

# SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL

## Council Briefing

**March 30, 2020 - 9:30 AM**

### **Meeting Location:**

Remote Meeting. Call listen line at 206-684-8566 or access Seattle Channel online.

### **Committee Website:**

<http://www.seattle.gov/council/>

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*In-person attendance is currently prohibited per the Washington Governor's Proclamation No. 20-28 until April 23, 2020. Meeting participation is limited to access by telephone conference line and Seattle Channel online.*

*Please Note: Times listed are estimated and public comment is not accepted during this meeting.*

### **1. Approval of the Minutes**

#### **Council Briefing Minutes (2020)**

[March 2, 2020](#)

[March 23, 2020](#)

### **2. President's Report**

9:30 a.m. - 9:35 a.m.

**3. Presentation on the Condition of the West Seattle Bridge  
Briefing and Discussion**

**Presenters:** Sam Zimbabwe, Director, Lorelei Williams, Matthew Donahue, and Adiam Emery, Seattle Department of Transportation

9:35 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

[Presentation](#)

**4. Preview of Today's City Council Actions, Council and Regional Committees**

(All Councilmembers)

10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

**City Council Agenda (2020)**

[March 30,2020](#)



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 1584, **Version:** 1

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Council Briefing Minutes (2020)



# Seattle Council Committee Report Council Briefing

Council Chamber, City Hall  
600 Fourth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Monday, March 2, 2020, 9:30 AM**

*Please Note: Times listed are estimated and public comment is not accepted during this meeting.*

**Meeting Start Time:** 9:33 a.m.

**Presiding Officer:** Council President Pro Tem Mosqueda

**Present:** 6 - Teresa Mosqueda, Andrew Lewis, Tammy Morales, Alex Pedersen, Kshama Sawant, Dan Strauss

**Excused:** 2 - M. Lorena González, Debora Juarez

**Late Arrival:** 1 - Lisa Herbold

## 1. Approval of the Minutes

**Inf 1584** Council Briefing Minutes (2020)

The Council Briefing Minutes of February 24, 2020 were approved.

## 2. President's Report

*Councilmember Herbold entered the Council Chambers at 9:36 a.m.*

**3. Inf 1590** State Legislative Session Updates (2020)

The Information Item (Inf) was not heard in Committee.

## 4. Preview of Today's City Council Actions, Council and Regional Committees

**Inf 1579** City Council Agenda (2020)

The Information Item (Inf) was heard in Committee.

## 5. Executive Session I on Pending, Potential, or Actual Litigation\*

At 10:13 a.m., the Council moved into a 30-minute Executive Session I regarding Pending Potential, or Actual Litigation. The Executive Session concluded at 10:29 a.m.

**6. Executive Session II on Pending, Potential, or Actual Litigation, and Labor Negotiations\***

At 10:30 a.m., the Council moved into a 45-minute Executive Session II regarding Pending, Potential, or Actual Litigation, and Labor Negotiations. At 11:15 a.m., the Executive Session was extended by 35 minutes.

The Executive Session concluded at 12:04 p.m.

*\*Executive Sessions are closed to the public*

**Prepared by:** Linda Barron, Legislative Operation Supervisor



# Seattle Council Committee Report Council Briefing

Council Chamber, City Hall  
600 Fourth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Monday, March 23, 2020, 9:30 AM**

*Please Note: Times listed are estimated and public comment is not accepted during this meeting.*

**Meeting Start Time: 9:33 a.m.**

**Presiding Officer: Council President González**

By unanimous consent, the Council Rules were suspended to allow Councilmembers to participate at Council Briefing meetings by phone through March 31, 2020.

**The following Councilmembers were present and participating by phone:**

**Present:** 8 - M. Lorena González , Teresa Mosqueda, Lisa Herbold, Debora Juarez, Andrew Lewis, Tammy Morales, Alex Pedersen, Dan Strauss

**Excused:** 1 - Kshama Sawant

## **1. Approval of the Minutes**

There were no Minutes presented for approval.

## **2. President's Report**

## **3. Preview of Today's City Council Actions, Council and Regional Committees**

**Inf 1579** City Council Agenda (2020)

The Information Item (Inf) was heard in Committee.

