



# ***Everett Link Extension***

## **Community Conversations Interim Findings Report**

***March 2022***

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Lynnwood Food Bank | May 24, 2021  
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Connect Casino Road | June 23, 2021  
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# 1 PROJECT OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY

## 1.1 Background

Sound Transit is in the Alternatives Development phase of planning for the Everett Link Extension Project (EVLE). As part of its comprehensive outreach strategy, Sound Transit and its consultant teams are conducting interviews with community stakeholders along the proposed route. The interviews are intended to help the project team and decision-makers gain a better understanding of current experiences, priorities, and concerns related to regional transit and the Everett Link Extension. Interviews also help to begin building relationships between Sound Transit and people and organizations so that future engagement builds upon these relationships.

The team conducted 13 interviews and three briefings between April 2021 and October 2021. Findings and insights outlined below are intended to serve as a point-in-time resource to capture the input provided by these stakeholders.

*Note: Because project staff deemed the term “interview” to not be community-friendly, these discussions have been referred to as “community conversations.” For the purposes of this report, discussions are cited as “interviews.” Additionally, all quotes are derived from interview notes and not always verbatim.*

## 1.2 Key Insights

Interviews with community stakeholders confirmed the following opinions:

- Public transit and EVLE are and will be very important for the community. The interviewees expect EVLE to connect and integrate neighborhoods and cities.
- The main concerns for EVLE are the possibility of displacement, gentrification, projected schedule (length of time until service), and increasing rent prices forcing the current residents further north.

Overall, most interviewees expressed interest for additional engagement with Sound Transit, including:

- Information to help them understand how EVLE could impact their communities, such as ridership predictions and clarity on where the stations may be built.
- Updates, timelines, and milestones that can be shared with their community.
- Involvement of community members in more meetings to ensure all stakeholders are heard from in the decision-making process.
- In-language engagement and outreach. The top languages mentioned are Spanish, Tigrinya, Amharic, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, and Arabic.

Most organizations are also willing to partner with Sound Transit to:

- Help Sound Transit advertise programs and events and share information about EVLE with their community.
- Invite Sound Transit to join their meetings and speak directly with their members.
- Set up meetings for Sound Transit and the local community.
- Participate in future community conversations and engagement events.

*For details, please see the “Interview Notes” for each organization in the appendix.*

### 1.3 Report Summary

Regional public transit and EVLE are considered very important to interview subjects and the organizations they represent. Many participant organizations serve low-income households, people experiencing homelessness, and other vulnerable populations that rely solely on public transportation to get around. Most say they are cautiously optimistic about EVLE coming into their communities.

The main benefit on their minds is improved access; many participants expect EVLE to connect and integrate neighborhoods and cities. They hope EVLE will open up more opportunities and services in the Puget Sound region to the low-income, disadvantaged populations their organizations serve. Respondents’ primary concerns are the possibility of displacement, gentrification, and increasing rent prices forcing the current residents further north. However, most interviewees believe the potential benefits outweigh the risks.

Most organizations conveyed that they wish to be more involved. They requested more information to help them understand how EVLE will impact their communities, with specific requests like ridership predictions and clarity on where the stations may actually be built. Their frustrations are primarily around not having enough information and updates, feeling like they are not a part of the decision-making process, and difficulty making predictions about developments so far in the future.

