

COWEN PARK BRIDGE

SEISMIC IMPROVEMENTS



Seattle
Department of
Transportation

Cowen Park Bridge Seismic Retrofit Project Update – November 2019

You are receiving this email because you attended an outreach event or spoke with project staff. Please forward this email to others that would like to receive email updates for the [Cowen Park Bridge Seismic Retrofit](#). They can [sign up for the project listserv here](#).

What's Happening Now?

Our project team has finalized the design for the Cowen Park Bridge Seismic Retrofits and a contractor is onboard to complete the work. **Construction is anticipated to begin as early as November 12, 2019 and last approximately 6 months.**

In order to safely replace the expansion joints, we will need to temporarily close the bridge. We currently anticipate up to 3 weekends of bridge closures scheduled for spring 2020. We will be in touch with the nearby community to share information about the anticipated closure dates and detour route closer to construction. Please note that the construction schedule is subject to change based on site conditions, material and equipment availability, weather, and other factors.

In the coming months, we'll provide updates about the construction start date, timeline, and impacts via [this listserv](#) and our [project webpage](#).

Construction Impacts

We will strive to minimize construction impacts as much as possible. During construction, please expect:

- Regular weekday work hours of 7 AM – 5 PM, Monday through Friday

- Redirects for people walking and biking across the bridge
 - People walking across the bridge will be directed to one side of the bridge while we work on the other side
 - People biking will merge with traffic for the duration of construction
- 3 weekend full bridge closures and detours. We will post detours and notify nearby homes 72 hours in advance.
- Closure of the upper trail underneath the bridge within Cowen/Ravenna Park for the duration of construction
- Noise, dust, and vibrations during work hours. We will be monitoring bridge vibrations throughout construction.
- Equipment and construction materials near the site, including trucks using the access road to the west from Brooklyn Ave NE, to move materials and equipment in and out of the work zone.

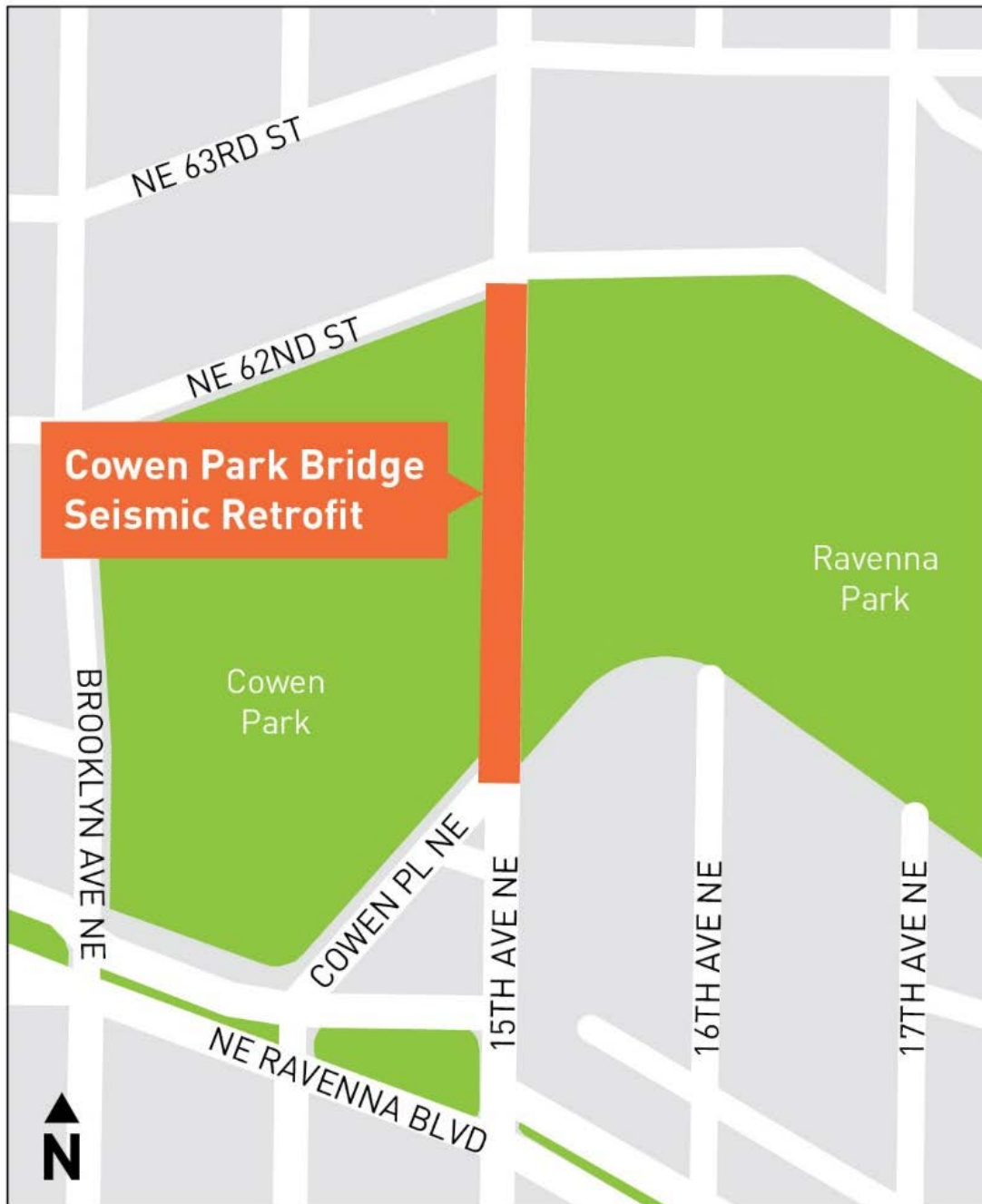
Thanks in advance for your patience during this work!

Project Description

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is preparing to make seismic improvements to the Cowen Park Bridge.

Earthquakes could have a significant detrimental effect on Seattle's infrastructure. To address these risks to city infrastructure, the City of Seattle established a [bridge seismic retrofit program](#) to assess the seismic vulnerability of the City's bridges and to prioritize limited funding to reduce this transportation infrastructure vulnerability.

As part of the [Levy to Move Seattle](#), 16 bridges were selected for seismic retrofits, including the Cowen Park Bridge. The Cowen Park Bridge was built in 1936, prior to the modernization of the seismic design code. The bridge connects the Roosevelt/Ravenna neighborhood with the University District via 15th Ave NE across Cowen and Ravenna Park. This work will reduce the bridge's vulnerability to earthquakes.



Project area map with the Cowen Park Bridge highlighted in orange.

We Want to Keep You Up-to-date

We'll continue to contact neighbors directly, send email updates, and post web updates to

keep everyone informed of upcoming construction. For more information about the project please visit our [project webpage](#).

Please tell your friends, family, customers, neighbors, and local businesses to reach out to us with any questions and to [sign up for these email updates](#).

Contact us with questions about construction: email CowenParkBridge@seattle.gov or call (206) 775-8734.