**Meeting Adjournment Time: 10:57 a.m.**

**Prepared by: Jodee Schwinn, Deputy City Clerk**



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 1624, **Version:** 1

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Presentation on the Condition of the West Seattle Bridge

# West Seattle High-Rise Bridge Safety Project

Photo by [Life As Art](#) used under [CC](#)

Council Briefing  
Sam Zimbabwe, Matt Donahue, and Adiam Emery  
March 30, 2020



**City of Seattle**



# Presentation overview

1. Background
2. Bridge Inspection, Maintenance, and Analysis History
3. Decision to Close
4. Short-term Recommendations
5. Traffic Management, Impacts, and Mitigations
6. Repair Options
7. Communications Plan
8. Project Leadership Structure
9. Next Steps



# Bridge Background and Details

- Opened for use in 1984
- Cast-in-place concrete and steel bridge
- One-of-a-kind, uniquely designed for our topography and geography
- Designed for three lanes in either direction
- Highest daily traffic volumes among SDOT roadways
  - 84,000 vehicles (2019)
  - 17,000 transit riders



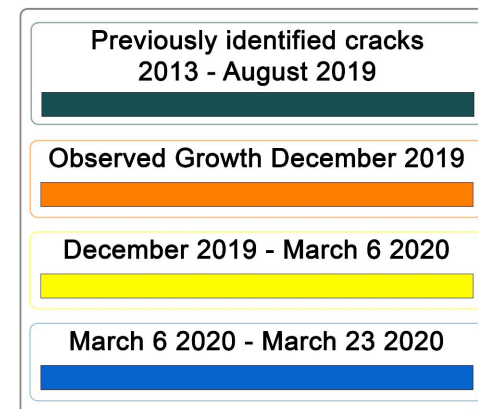
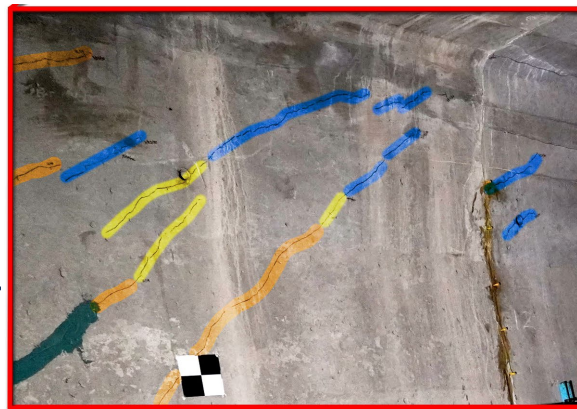
[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

# Bridge Inspection, Maintenance and Analysis History

Date	Bridge Condition	Impact on Public	Response
2013	SDOT observes cracking in West Seattle Bridge	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase inspection frequency to annually</li> </ul>
2014-2019	Annual inspections confirm low level of crack growth	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing maintenance and monitoring</li> </ul>
Aug 2019	Routine inspection reveals moderate crack growth	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fill cracks with epoxy</li> <li>• Increase inspection frequency to monthly</li> </ul>
Oct / Nov/ Dec 2019	Inspection reveals ongoing crack growth	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin analyzing mitigation options</li> </ul>
Late Feb 2020	Engineering consultant recommends reducing traffic load	Lane Reduction Under Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin preparing for discussions with City leaders and community outreach</li> </ul>
March 19 2020	Engineering consultant notifies SDOT of new analysis raising larger concerns	Potential for Full Closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SDOT visits bridge on daily basis</li> </ul>
March 23 2020	Engineers discover new cracks, confirming growth has increased exponentially	Immediate Full Closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 am: Engineers assess crack growth and alert leadership</li> <li>• 11 am: Mayor Durkan approves plan to close bridge</li> <li>• 7 pm: SDOT begins implementing bridge closure</li> </ul>

# Decision to Close

- Rapid and unexpected growth in cracks, over the course of days
- Public safety is SDOT's number one priority
- Public and private sector engineers agreed that the bridge was no longer reasonably safe for ordinary travel
- Decision was made and communication happened within hours



# Short-term Recommendation - High Pass

- Take all steps to maintain the integrity of the structure
  - Restrict travel completely to reduce load stress on the bridge and preserve the structure
- Return bridge to normal operation as soon as possible while mitigating short-term impacts for people and goods
  - Seek interim repairs with a goal of restoring some traffic
  - Accelerate major maintenance/repair to extend bridge life by 10+ years