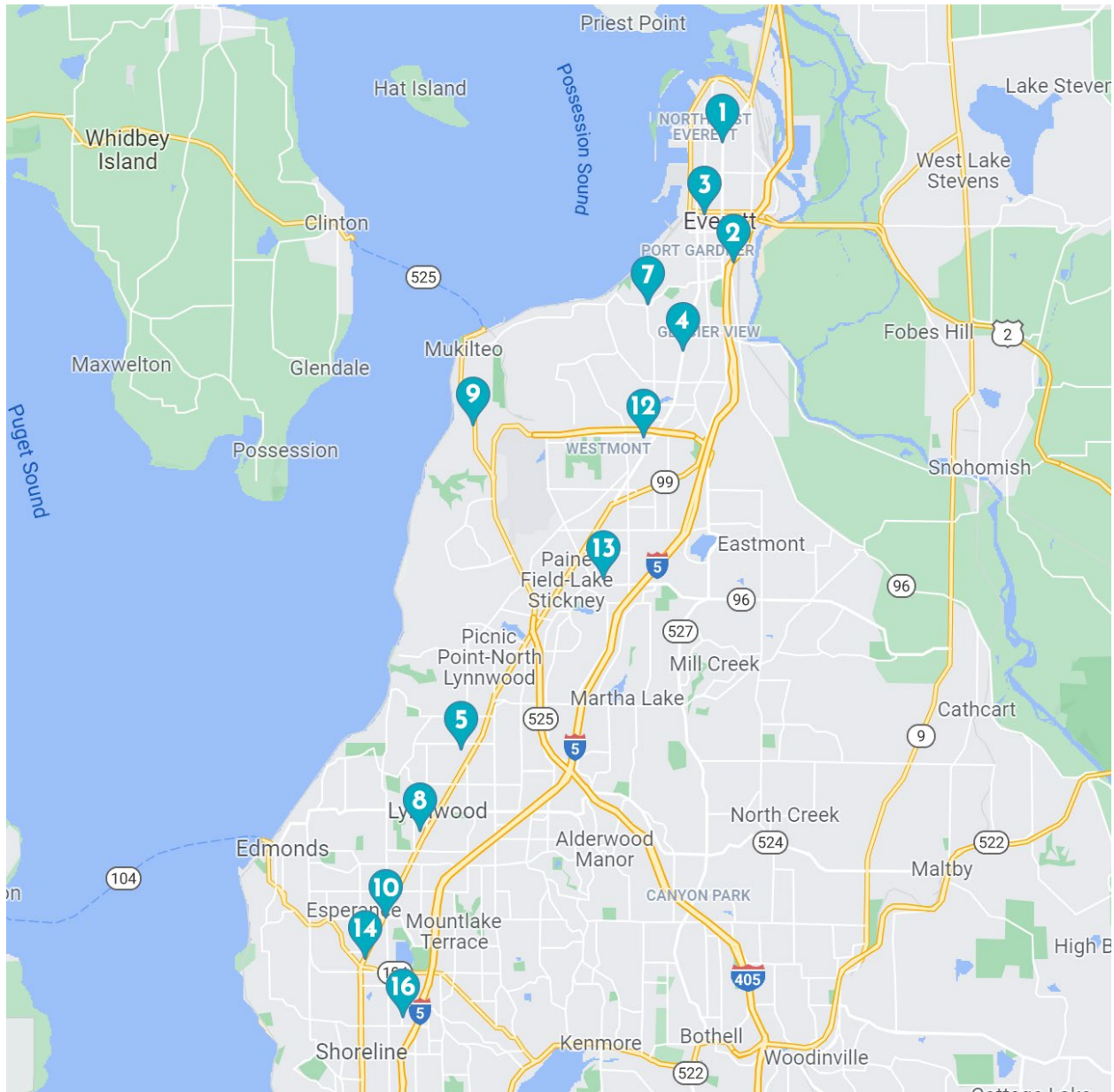
Conversations conducted to date also show substantial need and want for additional engagement from Sound Transit. Preferred methods of communication between organizations and their community vary based on their COVID-19 policies and the demographics of their communities. Most organizations have moved online, but issues like lack of childcare and stable internet access can be barriers to involvement. However, all participants said that in-language engagement is needed, as it is the only way to reach some stakeholders. Although needs are region-specific, the top languages mentioned are Spanish, Tigrinya, Amharic, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, and Arabic.

## 1.4 Community Organization Participants

**Table 1-4 Community Organization Participants**

#	Stakeholder	Interview date
1	Everett Food Bank	April 27, 2021
2	Everett Gospel Mission	April 30, 2021
3	Downtown Everett Association	May 3, 2021
4	Housing Hope	May 7, 2021
5	Lynnwood Food Bank	May 24, 2021
6	Everett Youth Advisory Board*	May 26, 2021
7	Familias Unidas (Spanish)	June 7, 2021
8	Lationa Educational Training Institute (LETI) (Spanish)	June 11, 2021
9	Snohomish Ebony PAC (SEPAC)	June 14, 2021
10	Korean Community Service Center (Korean)	June 16, 2021
11	Everett Diversity Advisory Board*	June 21, 2021
12	Connect Casino Road (Spanish)	June 23, 2021
13	Mariner Community Campus	July 1, 2021
14	Communities of Color Coalition – C3	August 23, 2021
15	NAACP Snohomish Chapter*	August 24, 2021
16	Washington Alliance for Better Schools (WABS) (Spanish)	October 19, 2021

\*Interviews/conversations in gray are briefings and are not shown on the associated map below.



