

Temporary restrictions to address neighborhood commuter traffic due to light rail construction

With East Link light rail construction occurring on Bellevue Way and on 112th Avenue Southeast, the city is implementing a three-month pilot traffic mitigation program that is intended to discourage commuter traffic from using some neighborhood streets to access Bellevue Way during the evening commute hours.

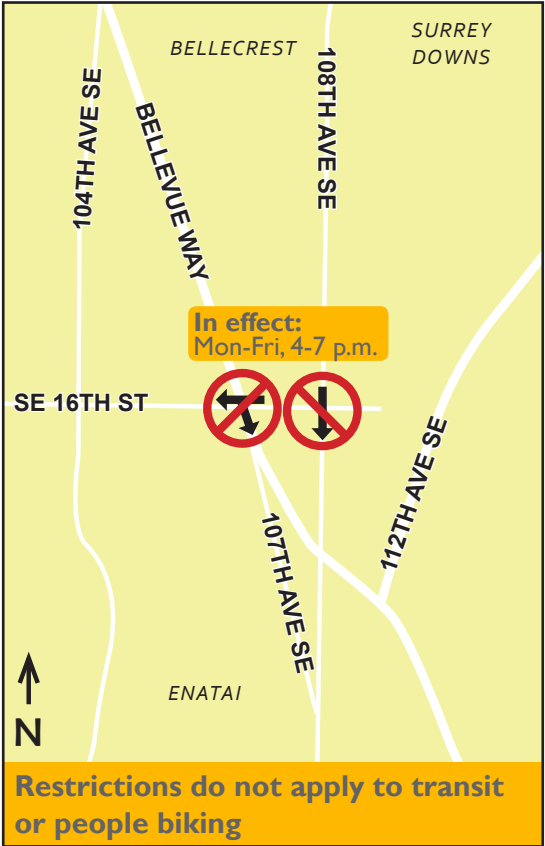
The pilot will include two restrictions that are in effect Monday through Friday, 4-7 p.m. At 108th Avenue Southeast, a no-through restriction will prohibit through travel (southbound) at Southeast 16th Street; if motorists travel this stretch when the restrictions are active, they will have to turn right (west) onto SE 16th St. The turn restriction on Southeast 16th Street at Bellevue Way will prohibit travel (westbound) on Southeast 16th Street and left turns (southbound) travel to Bellevue Way. The restrictions do not apply to people bicycling or to transit vehicles, including public and school buses. The pilot utilizes signs and flashing beacons to call attention to the locations where turns are restricted.

