SR 167: The Green River Valley's Primary Freight Spine and Its Dec 2025 Six-Mile Closure

Pillar: The Corridors | **Basis:** Historical Event + Agency Program | **Primary Source:** WSDOT / King County | **As Of:** 2026-11-16

SR 167 is the north-south industrial lifeline linking Renton, Kent, and Auburn; on December 15, 2025, the Desimone levee breach forced a 6-mile closure of SR 167, pushing valley freight onto an already saturated I-5.

Operational Continuity & Corridor Facts

• SR 167 runs directly along the Green River Valley floor through Renton, Kent, and Auburn, serving the state's densest concentration of aerospace and warehouse docks.

• When the Desimone Levee breached on December 15, 2025, authorities closed a 6-mile stretch of SR 167.

• WSDOT's I-405/SR 167 Corridor Program and auxiliary-lane projects (such as SR 516 to S 277th St) aim to relieve merging bottlenecks, but do not eliminate flood-closure exposure.

SR 167 Valley Segment Operational Profile

Segment / Project	Function	Vulnerability / Status	Source
Renton-Kent-Auburn Core	Primary valley truck & shift spine	Closed 6 miles Dec 15, 2025	King County / WSDOT
SR 516 to S 277th St Aux	Merge/diverge bottleneck relief	Deployed operational fix	WSDOT I-405/SR 167
Electronic Toll Modernization	Express toll lane management	Completed across active ETL	WSDOT

Corridor Exposure, Triggers & Facility Actions

• Dispatchers must treat SR 167 as a single-point floodable arterial during atmospheric-river warnings.

• Pre-register alternate surface-street truck routes (e.g., West Valley Hwy / East Valley Hwy where weight-legal) while checking local bridge postings.

• Coordinate shift-change flexibility when SR 167 closes, as 65,000 valley workers compete for I-5 and surface arterials.

Cross-Cluster Links & Primary Sources

• **WA Space Cluster Hub (#1382):** https://bcesg.org/washington-space-cluster-census/

• **Kent WA Space Cluster Profile:** https://bcesg.org/kent-wa-space-cluster-profile/

• **Auburn WA Space Cluster Profile:** https://bcesg.org/auburn-wa-space-cluster-profile/

• **Renton WA Space Cluster Profile:** https://bcesg.org/renton-wa-space-cluster-profile/

• **Supply-Chain & Procurement Desk Brief:** https://bcesg.org/wa-space-role-procurement-lead-desk-brief/

• **Launch Segment Continuity Exposure:** https://bcesg.org/wa-space-launch-continuity-corridor-exposure/

• **WSDOT I-405 / SR 167 Corridor Program:**
https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/major-projects/i-405sr-167-corridor-program

• **WSDOT Puget Sound Gateway / SR 167:**
https://wsdot.wa.gov/construction-planning/major-projects/puget-sound-gateway-program

• **King County Flood Services:**
https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dnrp/nature-recreation/environment-ecology-conservation/flood-services

Provenance Note: Dec 15, 2025 6-mile closure is a dated historical event; I-405/SR 167 improvements per WSDOT.