



## MEDIA ADVISORY

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 2018

### **It's a Wrap! Watch the Space Needle's Temporary Construction Screen and Elevated Platform Start to Come Down Tonight in Preparation for the Tower's Historic 'Spacelift' Reveal**

*Thursday marks the beginning of the three-to-four week process to bring the suspended scaffold platform back to earth*

**SEATTLE** – May 17, 2018—As the Space Needle's \$100 million renovation nears completion, the temporary wrap or screen that surrounds the tower's 500-foot level will be removed starting tonight after 9pm. The wrap will likely be removed within 24-48 hours, but the full 100-ton suspended work platform will take 3-4 weeks to be fully removed and lowered back to the ground. As part of the Space Needle's renovation, an elevated work platform with a 20-foot tall by 400-foot long screen was installed last September to provide construction workers with a weatherproof environment during the project. Coupled with the elevated scaffold platform, the Space Needle's screen has allowed the tower to remain partially open to visitors throughout the renovation. Following the removal of the screen, work crews will begin the process of removing the elevated scaffold platform, located 500 feet above ground, in the coming weeks.

"This is an historic and exciting time for the Space Needle and the Seattle Center," said Karen Olson, Chief Marketing Officer for the Space Needle. "We are open during construction and are getting 'view and improved' every day. We are not only renovating the structure, we are also reimagining the guest experience by removing walls, barriers – and even floors – and adding structural glass. The Space Needle has always been known as one of the best views of the Pacific Northwest. Now, it will be one of the most thrilling."

Over the next three-to-four weeks, watch construction crews in action as they start to reveal the newly installed glass on the Space Needle. The exterior profile of the 56-year-old landmark will remain the same; however, the visitor experience has been completely reimagined and features the world's first revolving glass floor.

The Space Needle continues to be open during construction. Most of the new glass has been installed on the observation deck. Leading up to Memorial Day weekend, 10 out of the 24 new glass benches will be unveiled and open to the public. Then by mid-June, both levels of the Space Needle – including the world's first rotating glass floor – will be fully open.

The Space Needle renovation is multi-year venture with the first phase of construction being completed by June 2018. This has been the most ambitious part of the project. To be fully open for the summer season, construction partners have been working 6 days a week, 20 hours a day since Labor Day. The

next phases of the renovation include repainting the structure which will begin this summer and updating and modernizing the elevators, which will happen over the next few years.

**WHAT:** Watch as crews begin to remove the Space Needle's temporary construction wrap. The removal of the wrap will reveal the tower's newly improved 500-foot observation level and mark the start of the three-to-four week process to remove the 100-ton elevated scaffold platform.

**WHEN:** Starting after 9pm on Thursday, May 17.

**WHERE:** Space Needle, 400 Broad St. Seattle, WA 98109.

**NOTE:** Since the best locations to record the removal process are not on the Space Needle's property, members of the media are encouraged to find locations northeast side (Where the first section of the screen will be removed. The crew will work clockwise from there.) of the Space Needle on their own. Members of the media may want to use a helicopter to capture aerial footage of the scrim being removed.



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