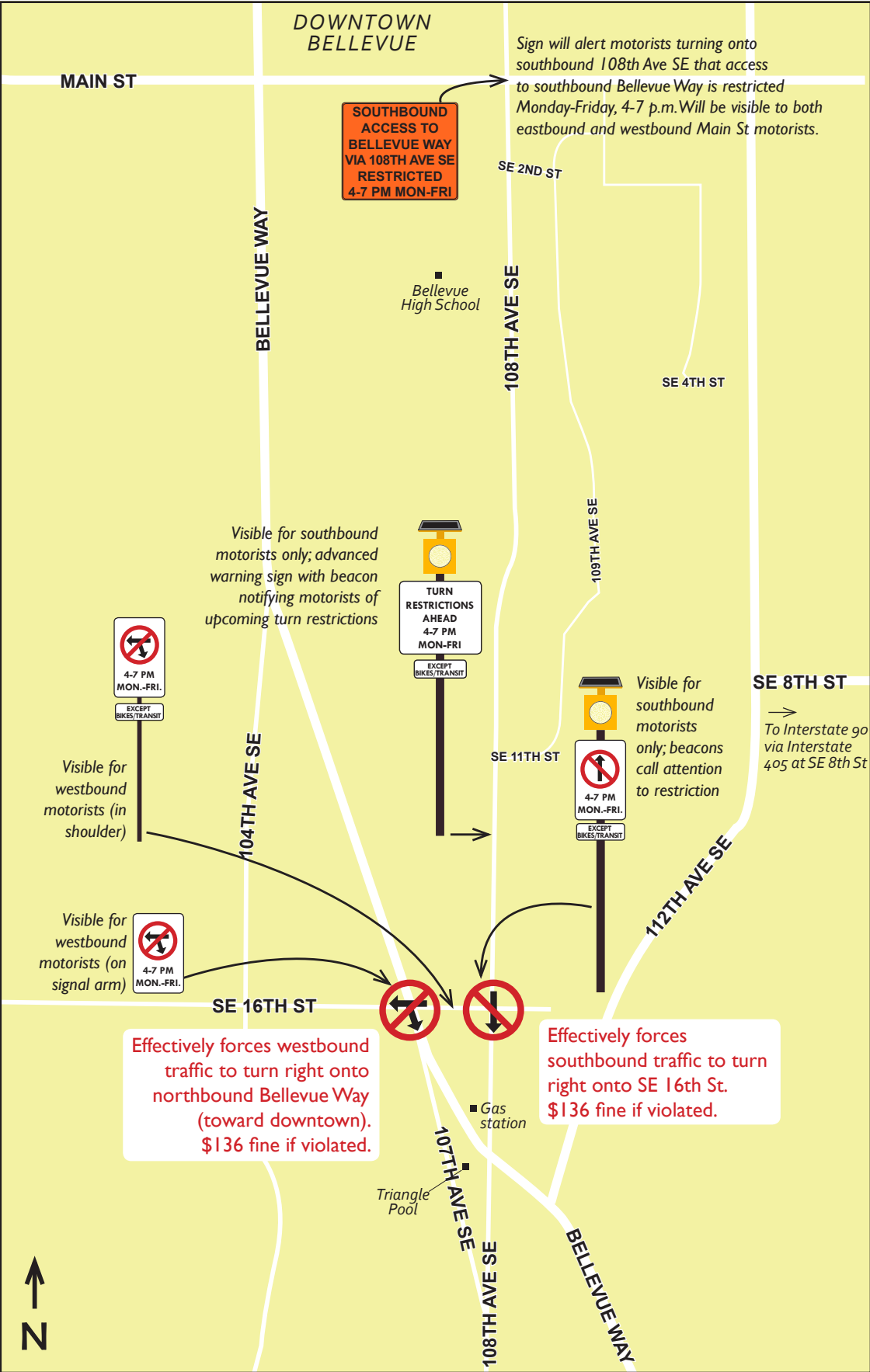
The pilot program will begin Tuesday, Sept. 5. The restrictions do not apply to people bicycling or to transit vehicles, including public and school buses.

Traffic monitoring will be conducted throughout the pilot and the results will be shared with the [Neighborhood Traffic Mitigation Committee](#) (NTMC). The NTMC was formed in 2016 to work with the City on recommending traffic mitigation that would discourage commuter traffic on neighborhood streets during East Link construction on Bellevue Way and 112th Avenue SE.

To view an informative handout including a map, to give feedback on the pilot and to learn more about the NTMC, go to www.bellevuewa.gov/ELtraffic.

(Prepared by the City of Bellevue 08/29/17)





DOWNTOWN BELLEVUE

MAIN ST

BELLEVUE WAY

SOUTHBOUND ACCESS TO BELLEVUE WAY VIA 108TH AVE SE RESTRICTED 4-7 PM MON-FRI

Sign will alert motorists turning onto southbound 108th Ave SE that access to southbound Bellevue Way is restricted Monday-Friday, 4-7 p.m. Will be visible to both eastbound and westbound Main St motorists.

