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Hello residents of Kitsap County!

Another year has gone by; can you believe it? We wanted to let you know that WSDOT's third annual State Route 305 Agate Pass Bridge cleaning activity is rapidly approaching. As before, the work will occur in February, prior to Peregrine falcon nesting season and a time of lower overall traffic volumes.

This work marks our continued and extensive efforts to maintain this 1950's-era bridge. Cleaning allows our specially-trained crews to look for any potential issues. We aim to find and fix items before they become a problem, ensuring continued use of this critical span that links Bainbridge Island and the Kitsap Peninsula.

This year's cleaning effort will again require daytime lane closures for crew safety and work efficiency. Between the hours of 8:45 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 13 through Thursday, Feb. 16, and again on Tuesday, Feb. 21 through Friday, Feb. 24, motorists can expect single-lane closures across the bridge with alternating traffic. A slight change from previous years is that crews will not work on the bridge on Friday, Feb. 17 or over the Presidents Day Holiday weekend.

During the above work hours, we anticipate that drivers using the bridge will experience traffic backups. We know drivers play an important role in keeping traffic moving. Our experience over the last two years has been that early in the morning delays are often less than 15 minutes. As the day wears on, delays get longer. So once again we ask drivers to help by carpooling, and delaying or canceling discretionary trips. We also ask that ferry users consider using the Bremerton/Seattle or Kingston/Edmonds routes. If you absolutely need to cross the bridge during our work hours, plan extra travel time into your trip.

Rain will not delay the above work, but icy or windy conditions could. Once the bridge is cleaned, bridge engineers will perform a thorough bridge inspection using Under-Bridge-Inspection Trucks (UBITS) to get up close and personal with every inch of the steel truss. Windy or icy conditions could require delays in inspection operations.

Please help us get the word out about this year's work by forwarding this email to friends, coworkers and community distribution groups. We will be in touch as the date approaches.

Best Regards,

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