

Dear Mayor Martin,

Thank you for your letter on June 8th regarding sounds emanating from the SR 520 corridor. I would like to provide you with a few updates and next steps that WSDOT is working on.

Shortly after the new SR 520 floating bridge opened to westbound traffic on Monday, April 11, WSDOT began receiving concerns from residents regarding sounds coming from the new bridge. At that time, we began conducting an investigation that includes collecting sound measurements on both the old and new floating bridges and near selected residences around the Eastside.

We have provided updates to Eastside neighbors and the city of Medina since April; these updates are available on the [SR 520 website](#). As you know, on Monday, June 13, WSDOT staff provided an update on this issue to the Medina City Council. You can find WSDOT's [presentation](#) and recent [sound measurements](#) on our website.

Based on your jurisdiction's location, it is possible that the sound your constituents are hearing can be attributed to the temporary tolling treadles that are in place west of the 84th Ave NE lid. **You can see pictures of this temporary tolling equipment on slide 10 of the presentation mentioned above.** On slide 12, you can see an aerial image illustrating the location of the tolling equipment in relation to the bridge. It is important to note that this equipment, and the corresponding sound it creates when vehicles drive over, is temporary and will be replaced later this year. The permanent location will be moved closer to the Evergreen Point Road lid. When crews install the new, permanent equipment they will ensure a smoother finish to help reduce this sound since we have received feedback on this topic.

Based on comments we heard at the June 13 council meeting, we will continue to work with Eastside communities to take additional sound measurements as we complete construction of the final noise wall on the south side of the new bridge near the Evergreen Point Road lid.

We will continue to keep you and other local jurisdictions informed of next steps for the community.

Sincerely,

Julie

Julie Meredith
Program Administrator
SR 520 Bridge Replacement and HOV Program
Washington State Department of Transportation