Bellevue High School

SE 2ND ST

108TH AVE SE

SE 4TH ST

Visible for southbound motorists only; advanced warning sign with beacon notifying motorists of upcoming turn restrictions

TURN RESTRICTIONS AHEAD 4-7 PM MON-FRI EXCEPT BIKES/TRANSIT

NO LEFT TURN 4-7 PM MON-FRI EXCEPT BIKES/TRANSIT

Visible for westbound motorists (in shoulder)

104TH AVE SE

Visible for southbound motorists only; beacons call attention to restriction

SE 8TH ST

To Interstate go via Interstate 405 at SE 8th St

SE 11TH ST

NO LEFT TURN 4-7 PM MON-FRI EXCEPT BIKES/TRANSIT

Visible for westbound motorists (on signal arm)

NO LEFT TURN 4-7 PM MON-FRI EXCEPT BIKES/TRANSIT

SE 16TH ST

112TH AVE SE

Effectively forces westbound traffic to turn right onto northbound Bellevue Way (toward downtown). \$136 fine if violated.

Effectively forces southbound traffic to turn right onto SE 16th St. \$136 fine if violated.

Gas station

Triangle Pool

108TH AVE SE

108TH AVE SE

BELLEVUE WAY





SOUTH BELLEVUE EAST LINK CONSTRUCTION

City of Bellevue
Transportation Department
PO Box 90012
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Pilot Project to Discourage Evening Commuter Traffic in South Bellevue

www.bellevuewa.gov/ELtraffic

Pilot Project to Discourage Evening Commuter Traffic: South Bellevue East Link Construction

Question and Comments

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Pilot Project to Discourage Evening Commuter Traffic in South Bellevue

- Response to East Link light rail construction along 112th Ave SE and Bellevue Way
- Turn restrictions will discourage evening commuter traffic leaving downtown from using residential streets
- Restrictions will be piloted for 3 months, starting around the end of August
- All drivers must abide by the turn restrictions
- City to monitor traffic volume while pilot is underway

Title VI Notice to the Public It is the City of Bellevue's policy to assure that no person shall on the grounds of race, color, national origin or sex, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, be excluded from participating in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise discriminated against under any of its federally funded programs and activities. Any person who believes his/her Title VI protection has been violated may file a complaint with the Title VI Coordinator. For Title VI complaint forms and advice, please contact the Title VI Coordinator at 425-452-4496.



Pilot Project to Discourage Evening Commuter Traffic in South Bellevue due to East Link Construction

To begin around the start of the school year

August 2017

Pilot project overview

As East Link light rail construction progresses on 112th Ave SE and Bellevue Way, a three-month pilot project to discourage commuter traffic from using neighborhood streets south of downtown Bellevue to access Bellevue Way takes effect around the start of the new school year (August 31). Weekday (Monday-Friday), evening (4-7 p.m.) turn restrictions will be placed at SE 16th St and 108th Ave SE and at SE 16th St and Bellevue Way. The pilot utilizes signs and flashing beacons to call attention to the locations where turns are restricted.