**Figure 1-4 Community Organization Participants**

## 2 FINDINGS AND INSIGHTS

### 2.1 Experience and Perceptions of Regional Transit and Public Transportation

#### 2.1.1 Public transportation is key for low income and vulnerable populations

Most interviewees noted that public transportation is valuable, and it is the preferred method of transportation for the communities and residents they serve. Public transit is particularly important for low-income and vulnerable populations.

*“It broadens their horizons, whether pursuing training for a job or getting to a job. We do a lot of employment work, and the only avenue out of poverty is through a living wage job. It means gaining skills, gaining employability, training, investments. Transportation is vital. It is providing a necessary tool to escaping poverty.” – Housing Hope*

*“We are working a lot with the homeless population, and the majority of them use public transit... About 80% of the homeless population depend on these services. A small percentage have their own cars, and some others have friends that can drive them to their different appointments.” – Familias Unidas*

*“Existing transit really serves our residents well. Car ownership comes out to 0.6 cars per household. A lot of our residents are entirely dependent upon transit, and I don't see that changing.” – Housing Hope*

*“We definitely have people who solely rely on transit...” – Mariner Community Campus Advisory Group*

*“Many around Casino Road use transit, as many ... don't have vehicles to get to [and] from work.” – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*“I see many, many families ride the bus to go everywhere. Usually moms that don't drive, they use the bus every day; to go to doctor's appointments, grocery shopping and other things. And they not only travel in the area, they travel south.” – Washington Alliance for Better Schools (WABS)*

#### 2.1.2 Physical limitations and lack of information pose primary barriers to access

Participants shared they are concerned that certain public transit issues are beyond their control. In particular, they cited physical barriers that limit community access to public



transportation and a lack of information and communication around how to use the public transportation system.

*“[Access] to stations needs to be a consideration [for people with disabilities].” – Snohomish Ebony PAC (SEPAC)*

*“Sometimes the community [members] don’t know where to get the ORCA cards. This is very useful information that families do not know about, and they need it because they do use public transportation.” – Washington Alliance for Better Schools (WABS)*

*“I have not seen any information in our schools about bus passes. It would be great to have information to share with our families. And we also have a big elderly community using the bus, especially in the Asian community. I think they also need information in their language[s].” – WABS*

*“I had to learn how to use it because no one ever showed me how to do it. It was scary... [It] would be good to reach the youth and explain the process to them.” – Latino Educational Training Institute (LETI)*

*“[The] community is not really familiar with how to get information about routes and schedules. I think it would [be] really good if the project can invest in this for the community to help everyone stay connected. And this is why, most of the times, the community misses their appointments.” – Familias Unidas*

*“[It’s] important to have the information in different languages. Especially because... people don’t even know how to read schedules or maps of the routes.” – Familias Unidas*

### 2.1.3 Driving is an extension of transit. Parking is still a top-of-mind issue

Despite a lot of the community using public transportation, interview subjects noted that driving and parking often play a role in transit commutes. Many people will drive to transit stations, and the areas with most demand—such as downtown Everett—are also the most difficult areas to find parking. With EVLE and increased traffic, they imagine parking will be worse in the future. Safety of vehicles in parking lots was also noted as a priority for any future park-and-ride locations.

*“[People] would have to drive to the station (if they don’t live close enough to walk to the station), then safety of the parking lot could be an issue. We want to make sure the parked cars do not become the target for a theft, damage, robbery, etc. Installing*

*surveillance cameras for 24 hours is a must, locating a security guard after dark is a plus!" – Korean Community Service Center*

*"Big thing that is an issue downtown is parking. No paid parking downtown, 90 minute-limit, a lot of people rolling the dice on parking... If someone commutes right now to Everett Station and wants to go elsewhere, [it's going to be a] very slow and not very efficient transit service." – Downtown Everett Association*

*"Since it's an area with a high [number of drivers and vehicles, I can] imagine parking being an issue." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*"There's no street parking, largest lots are our Safeway parking lots, the P&R, and apartment complexes parking." – Mariner Community Campus Advisory Group*

## 2.2 Everett Link Extension Perception

### 2.2.1 Everett Link Extension is a welcome connection for the community

In all conversations, EVLE was viewed positively. Most believe that EVLE will be an invaluable resource for low-income and disadvantaged communities. Subjects expect that access, conveniences, and opportunities created by connecting the Puget Sound region are the top benefit of EVLE. Most participants are also excited about being able to serve more people, and many hope to have easier commutes.

