



Washington State  
Department of Transportation

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December 30, 2020

Jeff Thomas  
Interim CPD Director  
City of Mercer Island  
9611 S.E. 36th Street  
Mercer Island, WA 98040-3732

**RE: Temporary Noise Variance Request- XL6193**  
I-90 Floating Bridges Anchor Cable Replacement

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The purpose of this letter is to request a 60 non-consecutive nights temporary noise exception Type 1 to complete the I-90 Floating Bridges Anchor Cable Replacement Project within the jurisdiction of the City of Mercer Island. Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Acoustics group is requesting relief from the requirements of the Mercer Island City Code, MICC 8.24.020(Q) and the Washington State Administration Code (WAC) Chapter 173-60, allowing WSDOT representatives to work at night. Attached with this submittal are an application form, a permit fee and maps as listed on the exception submittal process.

### **Project Description**

The I-90 Floating Bridges have 38 cables that are scheduled to be replaced based on the inspection conducted in April 2019 by the Bridge Preservation Office (BPO). These anchor cables were found to have section loss due to corrosion, broken wires, and most are identified as the oldest anchor cables in service.

There are a total of 18 anchor cables that are within the City of Mercer Island Noise Exception area. Seven anchor cables are for the Homer M. Hadley Bridge. Of these none are within 500' of Mercer Island, none are in the 500' to 1000' range, two are within the 1000' to 2000' range, and five are within the 2000'-4000' range. Eleven anchor cables are for the Lacey V. Murrow Bridge. Of these two are within 500' of Mercer Island, two are in the 500' to 1000' range, one is within the 1000' to 2000' range, and six are within the 2000'-4000' range.

### **Construction Activities and Equipment**

The ad date for this project is June 7, 2021. This project will take two seasons to complete and the anchor cables for the westbound bridge (Homer M. Hadley - 90/25N) will most likely be replaced first. Construction for both seasons will be from April 1, 2022 to September 30, 2022 and April 1, 2023 to September 30, 2023.

The construction area is the entire span of the bridges, but it is a moving operation with the contractor not spending more than five days at any particular location, and they will not go outside the right-of-way.

Night work will primarily be used to load equipment and tools in and out of the floating bridge pontoons to place, adjust and remove traffic control devices on the I-90 (Homer M. Hadley and Lacey V. Murrow) Bridges. This will be a mobile operation, with work occurring at one pontoon at a time.

The types of equipment used in these activities may include, but are not limited to: service trucks, cranes, hand tools, hydraulic tools, air compressors, generators, and light stands.

### **Justification for Nighttime Work**

Due to the nature of this work, construction activities are a 24/7 operation. When the contractor begins to remove and replace a bridge anchor cable it is a continuous operation until completed.

### **Proposed Nighttime Noise Mitigation**

WSDOT is committed to reducing the inconvenience felt by those living near this project and will make reasonable efforts to minimize sound levels caused by nighttime work. To that end, WSDOT will require the contractor to adhere to the following noise reduction measures:

1. All trucks performing export haul shall have well maintained bed liners as inspected and approved by the Engineer.
2. Truck tailgate banging is prohibited. All truck tailgates shall be secured to prevent excessive noise from banging.
3. A copy of noise exemption shall be kept on the project site at all times.
4. WSDOT web page to provide updated information about nighttime construction current information and a 24 hour complaint number.

The construction Project Engineer in charge of administering the contract is:

**Shawn Wendt P.E.**  
wendts@wsdot.wa.gov  
Phone: 425-225-8726

Should construction activities associated with this project cause noise impacts, we request your help resolving any complaint we may receive by notifying the Project Engineer within 24 hours of occurrence.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. If you should have any questions, please call me at (206) 440-4549.

Sincerely,

*Lindsay Taylor*

Lindsay Taylor  
Air Quality Acoustic and Energy Specialist  
Tayloli@wsdot.wa.gov

Attachments: Vicinity Map