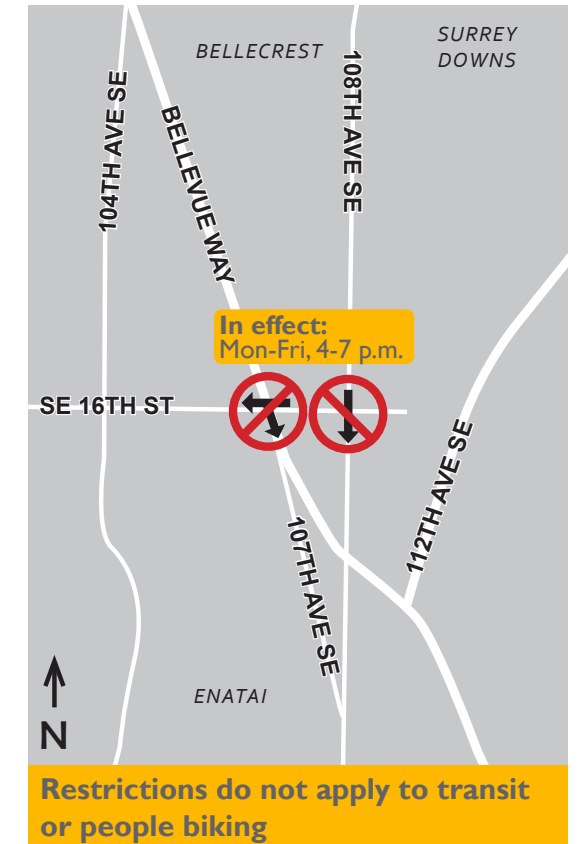
Restrictions

Motorists traveling southbound on 108th Ave SE will be restricted at SE 16th St and not allowed to continue to Bellevue Way. At this intersection, motorists will be required to make a right turn (westbound) onto SE 16th St. Once motorists are at Bellevue Way, they are required to make another right turn (no access westbound or southbound). These restrictions are in effect Monday through Friday from 4-7 p.m. and do not apply to transit or people biking.

Why now?

East Link construction on 112th Ave SE recently reduced travel from four lanes to two. This configuration is similar to work the City of Bellevue conducted in 2015 which caused traffic to divert to neighborhood streets. This pilot restriction will help to discourage that diversion from occurring when traffic is heaviest: during the evening commute.

Your feedback about the pilot will help us understand its effectiveness. To submit comments while the pilot is in effect, please visit www.bellevuewa.gov/ELtraffic

