



# SEATTLE SQUEEZE ALERT

## Street changes for SR 99 closure begin January 5, 2019

### Overview

On January 11, 2019, the Alaskan Way Viaduct will close forever, marking the beginning of a five-year period of growth and an increase in challenges for getting around our city. This five-year phase is being called the Seattle Squeeze. As we face more congestion and additional street closures and delays, things will get tougher before they get better. People, businesses, schools, manufactures and many others rely on the timely delivery of products and goods; and we want to ensure they move as predictably and efficiently as possible. All this will be worth it, but everyone needs to start preparing now and have a plan for how they are getting around during the Seattle Squeeze.

### Street changes

To manage the increased volume of traffic on our city's streets and changing traffic patterns in advance of **the SR closure beginning Friday, January 11, we're rechannelizing key streets downtown.** On January 12, we're converting Seneca St between 1st Ave and 3rd Ave into a one-way street headed westbound to accommodate the shift from the Seneca St off-ramp closure. The graphics included with this flier show what's changing.

### The New Normal

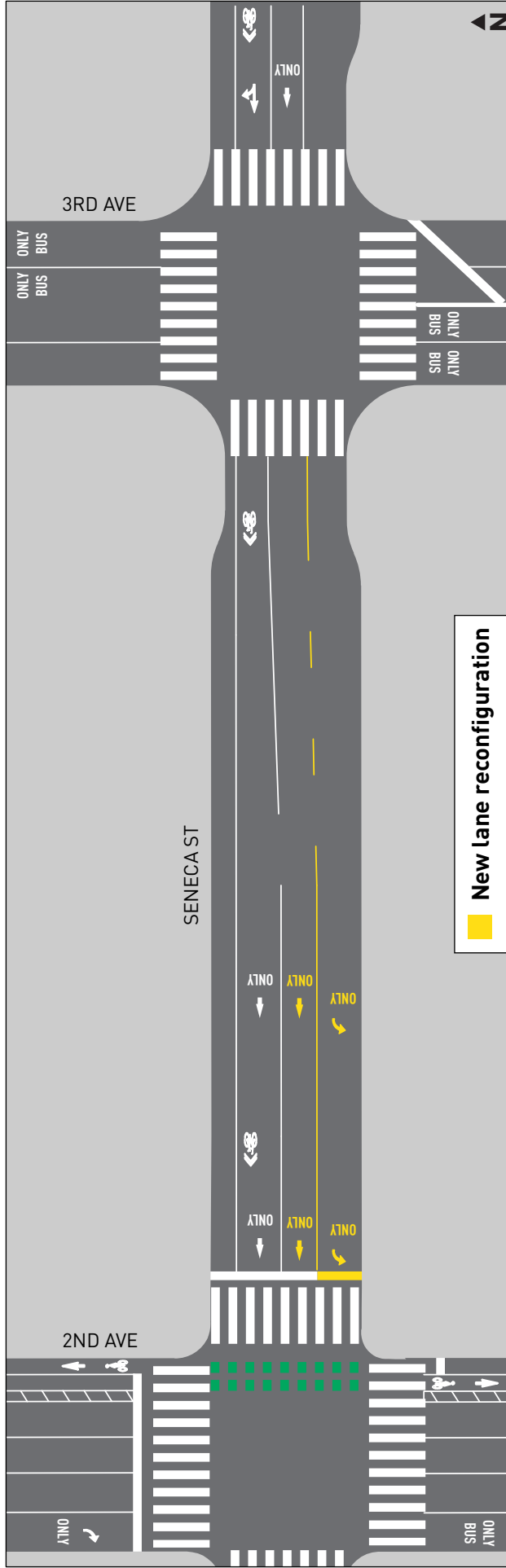
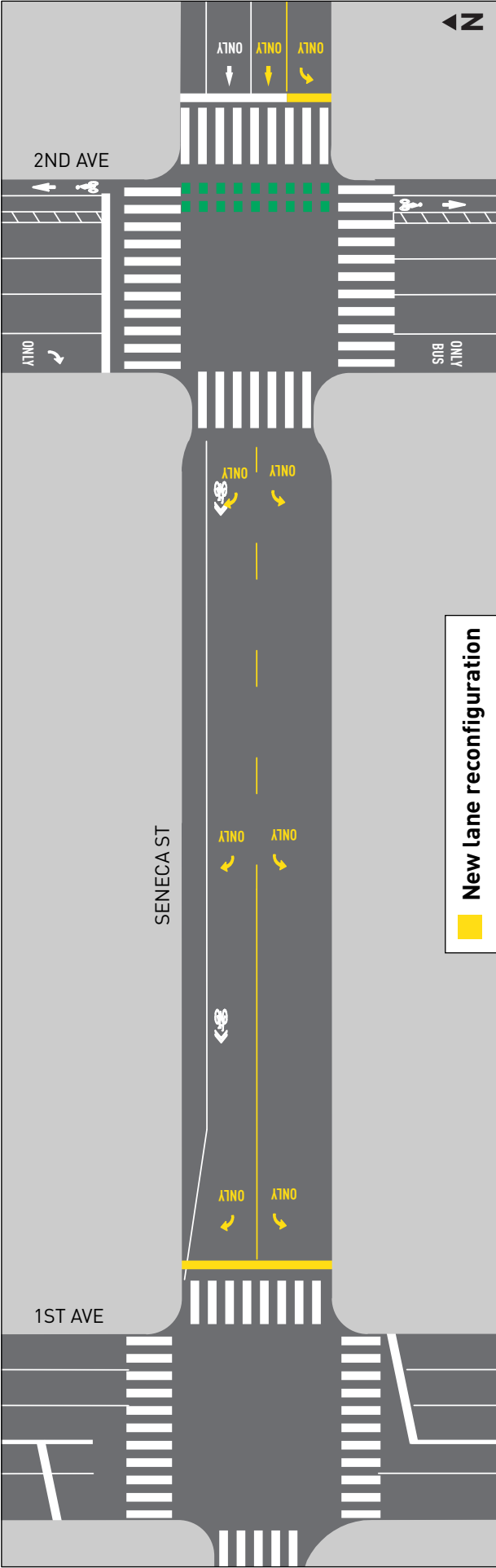
<b>Now -2022</b>	Construction impacts to streets from private construction like Key Arena
<b>January-February 2019</b>	Alaskan Way Viaduct closes 1/11
