SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The University of Washington, through the Washington Department of Transportation, has requested that the Montlake Bridge bascule span remain closed-to-navigation position, and need not open to vessel traffic to facilitate timely movement of commencement vehicular traffic.

The Montlake Bridge across the Lake Washington Ship Canal, at mile 5.2, in the closed position provides 30 feet of vertical clearance throughout the navigation channel, and 46 feet of vertical clearance throughout the center 60-feet of the bridge; vertical clearance references to the Mean Water Level of Lake Washington.

The normal operating schedule for Montlake Bridge operates in accordance with 33 CFR 117.1051(e) which requires the bridge to open on signal, except that the bridge need not open for vessels less than 1,000 gross tons between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The deviation period is from 9:30 a.m. on June 13, 2015 to 6:15 p.m. on June 14, 2015. The deviation allows the bascule span of the Montlake Bridge to remain in the closed-to-navigation position from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on June 13, 2015, and from 11:45 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. and 4:15 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. on June 14, 2015. Waterway usage on the Lake Washington Ship Canal ranges from commercial tug and barge to small pleasure craft.

Vessels able to pass through the bridge in the closed-navigation position may do so at any time. The bridge will be able to open for emergencies and there is no immediate alternate route for vessels to pass. The Coast Guard will also inform the users of the waterways through our Local and Broadcast Notices to Mariners of the change in operating schedule for the bridge so that vessels can arrange their transits to minimize any impact caused by the temporary deviation.

In accordance with 33 CFR 117.35(e), the drawbridge must return to its regular operating schedule immediately at the end of the designated time period. This deviation from the operating regulations is authorized under 33 CFR 117.35.

Dated: May 15, 2015.

Steven M Fischer,
Bridge Administrator, Thirteenth Coast Guard District.