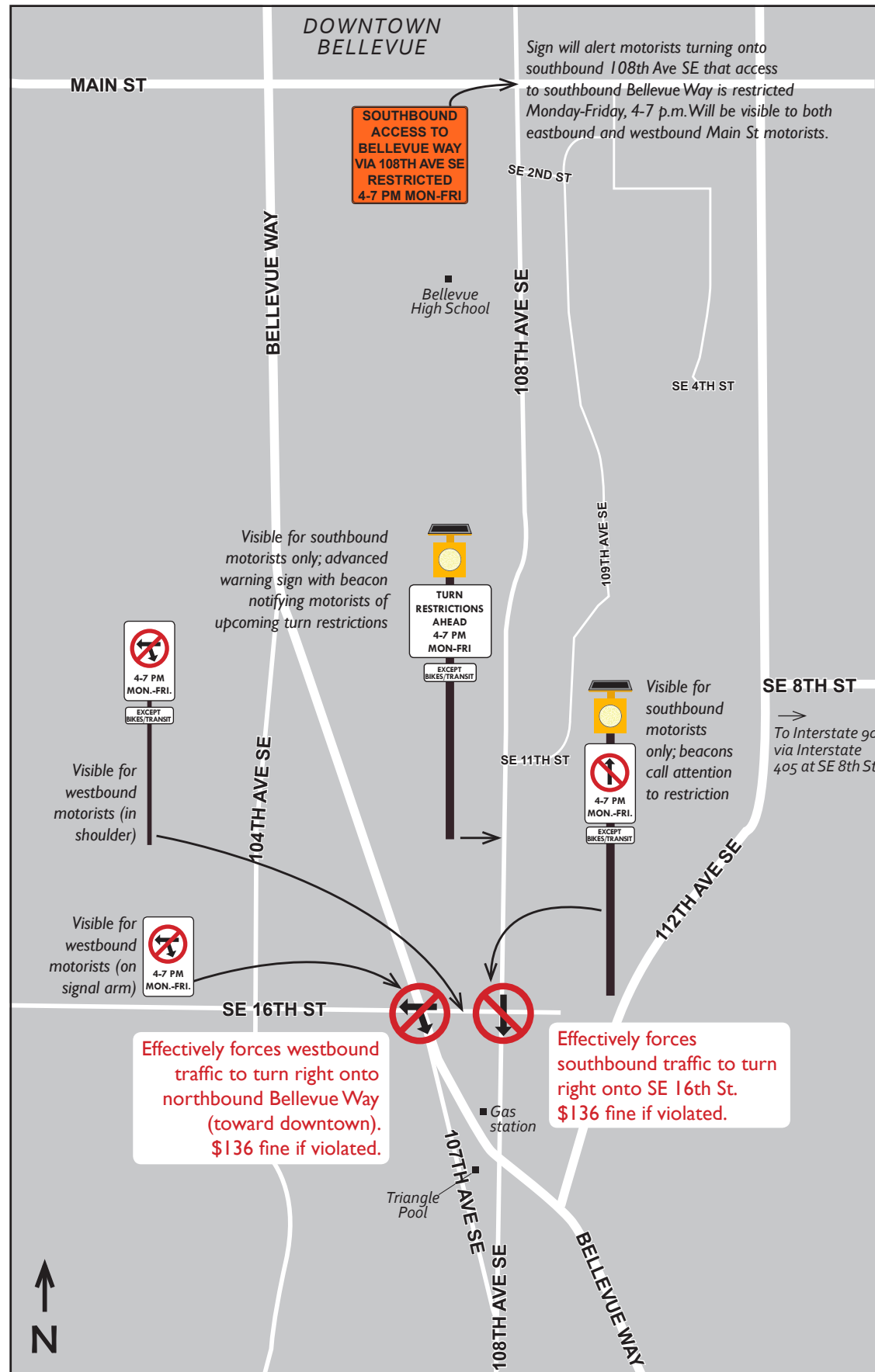


Pilot Project Benefits

- Discourage commuter traffic from using neighborhood streets
- Turn restrictions are enforceable
- Navigation apps (e.g. Waze, Google Maps) will reflect change and not route drivers through the neighborhood from Monday-Friday, 4-7 p.m.
- Allow for opportunity to collect data, gather community feedback, and evaluate effectiveness

Restricting commuter traffic in the evening

This map shows where the restrictions will be placed at 108th Ave SE/SE 16th St and Bellevue Way/SE 16th St. The restrictions will be implemented around the start of the school year.



QUESTIONS

Why is this happening?

The community has been concerned about commuter traffic associated with East Link construction. Addressing commuter traffic comes with many tradeoffs, sometimes with impacts to residents. This pilot project will run for three months so traffic volumes can be monitored. After three months, the pilot will be evaluated for effectiveness to ensure that commuter traffic hasn't increased and to gauge community sentiment. 108th Ave SE between Main St and Bellevue Way is an attractive route for commuters to use to get to the freeway. Approximately 600 vehicles between 4-7 p.m. make a left onto southbound Bellevue Way from 108th Ave SE. To submit comments while the pilot is in effect, please visit www.bellevuewa.gov/ELtraffic.

Must all motorists abide by the restrictions?

Yes. All motorists must abide by the restrictions. Similar to the existing no-through restriction at 108th Ave and Main St, transit vehicles and people biking are exempt from the restrictions.

Are the turn restrictions enforceable?

Yes. Police will enforce the turn restrictions. If you are found to violate the restrictions, the infraction is \$136.

I have kids at Enatai Elementary or Bellevue High school. Will this impact them getting home?

Generally, no. Enatai dismisses at 2:25 p.m. and Bellevue High dismisses at 3:30 p.m. If after school activities are planned, you may need to reconsider your route of travel.

