STATEMENT ON START TIME +
GETTING TO THE MARCHING ON SATURDAY

100,000 or so empowered womxn marching through the streets of Seattle make a big impact—and that's what we want! But especially this year, with local businesses and traffic already pained by the Viaduct shutdown, Seattle Womxn Marching Forward seeks to do everything we can to minimize that pain without lessening the impact of our powerful message. We've consulted with representatives from the City of Seattle, Seattle Police Department, Seattle Fire/Medic One, Seattle Dept. of Transportation, King County Metro, Sound Transit, Department of Neighborhoods and local businesses on Capitol Hill, and have organized accordingly. The biggest change you will notice is the rally at Cal Anderson Park starts earlier (9AM sharp) and is shorter. We plan to start marching by 9:45AM.

Ensuring that the march is on its way out of the Capitol Hill neighborhood at the planned time means that local shops and restaurants can open on time. And marchers will be able to proceed at a reasonable pace through downtown to arrive at Seattle Center in time to participate in their choice of a dozen exciting panels, presentations and discussion groups. The first panels at Seattle Center start at 11:30 a.m. and you won't want to miss them!

Information and tips for getting to the march on-time:

**Plan your transportation so that you arrive at Cal Anderson Park before 9:00 a.m., and be prepared for it to take you longer to commute than it normally does due to the Viaduct closure and the tens of thousands of people expected to be gathering to march with us!**

Public Transit:
We hope most people who are able will use SoundTransit Light Rail or other public transportation to get to Cal Anderson Park on Capitol Hill. Light Rail is a preferred option because you can exit at the Capitol Hill station and walk to the rally. We suggest you plan your route in advance, using trip planning tools such as King County's Trip Planner or by consulting the SoundTransit Light Rail schedule.

The train schedule/frequency will be the normal Saturday schedule, but extra cars are being added to the trains to accommodate expected crowds. For example, if you are coming from north Seattle, the 8:41 a.m. train from the U-District/Husky Stadium is the last train that will get you to the rally on time. Coming from south of Seattle, the 8:00 a.m. train from Angle Lake station is the last train to that will get you there on time. If you're running late and aren't going to make it to the Capitol Hill Light Rail station by 9:20 a.m. then get off at the Westlake station to meet up with the march en route or proceed to Seattle Center following the What if I Can't Make It To The Rally On Time plan below.
If you are taking Uber/Lyft, a taxi or other rideshare, please inform your driver that the drop-off location for the Rally is on 12th Avenue between E. Olive and E. Howell. This zone will be closed to parked vehicles, allowing room to safely drop passengers.

Charter Buses:
We understand some groups have chartered buses to the march--great idea! Charters should drop-off at the bus zone on 12th Avenue between E. Olive St. and E. Howell St. From I-90, drivers should take the Rainier Ave S. northbound exit, proceed north on Rainier Avenue and turn right onto 12th Avenue. From 520, or coming south on I-5, take the Roanoke St. exit. Charters should drop-off by 8am to avoid the worst traffic.

Accessibility:
An accessible drop-off location has been arranged at the SW corner of E. Pine and Nagle PL, but you must arrange to arrive early to utilize this location. SPD are hoping to support the disability drop-off until 8:30 a.m., but will need to close the street as soon as there are too many people for traffic to pass safely. So please come early. If you take Light Rail, exiting the Capitol Hill station at the West Entry and proceeding south on Broadway will provide you with the best paved surface to an accessible rally viewing area that you can enter at E. Pine & Nagle PL--total distance from Light Rail Station 0.3 miles. Other access and accommodation information, including a map and location of the dedicated accessible viewing area is available online here.

What if I can’t make it to the rally on time?
If you’re unable to make it to Cal Anderson by 9:20 a.m., then you’ll miss the rousing rally but you can meet up with the march en route at Westlake Park (if you’re taking Light Rail, get off at the Westlake station). Please do not block the street or get ahead of the march--just wait inside the park until the indigenous peoples leading the march pass by and then safely merge into the march. Volunteers in brightly colored vests will be there to help direct marchers. Or you can proceed directly to Seattle Center, where programming begins at 11:30 a.m.

What happens when I get to Seattle Center?
Once you arrive at Seattle Center, it is important that you proceed directly to your choice of a dozen programs and presentations, clearing the path for thousands of other marchers behind you--we want to avoid a choke point. So check out the schedule of programs in advance to see which captures your passion. Programming locations/schedules are available online here and in print in the January 16th edition of the Real Change newspaper and at Seattle Center guest services. Volunteers in brightly colored vests will also be available to help direct you at the end of the march.

See you on Saturday for a safe and activating Womxn March On Seattle: Building Power!

Sincerely,
Seattle Womxn Marching Forward