

<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Comments</b>
01/05/2017	Pam P	<a href="mailto:h2opam@">h2opam@</a>	Private citizen	The banners displayed on the bridge are a time-honored tradition since the bridge first went up. It is often the only notice of an upcoming event that I see as I don't receive the newspaper. I support the continuance of the banner display, but suggest a panel review of both private, DES and service groups representation to review acceptance of a request.
01/04/2017	Judy M	<a href="mailto:jdmart44@">jdmart44@</a>		I look for announcements of events there all the time. Please keep it going, It's a fine service for all of us. Judy
01/03/2017	Scott B	<a href="mailto:Bsabco@">Bsabco@</a>	Citizen	Ban all banners on the overpass. Just too much of a distraction caused for drivers caused by banners and people on the bridge with signs.
12/30/2016	Toni H	<a href="mailto:tch@">tch@</a>	Mixx96.1 KXXO	I know of many non-profits who really benefit from the free availability of this banner. The only other one in Olympia, over State St. is equally popular, but, although nominally free, putting a banner there incurs higher costs due to larger required standard size for banners and the need to pay for professional installation and removal.
12/30/2016	Angela			The banners do provide advertisement for community events and that part is good. However, in light of current events, the banners also shield visibility of the bridge - who may be up there waiting to throw something down on passerbys or worse? A bit creepy if you think of it that way. Please consider this potential safety issue.
12/29/2016	Jill R			Law that stipulates that no groups that promote violence or have a history of promoting violence should be allowed to post a banner. A few authorize sign vendors could be approved for groups to use to ensure banners meet size, material, and graphic specifications. Banner size options seem appropriate as is. Graphic specifications specified for quick reference while driving, i.e. no small print that would cause drivers to spend too much time to read with eyes not on road while driving. Hanging method stipulated for safety for installers and so banner does not fall on own into traffic or cannot be easily removed by vandals. Banners up no longer than 1 business day after event. Penalty (community service) established for individuals for vandalizing or not authorized to remove banner. Most individuals likely to commit this act would not be able to pay a penalty fee. Fee to hang banner(s) should include state employee staff costs to install, remove, and discard (regular hourly rate, not overtime and flat fee for disposal). Some groups may want their banner back so discard fee would not be included. Fee could also include a daily or weekly rate?

12/29/2016 David J	<a href="mailto:dericjones@">dericjones@</a>	citizen; North Tumwater resident	The banners on that bridge serve a valuable public information service. Many community organizations rely on it to spread the word of their good efforts. Frankly, if very unpopular gun-rights activists can assemble with signage by the Tivoli Fountain then very popular concerts by Olympia Symphony or very enlightened public servants creating events to support the United Way should be able to use signage on a public space such as the bridge. If it's crucial to scale back use, the obvious compromise is to require a IRS 501(c)3 charitable organization tax status or a registered WA Secretary of State nonprofit organization status -- and expressly prohibit businesses and 501(c)4 organizations from using the public space.
12/28/2016 J			I would like to continue seeing banners for local events. Sometimes, it's the only way I find out about local events before they happen.
12/27/2016 Edwin P	<a href="mailto:ejpoleii@">ejpoleii@</a>	Private citizen	DES must ban all banners and any other assembly and speech on the pedestrian bridge over Capitol Way or it must allow any banner content, including political. The only limitation is to secure the basic function of the bridge to assure pedestrian traffic and prevent obstruction to traffic on Capitol Way. Banner space should be on a first come, first served basis with reasonable time limitations.
12/21/2016 Mark F	<a href="mailto:mfoutch@">mfoutch@</a>	Olympia Historical Society & Bigelow House Museum	Just fyi, OHS&BHM for years has put a banner on that bridge publicizing our Holiday Tour of Historic Homes. With the significant increase in cost this year our Board elected not to do so. The banner's absence did not affect attendance. Due to other factors we had record ticket sales. We've concluded that the bridge banner has little if any effect on event success.
12/15/2016 Joyce	<a href="mailto:chela2@">chela2@</a>	Citizen	I think you should continue to allow the banners to be placed on the bridge. I think it would make sense if the banner content would be limited to events and activities - i.e., not advertising a service or a political position, etc. - but just a way to get the word out about activities that are open to the public. Anyone putting on an activity should be allowed to apply, but the priority should be for non-profit groups.
12/14/2016 Christopher H	<a href="mailto:christopher.h@">christopher.h@</a>	Ofc of Supt Pub Instr	I support only Enterprise Services attaching and removing bridge banners and placing no restrictions on bridge banner messaging Thank you!
12/14/2016 Krina	<a href="mailto:krina@">krina@</a>	Olympia Union Gospel Mission	We have appreciated the opportunity over the years to be able to get the word out about our benefit show and helping to feed the hungry during the holiday season. We have been careful to follow all your policies over the years, whether banner printing to having a licensed and bonded contractor hang the banner on the bridge. With the current change of policy, the costs will be prohibited to a non-profit like ours or many others that rely on this type of exposure to the community. I ask that you take in consideration the good work that non-profits are doing to make this a vibrant, healthy community. Please do not impose more rules and costs, but rather find ways to make this a win win situation for the state, Enterprise Services and organizations that are doing good. Thank you.