*"Very positive impact for Casino Road - a number of folks they serve don't have cars in this area. This trumps many other negatives because it's essential for these communities." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*"[The] positive impact [will be] boosting economy along the route, convenience of getting around." – Korean Community Service Center*

*"Transit for Boeing benefits not only the well-paid employees but also the low-income workers there." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*"New light rail would have a massively positive impact on [the] community [we] serve. It's the main source of transportation for [our] community." – Everett Gospel Mission*

*"In general, access to transit for all station areas in Lynnwood and South Everett would be a massive resource for low-income and disadvantaged communities who need to get to their jobs." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*"[Light] rail will be an important connector for commuters working in Seattle and King County. I think it will be a really important tie of tying together Puget Sound region." – Housing Hope*

## 2.2.2 Displacement and gentrification of the surrounding areas are primary concerns

While connecting Everett with the rest of the Puget Sound is perceived as a predominantly positive addition, many of the organizations interviewed raised concerns regarding displacement and gentrification. Additionally, shelters commented that they may have to relocate along with the people they serve. They were also concerned about potential negative environmental impacts of construction and increased traffic.

*"My main concern is that this project will bring more affluent residents. The rents will rise. Right now, our neighborhood has one of the lowest rent fees in the area and more than half of the people asking us for services are looking for rent assistance. My fear is that these changes will bring more people that will bring higher rent fees, and all the current residents will be displaced. And many of them are immigrant families with children." – Connect Casino Road*

*"[Future] development can sometimes lead to political and social pressure for homeless shelters to relocate, as homeless shelters can be seen as problematic to the surrounding area by some." – Everett Gospel Mission*

*"You can see the rising housing prices trickling it up. Because the light rail is gradually making their way up... And it has to do with the zoning, and so as they are building this light rail with stops for Boeing, and it's going further up and they are not addressing the zoning issues that are taking place with it, then this light rail that we are so excited to use it's really being built for the rich to be able to get to their tech jobs in or from downtown Seattle." – WABS*

*"There are lots of people who feel like they will be pushed further north as time goes on. [That's] where they have to live, they have to have transit to be able to get to work, as many low-income people can't live close to their jobs... the majority of folks are more afraid of displacement and property values skyrocketing." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*"Development. The current route is mostly industrial. Everett and surrounding areas are looking at transit-development. I worry about litter, degradation of the environment, unintended consequences." – SEPAC*

### 2.2.2.1 Area-Specific Concerns

While most of the comments were general, a handful of interviewees had concerns about specific areas.

#### Everett Station District

*"[The] Everett station area is a non-residential area now. Our study concluded that it would be beneficial to retain some of the existing uses in the neighborhood and not think of this as a complete transition and have warehouse users get pushed out, primarily in the southern area of the neighborhood. Interestingly, different from Everett's metro plan. All industrial users are being moved away. There are two different visions." – Housing Hope*

#### West Alderwood

*"The stations further south, primarily West Alderwood, Ash Way and Mariner, have more apartments in the surrounding area so there would be more foot traffic and potentially fewer cars. The further north, the more people will need to use cars to get to light rail stations, so there is a need for parking infrastructure." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

#### Broadway

*"If it goes on Broadway, it will be a huge traffic issue. And it will affect the families that need to ride buses in the area and to get to their destinations in time. So, the community would need plenty of information regarding bus route changes and information about traffic delays." – WABS*

#### McDougall Ave

*"I think the only significant negative I saw was if that were to end up being (elevated) would provide a big barrier to the neighborhood and would damage the potential for neighborhood development along McDougall so I would hope it would contribute to the larger neighborhood potential." – Housing Hope*

#### 200<sup>th</sup> Street SW

*"However, since there are many apartments near the proposed station-area and current bus stations, I see people walking and biking to the stations for commuting. These apartment complexes (near 200th), tend to have more diverse communities." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

## Casino Road

*“That longer term trajectory, Everett had a tremendous level of concentration of poverty. Two concentrations: Casino Road and [Everett housing authority]. Will have affordable housing but also new. Direction of that time period will be towards integration of neighborhoods, making it more accessible to low-income households.” – Housing Hope*

## East of I-5

*“There are concerns about light rail moving east of I-5. Everett Gospel Mission would like to buy that property, but uncertainty over development of that area is holding us back from purchasing that property for expansion.” – Everett Gospel Mission*

## 2.3 Engagement and Communications Insights

### 2.3.1 Stakeholders recommend more engagement and information

Interview subjects noted different levels of frustration regarding the engagement and information Sound Transit has offered about the project. Some have no knowledge of the project beyond when and where the project is taking place, and others feel that their feedback will not have any impact. All participants expressed interest in being further involved and recommended that Sound Transit provide more information to the communities impacted by EVLE—not just what Sound Transit has done previously, but also what it is doing right now and what it is planning in the future. The interviewees also emphasized a desire to know how their input will inform the process and influence future decisions. Continued communications and engagement would help to address the concerns and fears of community and provide the opportunity for more voices to be heard.