# Short-term Recommendation - Swing Bridge

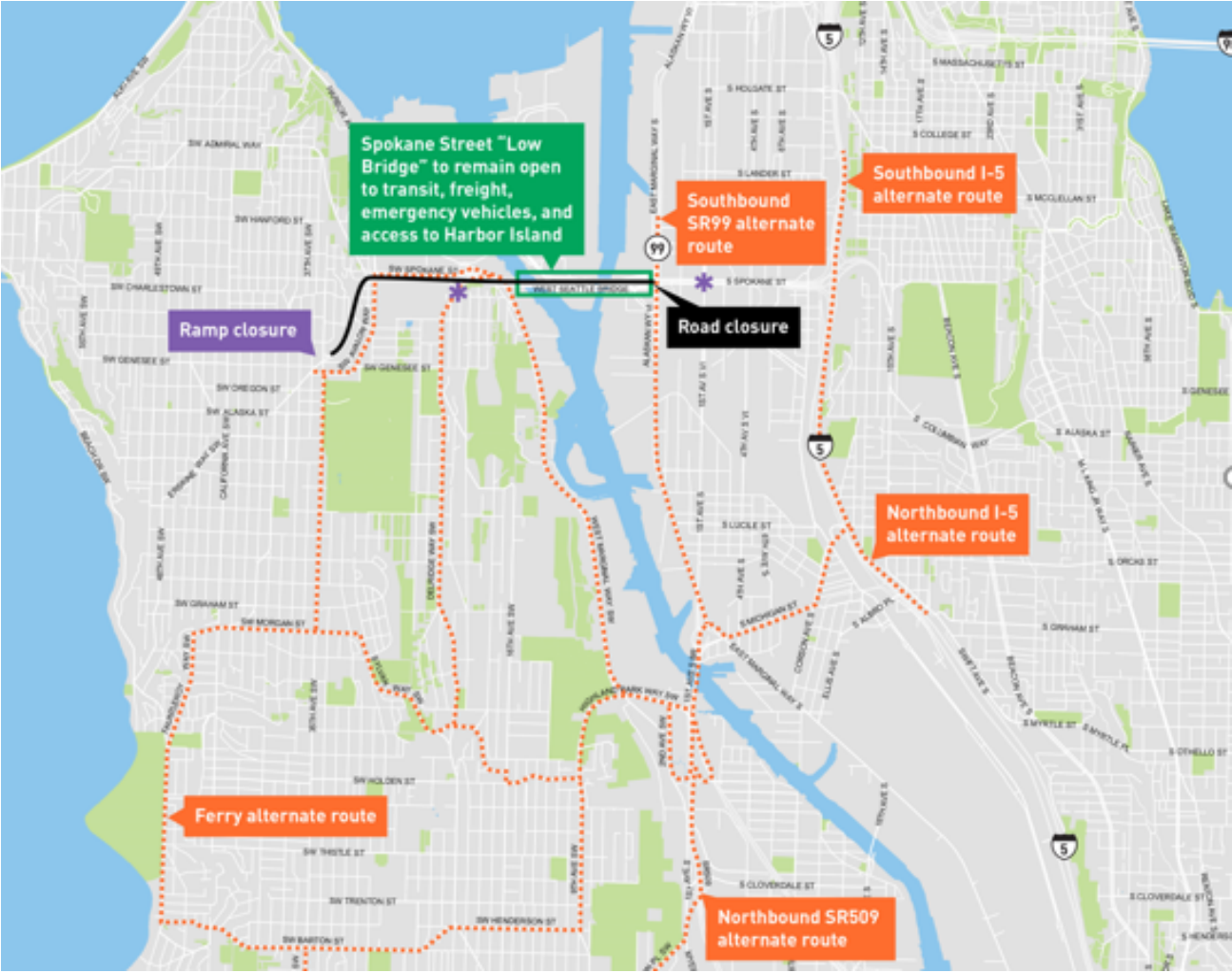
- Protect deteriorating primary alternate route to the High Pass
  - Continue weekly inspection and monitoring
  - Complete load rating project
  - Complete ped gate replacement
  - Complete controls upgrade project
  - Complete rehabilitation of the Pier 6 and Pier 7 lift cylinders



# Traffic Management Plan

- **Primary Consideration at this Time:** Critical to maintain unfettered access for first responders to and from West Seattle in the midst of a public health crisis
- Similar level of complexity to Viaduct closure, but with fewer re-route choices
  - Nine lanes (High and Low bridges) have been reduced to two lanes, for more than 100,000 average daily trips
  - Viaduct closure permitted years for planning, 40 joint community briefings, dozens of press events
- Reserve lower bridge for emergency vehicles, freight and transit use only
  - Lower bridge still subject to opening
  - Capacity is 20,000 average daily trips
- Redirect passenger vehicles to 1<sup>st</sup> Ave S Bridge and South Park Bridge
- Install temporary signal at Highland Park Way SW and SW Holden St
- Install further traffic count stations to monitor alternate routes
- Develop medium- and long-range plan and additional mitigations

