

Seattle Department of Transportation Major Projects Digital Photograph Collection, 2007-2009

Overview of the Collection

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| Creator | Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Transportation |
| Title | Seattle Department of Transportation Major Projects Digital Photograph Collection |
| Dates | 2007-2009 (inclusive) |
| Quantity | 805 digital image files |
| Collection Number | 8111-01 |
| Summary | Photographs document major projects, primarily the South Lake Union Streetcar opening day celebration. |
| Repository | Seattle Municipal Archives Seattle Municipal Archives Office of the City Clerk City of Seattle PO Box 94728 98124-4728 Seattle, WA Telephone: 206-233-7807 Fax: 206-386-9025 archives@seattle.gov |
| Access Restrictions | Records are open to the public. |
| Languages | English |

Historical Note

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) was formed by combining transportation planning from the former Strategic Planning Office (SPO) with the former Seattle Transportation Department (SeaTran) to bring a more comprehensive approach to transportation service delivery. A major element of SDOT's creation was the establishment of the Policy, Planning, and Major Project's division, which is charged with transportation system planning and providing increased control and influence over major projects under construction in Seattle.

SDOT is currently organized into eight divisions. The Director's Office, Human Resources, and Communications constitute the Executive management division. The Capital Projects and Roadway Structures division includes the Transportation Capital Improvement Program and operation and maintenance of the city's bridges and other structures. Street Use & Urban Forestry provides permitting for all work including planting, pruning, and removal of trees. Responsibility for long-range transportation planning, and developing transportation policy for the city of Seattle falls to the Policy & Planning division. Initiation of large projects and program development is lead by the Major Projects division. Financial oversight of the department, information systems and administrative support is directed by the Resource Management division. The Street Maintenance division has responsibility

for street resurfacing, cleaning and general maintenance and Traffic Management is responsible for operation of the city's street system, and neighborhood and operational programs.

This department has had a long evolution beginning with the Department of Streets and Sewers which was responsible for planning, construction, repair, and cleaning of the City's streets, sidewalks, and sewers. City Council appointed Seattle's first Street Commissioner in 1875. The position came under the jurisdiction of the Board of Public Works in 1890. The position of Superintendent of Streets, Sewers and Parks was established in 1896; authority over parks was removed in 1904. In 1936 the Engineering Department assumed the responsibilities of the Department of Streets and Sewers and the Traffic Department and the Department became the Maintenance Division of the Engineering Department.

An ordinance creating a Department of Transportation was passed in July 1971. The legislation provided for the appointment of the Director of Transportation, specified the duties of the Transit Advisory Board, provided for the Seattle Transit Commission, and transferred all remaining operational aspects to the newly organized department. The Seattle Transportation Department was created in 1997 when the traffic and transportation functions of the Engineering Department were consolidated. By June 2002, SDOT and SPO consolidated to form a newly organized department which absorbed responsibilities for maintenance and operation of streets, bridges, retaining walls and seawalls, and traffic control systems in the City. An ordinance passed in 2004 changed the departments' name to Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT).

Content Description

TSSeattle Department of Transportation's Major Projects division photographs include work performed by that unit such as pavement resurfacing, sidewalks, curbs and ramps, drainage improvements, channelization and landscape restoration. Large projects include the Mercer Corridor project, Fremont Bridge Approach Replacement project, Airport Way South viaduct rehabilitation project, SR99 tunnel construction, and South Lake Union Streetcar. [View 8111-01 online](#)

Use of the Collection

Preferred Citation

[Item number.] SDOT Major Projects Digital Photograph Collection, Record Series 8111-01. Seattle Municipal Archives.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Photographs acquired through the Seattle Municipal Archives Digital Image Management Program.

Future Additions

This series may grow due to continued accessioning through the Digital Image Management Program. This finding aid will be updated to reflect additional accessions.

Names and Subjects

Subject Terms :

Mayors--Washington(State)--Seattle
Streetcar lines--Washington (State)--Seattle
Transportation--Washington (State)--Seattle

Personal Names :

Nickels, Greg

Corporate Names :

Seattle (Wash.). Dept. of Transportation
(creator)

Geographical Names :

Seattle (Wash.)

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