

SR 99 Tunnel: Potential Toll Rates

The Washington State Legislature mandated that the SR 99 tunnel will be tolled to help repay tunnel construction costs and pay for the cost of operating and maintaining a safe facility.

Toll rates will be set by the Washington State Transportation Commission. The goal is to set the lowest possible toll rates that both minimize traffic diversion to downtown Seattle and I-5, and also raise the revenue required by state law.

Toll Rate Options

The commission is considering three possible toll rate options which would all initially range from \$1 - \$2.25 for *Good To Go!* customers with a pass depending on the time of day. Drivers without an account would be sent a toll bill in the mail which costs an additional \$2 per trip on top of the toll rate in effect at the time of travel.

Option A	Option B	Option C
<p>This option has fewer toll rate changes throughout the day.</p>	<p>Tolls would be lower mid-day and earlier in the evening compared to Option A.</p>	<p>Toll rates would be similar to Option A, except for a higher toll rate from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.</p>
<p>6am - 7am \$1.25</p> <p>7am - 9am \$1.50</p> <p>9am - 3pm \$1.25</p> <p>3pm - 6pm \$2.25</p> <p>6pm - 11pm \$1.25</p> <p>11pm - 6am \$1.00</p> <p>WEEKENDS \$1.00</p>	<p>6am - 7am \$1.25</p> <p>7am - 9am \$1.50</p> <p>9am - 10am \$1.25</p> <p>10am - 2pm \$1.00</p> <p>2pm - 3pm \$1.50</p> <p>3pm - 6pm \$2.25</p> <p>6pm - 8pm \$1.50</p> <p>8pm - 6am \$1.00</p> <p>WEEKENDS \$1.00</p>	<p>6am - 7am \$1.25</p> <p>7am - 9am \$1.50</p> <p>9am - 3am \$1.25</p> <p>3pm - 6pm \$2.25</p> <p>6pm - 7pm \$1.75</p> <p>7pm - 11pm \$1.25</p> <p>11pm - 6am \$1.00</p> <p>WEEKENDS \$1.00</p>

Future Increases:

- Tolls increase 3% every three years starting in 2022.
- Rate increases include nights and weekends.

Future Increases:

- Weekday tolls increase 3.5% a year from 2020 to 2024, a total of 5 toll rate increases.
- No toll rate increases on nights or weekends.

Future Increases:

- Tolls increase 5% in 2024, 2029 and 2034, a total of 3 toll rate increases.
- Rate increases include nights and weekends.

Future increases: In 2018, the Legislature directed that initial toll rates will not cover future repair and replacement costs for the SR 99 tunnel. Proposed future toll rate increases would need to be re-evaluated if the Legislature determines these costs should be covered by toll revenue.

Investments Funded by Tolls

State law requires that toll revenue collected from the SR 99 tunnel will be used for these investments:

- **Tunnel Construction**

Tolls will help repay \$200 million borrowed to build the tunnel. This is an essential part of the \$3.3 billion investment to replace the aging Alaskan Way Viaduct.

- **Tunnel Operations, Maintenance, and Safety**

Tolls will also fund \$170 million for ongoing facility operations, maintenance, and safety as the tunnel construction investment is repaid. This includes essential features like the fire safety system, ventilation, lighting, and drainage.

- **Cost to Collect Tolls**

Like other toll facilities, toll revenue would also cover collection costs including operation, maintenance, periodic repair, and replacement of the toll equipment and a proportional share of the state's toll processing and customer service costs.

Tunnel will be toll-free when it first opens

The tunnel could open to drivers as soon as fall 2018. The tunnel will initially be free when it opens, and it has not yet been determined when SR 99 tolling will start.

When will toll rates be determined?

The Transportation Commission is taking public feedback on the three options until July 17. An official proposal will be announced in July 2018, followed by an additional public comment period before toll rates are finalized in Fall 2018.

How do I comment?

Visit wstc.wa.gov for information on upcoming public meetings.

In writing: Washington State Transportation Commission
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Email: transc@wstc.wa.gov

Phone: 360-705-7070

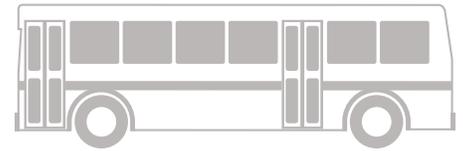
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18-05-0220

TOLL-FREE VEHICLES

The Transportation Commission is considering toll exemptions for the following vehicles:



BUSES



EMERGENCY VEHICLES



RIDESHARE VANS



INCIDENT RESPONSE & MAINTENANCE VEHICLES

Visit wstc.wa.gov for more information on proposed changes to toll exemptions across the state.

LARGE TRUCKS AND TRAILERS

Vehicles with more than two axles would pay higher toll rates, just like they currently do on toll bridges.