<b>March 23, 2019</b>	Downtown Seattle Tunnel becomes light rail only, bringing buses onto downtown streets
<b>Summer 2019</b>	Construction of the new Alaskan Way begins, lasting until 2021
<b>Summer 2019</b>	Tolling starts on the SR 99 Tunnel

### What Can You Do?

Try transit, biking, walking, carpooling or vanpools. View our Tools page at [www.seattle.gov/traffic](http://www.seattle.gov/traffic) for helpful resources. If you need to drive, plan ahead and be prepared for your new route and parking locations downtown. Keep our Vision Zero goal in mind, follow the rules, take a deep breath and travel safely. Safer streets can also mean less congested streets. Nationally, an estimated 25% of congestion can be attributed to traffic crashes.

Notice of future impacts related to the closure of SR 99 and other projects impacting traffic during the Seattle Squeeze are posted to our blog at [seattle.gov/traffic](http://seattle.gov/traffic). Head to this website for the latest updates and announcements.





**Seneca**

As soon as Saturday, January 12, we'll convert Seneca St between 1st Ave and 3rd Ave to a one-way street headed westbound. This is to accommodate the shift from the Alaskan Way Viaduct Seneca St off-ramp closing, as cars will no longer need to use Seneca St headed eastbound off of the Viaduct off-ramp. This change increases our city streets' capacity for mobility. Please see the attached map for more details.