# Detour Map





# Traffic Impacts & Mitigation

- Significant impacts to travel times, as traffic returns to normal state
- Mitigation includes:
  - Redistribute traffic flow where possible
  - Expand targeted messaging on mode shift and transit options
  - Coast Guard sent a notice to mariners requesting limited requests for opening during peak times
  - Harbor Island employees allowed access to low bridge



# Repair Options

- Temporary shoring to preserve structure
- Approach to repair
  - Likely fiber wrap with additional reinforcement at key connections
  - Alternative project delivery may allow faster procurement of materials and other decisions
  - If repairs impact navigation channel, Coast Guard permits will be required

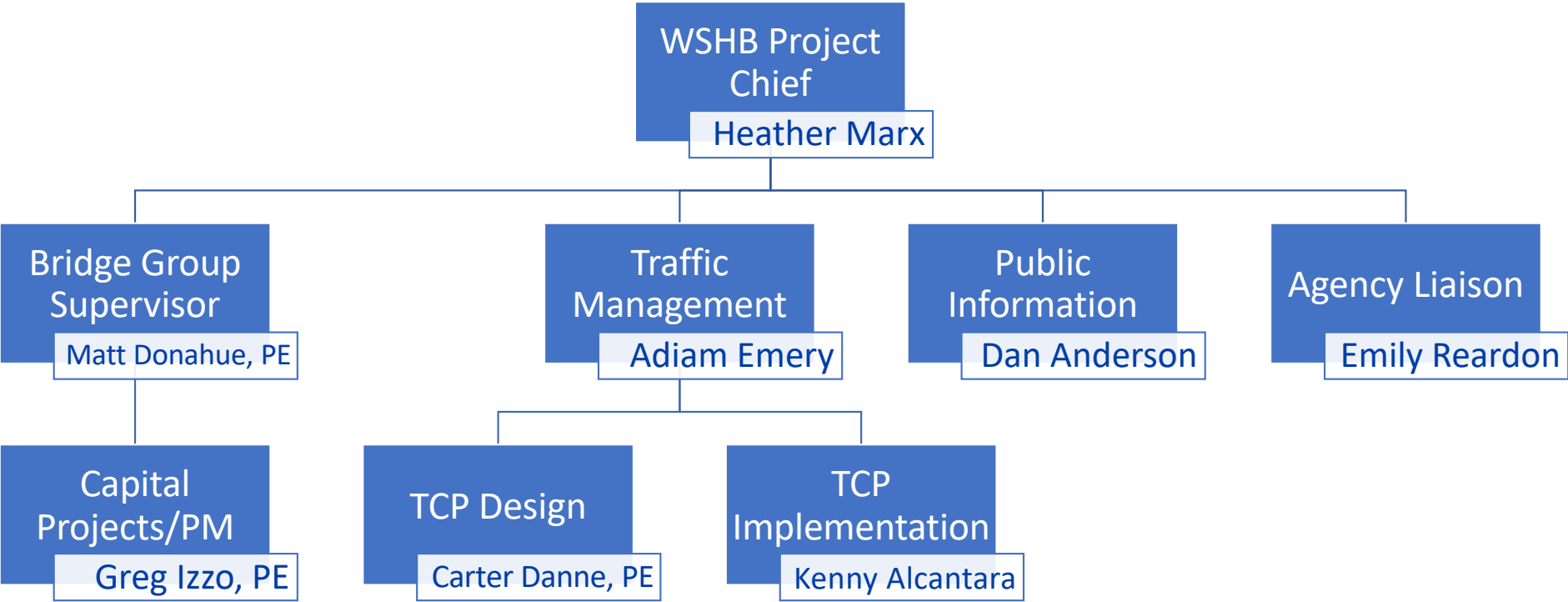


# Communications Plan

- Provide timely, accurate information about bridge closure to communities, businesses, and agency partners through local media and City channels
- Create SDOT information sources online with background information, guidance, and future notification sign-up
- Share updates about alternate routes, bridge inspection history, and closure decision-making
- Partner with DON to further connect with community and open feedback channels to ensure people feel heard and we're able to problem-solve as a team
- Keep Mayor, City Council, media, and stakeholders updated as new information becomes available



# SDOT West Seattle High Bridge IMT Structure



# Next Steps

- Expedite design and repair contracts
- Implement initial steps to mitigate traffic impacts and identify further mitigations
- Distribute communications and media materials
- Conduct study to determine the structure's remaining useful life (start fall 2020)



# Questions / Discussion





Legislation Text

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**File #:** Inf 1579, **Version:** 1

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City Council Agenda (2020)



# CITY OF SEATTLE

## City Council

### Agenda - Revised

Monday, March 30, 2020

2:00 PM

Remote Meeting. Call listen line at 206-684-8566 or access Seattle Channel online.

