

For Immediate Release

Contact: Peter Donovan

(360) 630-6246

peterd@mountvernonwa.gov

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MOUNT VERNON—The closure of two of the four I-5 ramps at College Way is scheduled for this weekend, from 11 p.m. Friday to 11 p.m. Sunday evening.

Drivers are encouraged to find alternate routes in this area as the northbound offramp, as well as the southbound on-ramp—both on the south side of College Way—will be completely reconstructed during this continuous 48 hour shut down. The work is weather dependent, and heavy weekend rain would likely postpone the closure.

Two-way traffic will remain open on College Way, however lane reductions and detours are expected to add to commute times.

"Skagit County drivers might be some of the most skilled in the State at finding alternate local routes to avoid traffic," said City Project Development Manager Peter Donovan. "This will be one of those weekends when you'll want to find those back roads to access businesses in the area."

The planned I-5 detour will have northbound drivers exiting on George Hopper Road, in Burlington.

The \$8.5 million widening project is on schedule to be completed in February, and local drivers are looking forward to the immense benefit that this major infrastructure project will bring. Two additional lanes are being added to College Way, under I-5, to alleviate the "bottleneck" that currently prevents traffic from flowing freely on College Way.

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