Traffic impacts all of us on a daily basis. Gridlock in the Seattle metropolitan area is among the worst in the country, and the region’s continuing population and job growth will only increase congestion. Get the facts, and get on your way.

**WORST COMMUTER STRESS INDEX IN THE US**

Seattle freeway commutes take 55% longer than the peak direction during peak times compared to the same trip at free-flow speeds. (Source: Texas A&M Transportation Institute 2015 Urban Mobility Report)

**66 HOURS**

Seattle drivers lost 66 hours in traffic in 2015, as the 6th most-congested city in the country, right behind Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Houston and New York. (Source: INRIX)

Seattle is the second most bus-reliant city in the country, after San Francisco. One in five commuters — 78,000 people — takes the bus to work. (Source: Seattle Times FYI Guy analysis of census data)

Seattle freeway commutes take 55% longer than the peak direction during peak times compared to the same trip at free-flow speeds. (Source: Texas A&M Transportation Institute 2015 Urban Mobility Report)

**76 min.**

Length of Mark’s 26-mile drive on I-405 each morning

**$50**

The cost for Luna being 10 minutes late to pick up her son from day care due to heavy traffic

**6:29 AM**

The fastest Dan can park at the Tukwila light rail station before it’s full

**95%**

Accuracy of reliability rating

**NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND IDEAS TO IMPROVE MOBILITY**

Self-driving cars could be on roads in 5 years

Fiat Chrysler Automobiles Chairman and CEO Sergio Marchionne says self-driving vehicles could be on the road as little as five years. FCA and Google announced a partnership in May to work together to add self-driving technology to 100 Chrysler Pacifica minivans for testing purposes. It’s the first time Google has worked directly with an auto company to install self-driving technology. The hybrid version of the Pacifica is being built for the partnership and will go on sale to the public at the end of this year. According to Business Insider, 10 million self-driving cars will be on the road by 2020. (Source: seattletimes.com, Business Insider)

**ASK AN EXPERT**

Ask Bob Pishue, senior economist at INRIX, a Kirkland-based traffic-data and automobile-technology company

**What do you think is our region’s best shot at traffic solutions?**

Expanding roads reduces congestion, but is costly. Large shifts in transportation modes can also be expensive. We need to find ways to make the most impact with the least cost, such as car sharing. Partnering with the public sector is key — King County Metro runs the largest public vanpool fleet in the nation. Technology is already reducing congestion. Traffi c lights in Bellevue now adapt to roadway conditions, a good example of how a small investment can pay off.

**Signal improvements in Bellevue and Seattle**

New traffic-network-control software is on the way for Seattle. The city is spending $611,000 on a new system called Connect from tech firm Siemens to enable better signal-timing across the city and adapt to major incidents like freeway backups and stadium crowds. Bellevue already has signal-timing systems for 197 intersections, using software by TransCore. Learn more at http://st.news/signals

**Plan your commute with 95% accuracy**

The Washington State Department of Transportation commute calculator uses travel time data to predict a worst-case scenario travel time and get you where you’re going in time. Enter start and end locations, and the tool calculates when you need to leave. Commuters can expect to arrive at the end of the route on time 19 out of 20 working days a month (95 percent of trips). Travel times are based on weekday travel time data for 2013. This data is updated annually in late summer or early autumn with data from the previous year. You can also view current travel times. Calculate your travel time at wsdot.com/traffic/Seattle/TravelTimes/Reliability (Source: WSDOT)

**New technologies and ideas to improve mobility**

**TRAFFIC**

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