M. Lorena González, President

Lisa Herbold, Member

Debora Juarez, Member

Andrew J. Lewis, Member

Tammy J. Morales, Member

Teresa Mosqueda, Member

Alex Pedersen, Member

Kshama Sawant, Member

Dan Strauss, Member

Chair Info: 206-684-8809; [Lorena.González@seattle.gov](mailto:Lorena.González@seattle.gov)

[Watch Council Meetings Live](#) [View Past Council Meetings](#)

Council Chamber Listen Line: 206-684-8566

For accessibility information and for accommodation requests, please call 206-684-8888 (TTY Relay 7-1-1), email [CouncilAgenda@Seattle.gov](mailto:CouncilAgenda@Seattle.gov), or visit <http://seattle.gov/cityclerk/accommodations>.





# CITY OF SEATTLE

## City Council Agenda - Revised

March 30, 2020 - 2:00 PM

### Meeting Location:

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### Committee Website:

<http://www.seattle.gov/council>

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#### A. CALL TO ORDER

#### B. ROLL CALL

#### C. PRESENTATIONS

#### D. APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

[Min 272](#) March 16, 2020

**Attachments:** [Minutes](#)

[Min 273](#) March 19, 2020

**Attachments:** [Minutes](#)

[Min 274](#) March 23, 2020

**Attachments:** [Minutes](#)

#### E. ADOPTION OF INTRODUCTION AND REFERRAL CALENDAR

*Introduction and referral to Council committees of Council Bills (CB), Resolutions (Res), Appointments (Appt), and Clerk Files (CF) for committee recommendation.*

[IRC 248](#)

March 30, 2020

**Attachments:** [Introduction and Referral Calendar](#)

## F. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

## G. PAYMENT OF BILLS

*These are the only Bills which the City Charter allows to be introduced and passed at the same meeting.*

[CB 119765](#)

AN ORDINANCE appropriating money to pay certain audited claims for the week of March 16, 2020 through March 20, 2020 and ordering the payment thereof.

## H COMMITTEE REPORTS

*Discussion and vote on Council Bills (CB), Resolutions (Res), Appointments (Appt), and Clerk Files (CF).*

### CITY COUNCIL:

1. [CB 119763](#) AN ORDINANCE related to City finances; creating a fund for depositing donations, gifts, and grants related to The City of Seattle's response to the COVID-19 pandemic; creating a Budget Summary Level; amending Ordinance 126000, which adopted the 2020 Budget; changing appropriations to various departments and budget control levels, and from various funds in the Budget; declaring an emergency; and establishing an immediate effective date; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

**Supporting Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)  
[Central Staff Memo](#)

2. [CB 119764](#) AN ORDINANCE amending Ordinance 126000, which adopted the 2020 Budget; changing appropriations to the Executive Department's Office of Sustainability and Environment, the Department of Neighborhoods, the Department of Education and Early Learning, Seattle Parks and Recreation, and budget control levels, and from various funds in the Budget, for the purpose of providing food support to individuals in Seattle; and ratifying and confirming certain prior acts; all by a 3/4 vote of the City Council.

**Supporting Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)  
[Central Staff Memo](#)  
[Memo Att 1 - Amendment 1 to CB 119764](#)  
[Office of Sustainability Memo to Board](#)  
[Board Letter to City Budget Office](#)  
[City Budget Office Response to Board](#)

3. [Res 31939](#) A RESOLUTION in support of the bid by The City of Seattle to host the National League of Cities 2025 City Summit conference.

**Supporting Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

#### I. ADOPTION OF OTHER RESOLUTIONS

4. [Res 31940](#) A RESOLUTION calling on Governor Inslee to impose an immediate moratorium on rent payments and urging the Governor to call on federal legislators and the Trump administration to impose an immediate moratorium on rent and mortgage payments; and calling on federal legislators and the Trump administration to impose an immediate moratorium on rent and mortgage payments.

**Supporting Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

5. [Res 31942](#) A RESOLUTION adding the West Seattle Bridge emergency closure and repairs to the Watch List of capital projects for enhanced quarterly monitoring established in Resolution 31931.

**Supporting Documents:**

[Summary and Fiscal Note](#)

**J. OTHER BUSINESS**

**K. ADJOURNMENT**