UPDATE FROM MAYOR BOUDREAU

City of MOUNT VERNON

May 30, 2013

Hello Mount Vernon,

It has been one week this evening that we have been working through the Skagit River Bridge collapse – what a hectic time we've had – but I am truly grateful for no loss of life. To me, it is a miracle.

Over the past week, the City of Mount Vernon has worked hand in hand with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), Washington State Patrol (WSP), the Governor's Office, and with our legislators to address several impacting factors. We are thankful for the good media coverage that is crucial in disseminating information to the public.

- The traffic response is being addressed on a regional level by WSDOT and WSP. What has been done within the City is hardware installation at the intersections on the College Way detour and Kincaid Street detours. Signage has been placed and sensors have been placed for staggered detour information. For instance – if sensors pick up backups from the College Way exit to Kincaid, it trips messaging to detour at Kincaid. WSP is assisting the Mount Vernon Police Department in any overflow traffic accident documentation – we have had an increase… **so please stay alert**.
- WSDOT has installed traffic cameras on our detour routes to assist travelers with information. Please go to the WSDOT website, and click on Traffic Cameras, then "Mount Vernon-Stanwood". You can then click on any view you'd like, and see what the traffic is doing in real time.
- We are watching what happens daily, to tweak the systems to improve traffic flow.
- We expect signage any day to communicate that businesses WEST and EAST of Interstate 5 are OPEN!
- I am in communication with Governor Inslee regarding the need for relief from commercial vehicles. We hope there may be other options than having the official detour go right through our City.

All information about repair of the bridge is being facilitated by WSDOT on their website – please check there for updates at www.wsdot.wa.gov. We are thankful that the Governor has been able to provide a temporary bridge by mid-June then a permanent span by the fall.

The City is working with our Chamber of Commerce to tell the community that we are still open for business. **Our shops need your support – there are several ways around the detour traffic by using roads like Stewart, Cameron Way and Market Street.** Allow extra time, but please shop in Mount Vernon!

The Mount Vernon Farmers Market on Saturday is a perfect place to show support for our region. The location is across from City hall on Cleveland Street. Vendors are open from 9am to 1pm on Saturday mornings.

As information becomes available, we will post to our City website.

Our mission in the City of Mount Vernon is to provide professional, efficient services to create a lifetime positive difference for our Community.

See the attached map for some tips for us locals. The highlighted areas are suggestions for alternative routes. Print and share with friends!

SKAGIT RIVER
STEWART RD
E STEWART RD
HOAG RD
PACIFIC PL
PACIFIC PL
FREEWAY DR
RIVERSIDE DR
MARKET ST
URBAN AVE
CONTINENTAL PL
COMMERCIAL
COMMERCIAL
BNSFRR
5
538
W COLLEGE WY
E COLLEGE WY
RIVERSIDE DR
LEIGH WY
ROOSEVELT AVE
ROOSEVELT AVE
VALLEY MALL WY
RIVERBEND RD
SKAGIT RIVER
W FIR ST
E FIR ST
CAMERON
N 4TH ST
N
City of MOUNT VERNON
I-5 Bridge Closure Vicinity Map