormwater runoff, drainage and water quality; wetlands, streams, and associated buffers; hilly terrain; sight distance; soils; traffic volumes; accident history; vehicle and pedestrian access; Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) pedestrian facilities; location of utilities; and information that residents provide about the area.

## 4. Isn't the road closure going to cause more traffic congestion?

The 43rd Ave. SE closure may increase traffic on 187th Place SE / 188th St. SE and 184th St. SE. However, both roads were designed to function as neighborhood collectors and can handle the traffic increase. Depending upon your destination, closing 43rd Ave. SE shouldn't have a significant effect to traffic on 35th Ave. SE because all routes leading west or south connect to 35th Ave. SE.

## 5. Is there any way to get the road reopened to traffic until construction occurs?

The decision to close 43rd Ave. SE at 188th St. SE was a difficult but necessary temporary measure to ensure the safety of all road users. To now reopen the road before construction is complete would disqualify the original intent.

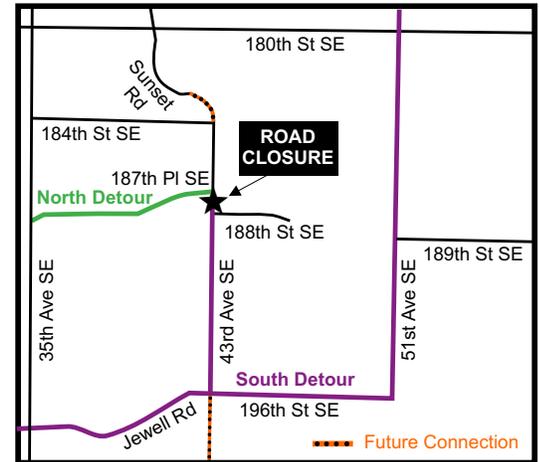
## 6. How do I drop off my children at Fernwood Elementary School now that the road is closed?

For residents north of the road closure, the county recommends using 35th Ave. SE or 51st Ave. SE to access 196th St. SE / Jewell Road. Residents south of the closure should be able use their typical route.

## 7. The only way to get to my house is via 35th Ave. SE, which is very congested. Is there anything you can do about this?

The proposed improvements on 43rd Ave. SE are being designed to help alleviate congestion on 35th Ave. SE. Until those improvements are completed, Snohomish County Public Works recommends:

- o Residents north of the road closure utilize 180th St. SE (via 184th St. SE or 187th Place SE and traveling north on 35th Ave. SE) instead of traveling south on 35th Ave. SE.
- o Residents south of the road closure can use 196th St. SE and travel north on 51st Ave. SE to reach 180th St. SE or use Jewell Road to 35th Ave. SE and travel south to SR 524 / Maltby Road.



## 8. Can I use the dirt road between Jewell Road and 200th St. SE?

Public Works does not recommend using the gravel road between Jewell Road and 200th St. SE as an alternative to 35th Ave. SE. This gravel road is not designed to handle high traffic volumes.

## 9. Who do I contact about the road closure or traffic concerns?

Area residents and commuters can contact Dale Valliant, Public Works Traffic Operations Supervisor, at 425-388-7138 or [Dale.Valliant@snoco.org](mailto:Dale.Valliant@snoco.org).

## 10. Who do I contact about the 43rd Ave. SE improvement project?

Area residents and commuters can contact Brook Chesterfield, Project Manager, at 425-388-6381 or [Brook.Chesterfield@snoco.org](mailto:Brook.Chesterfield@snoco.org).