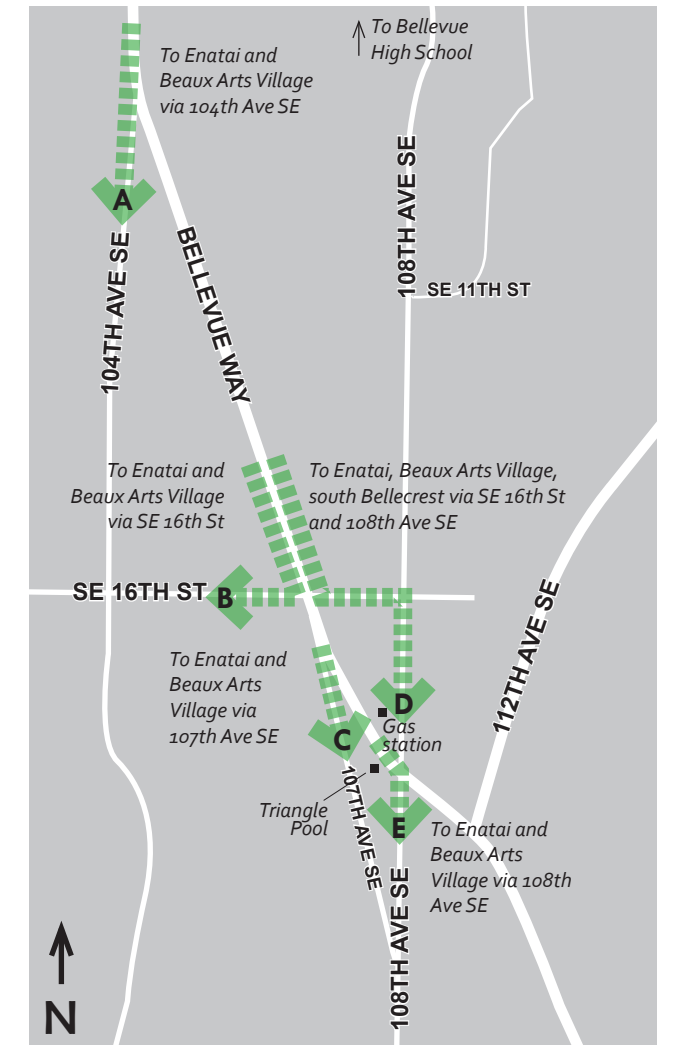
When will the turn restrictions begin?

The pilot turn restrictions will be implemented around the start of the school year (August 31) and will last for three months (end of November). At that time, the pilot will be evaluated to determine if it was effective in discouraging commuter traffic. If the pilot continues beyond three months, it will nonetheless remain in place only during East Link construction.

How do I access my home in Bellecrest and Surrey Downs?

For the majority of residents that live north of Bellevue Way, this pilot program will not change your ability to access your home when traveling from downtown Bellevue as there are no new restrictions north of SE 16th St or off of Bellevue Way. For those households at the south end of Bellecrest south of SE 16th St, you can travel south on Bellevue Way to eastbound SE 16th St to southbound 108th Ave SE (D, on the map to the right). Alternatively, you can travel to the Bellevue Way and 108th Ave SE intersection and turn left (northbound) onto 108th Ave SE.

Getting to Enatai, south Bellecrest, Beaux Arts Village



There will remain many ways to access points south of the restrictions if you are coming from downtown. Consider one of the green routes shown above.

How do I get south to Bellevue Way between 4-7 PM? (see map above)

If you live in Bellecrest or Surrey Downs, consider traveling north on 108th Ave SE to Main St to find an alternative route to the freeway (e.g. downtown access to I-405) or traveling south on 112th Ave SE or Bellevue Way).

How do I access Enatai and Beaux Arts Village? (see map above)

Likely how you normally did before the restriction. Off Bellevue Way, you can use 104th Ave SE (A), SE 16th St (B), 107th Ave SE (C), SE 16th St to 108th Ave SE (D), or 108th Ave SE (E).

In spring 2016, the city began working with affected neighborhoods in helping to identify traffic mitigation tools and locations to lessen the potential traffic impacts due to East Link construction. Eleven volunteers from Bellecrest, Enatai and Surrey Downs and Beaux Arts Village came together to form a broad and geographically balanced committee. The Neighborhood Traffic Mitigation Committee (NTMC) has worked to recommend mitigation tools that best mitigate neighborhood traffic impacts resulting from East Link construction which is now occurring on Bellevue Way (began in June 2017) and 112th Ave SE (began in July 2017). More information about the NTMC can be found at: bellevuewa.gov/ELtraffic