12/14/2016 Anna N		<p>Bridge banners can be distracting to drivers and can distract from the appearance of the Capital Campus in a negative way. DES should implement restrictions on banner content to only allow relevant public service and governmental announcements. Community events such as Lakefair, are fun to know about and should be announced as they impact downtown Olympia (parking, street traffic, noise, etc.).</p>
12/12/2016 Sue L	<a href="#">lean@</a> citizen	<p>The bridge banners provide a real community service by publicizing worthwhile activities, events and fundraisers. Getting publicity is always a challenge for non-profit organizations. The art and entertainment events are made known to those of us who would not find out about them any other way. Every banner I have seen enriches the community by giving people a sense of belonging and a sense of place. It's a good idea to reduce state liability by having state placement of the banners. I do hope they will not be restricted as this is one of the ways the state connects to life in the capital city--always a challenge, as you know. I appreciate the free speech commitment by the state in regard to events on campus. With best regards, S</p>
12/09/2016 Terry B	<a href="#">tsbadger@</a> Self	<p>I am advocating that you use the same criteria you currently use for decorations on the campus for the banners, and then require that DES install all banners at cost (or as near as possible). Thanks Tony!</p>
12/08/2016 Anita P		<p>As soon as I saw a banner on the bridge advertising an "Arab" festival, I thought to myself, someone's going to complain about that! After all, Arabs are terrorists (NOT!). Sure enough, the notice about suspending bridge banner permits came not long after. This is BS. Presumably there are already some standards in place for what can be posted (or would you really give me a permit to put up a banner that says "F@#&amp; You, Donald Trump"?). If you limit banners to government agencies and PSA's, you'd better have a clear definition of "public service announcement" (that doesn't end up drawing you into law suits). If you're really concerned about distracting downtown drivers, then don't allow any banners at all.</p>
12/07/2016 Carol W	<a href="#">cawest@</a> Washington PUD Association	<p>We would like to encourage you to continue the use of the bridge for banners. It is an additional way to get information to the public.</p>

12/06/2016 Audrey	<a href="mailto:audrey@">audrey@</a>	Olympia Film Society	I just realized that the email included additional proposed changes! Prohibiting all banners to be placed on the bridge. - As event promoters, we see this as an asset to promote to those out of towners visiting the state capital building. Additionally, some folks use LTAC grants to pay for the service and many local business see their logo as part of sponsorship and support of the event. Implementing some restrictions on banner content and / or allowing only public service and governmental announcements. - Isn't that the case now. I always thought it was PSA/Non profit using the space. an example of non PSA and Gov message would be nice to provide. Placing no restrictions on bridge banner messaging. - No restrictions = FREE SPEECH (as long as it isn't instructing hate or violence)
12/06/2016 Audrey	<a href="mailto:audrey@">audrey@</a>	Olympia Film Society	Having DES install is great, less for us to worry about doing when we're busy planning our event. However, it would've been great to have been given a warning about the rate hike, as it was very substantial (installation was a donation for our event by a local contractor) increasing within the following year would have been better so that we could adjust our budgets accordingly. Thank you, it's a great service that you provide! Have a merry Christmas, Audrey
12/06/2016 Loris G	<a href="mailto:cllgies2@">cllgies2@</a>	Capitol Little League	Our non profit youth baseball program has appreciated the opportunity to hang a banner on the Capitol Way overpass in the past. It is a useful advertising event which is reasonably priced for our organization. I would like to see the opportunity continue.
12/06/2016 Shelley B		Private Citizen	My opinion on the use of the bridge for marketing is that it is a great use of space. Why not use it for public announcements. Please do not turn it into an electronic billboard like on North I-5. That is VERY distracting. This acts as a benign reminder of events up coming in the area. Hopefully, it is a free service to the public. Thank you for your time. Shelley
12/05/2016 Julie B	<a href="mailto:msjbishop@">msjbishop@</a>	none	Let them hang the banners, I believe in free speech.
12/05/2016 r jay p	<a href="mailto:rjayp@">rjayp@</a>		first option is best: prohibit ALL banners on the pedestrian bridge. prohibiting ALL banners preserves the serenity and dignity of the capitol campus AND avoids any possibility of denying speech based on an ARBITRARY standard AND avoids backlashes, rebuttals and trivial "controversies" when we all have better things to do.
12/05/2016 David A			I like the banners. They serve a variety of non-profit and civic endeavors and help tie the Capitol Campus to the community.
12/05/2016 Jake G	<a href="mailto:graterj@">graterj@</a>	YMCA	I am in support of the proposed rules to restrict hanging and removing banners to State employees only. I am in support of some basic content restrictions - essentially limiting messaging to non-political statements/advertisements. The bridge banners are an important way for area non-profits to advertise fundraising events easily and cost-effectively. I would recommend keeping the program. I would, however, support limiting banners to public agencies, non-profits & GMOs

12/05/2016 tara	I say we do not allow the banners of protesting to be placed on the bridge. I don't mind information.
12/05/2016 Anonymous	I enjoy the signs on the pedestrian bridge. It tells me which events/festivals/etc., are coming up that I enjoy or may be interested in that I may or may not have been aware of. I can understand wanting to limit what goes up there, as it can be perceived that it's a reflection of the states position on subjects that could be controversial. That being said, I don't think that we should stop displaying signs at all. Maybe there is a way to have a "approval committee" that these organizations/individuals can submit their signs to for approval, if this doesn't happen already. I'm assuming there are already stipulations when it comes to the signs for appropriateness, size, and safety. There is also no reason why security cameras couldn't be placed on the walkway to deter and/or catch vandalism. That area needs more security lighting anyways, if I remember correctly.