*“What is the relationship and how meaningful is my feedback? It’s already laid out; they’ve got their plans. I am overwhelmed, I see it as being built already. How is my feedback being used?” – Everett Diversity Advisory Board Briefing*

*“Fatigue comes from people not sharing what’s done with the information. You can start with the information that we’ve gathered already, that will be demonstration of faith and due diligence as you approach people in the community. We really strive to show people that we are listening and incorporating feedback. What are some things that [ST] can implement or share with partners that they can implement in the short-term versus long-term?” – Mariner Community Campus Advisory Group*

*"[The realignment decision] is happening in a marginalized location. That's a particular concern for folks that live out there. They may feel like they could be targeted once again. I have nothing to show the community their concern is wrong. When dealing with marginalized communities, you're already fighting trust. When you decide to push a project back a couple years, that lack of trust can appear as delaying the project for marginalized folks."* – C3

*"I am interested in getting more involved. I went to an Open House for the Lynnwood light rail about three years ago, and I asked about something, and they told me "You are late... This is something that was decided about 10 years ago. You should now get involved for the Everett Extension if you want your voice to be heard". I am interested in listening and getting young people involved... Because our youth are the ones that will have to deal with the impact of our decisions."* – LETI

*"I know that the idea is for the light rail to go all the way to Everett. And that the idea is to that it will depart from here, the Alderwood Mall having the next stop at the 164th P&R. I also know there's a lot of politics involved so I am assuming they will change its course to stop by Boeing or the airport. But I don't know anything else. I am interested in knowing what areas and communities will be affected or will be left out of the decision-making process."* – LETI

### 2.3.2 Certain stakeholders require in-language engagement

The interviewees emphasized that many people that use public transportation as their primary method of transportation are immigrants that don't speak English, and that the best way to engage them is through in-language outreach. These ESL community members will be among the most impacted by EVLE, but they may tune-out messages and outreach that is not specifically tailored to their culture and language needs. Top languages mentioned were Spanish, Tigrinya, Amharic, Vietnamese, Ukrainian, and Arabic.

*"Please get involved with the community. And please schedule meetings in-language with the community we serve so we can ask our questions. Specially to let our groups know about the importance in getting involved in this process right now, instead of waiting until it's too late to be part of the decision making."* – LETI

*"Just remember that a big part of the community that uses public transportation are immigrants. And they usually live under a rock because they don't want to be watched, they don't like to be judged, and so that's why they don't speak up. But if we do reach*



*out to them in their own language, and we make them feel comfortable, maybe they will feel safe to give their opinion.” – WABS*

*“If you are really interested in grabbing community’s input, you need to reach non-English speaking communities. Having a presence is very important, not just when you want something.” – Everett Diversity Advisory Board Briefing*

*“We serve primarily the Spanish-speaking community, but we also have a Food Bank and we have seen more Russian families, some Cambodian, Arabic and Vietnamese families too. And these families would definitely need to receive information in their native language[s].” – Connect Casino Road*

*“[There] must be some type of bridge between non-profit organization and agencies... the first generation of immigrants will most likely listen to people that look like them. They look for someone to trust.” – LETI*

### 2.3.2.1 Community Language Preferences

Most comments on language preferences were not tied to an area or region. However, a few participants noted specific language needs of the regions their organizations serve.

*“The Spanish speaking communities tends to be near Edmonds Community College, as well as Casino Road.” – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*“80% of our Board of Directors are Latinos. They live in King County and Snohomish counties. And we serve first- and second-generation Spanish speaking Latinos.” – LETI*

*“There is a large African American church in Everett, and the main Spanish-Speaking Catholic church in Mountlake Terrace, and also the Russian and Ukrainian churches. The pastors and priests tend to have monthly meetups to talk about things going on in their communities.” – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*“Our top five languages, specifically in the North King and Snohomish Counties: English, Spanish, Tigrinya, Amharic, Vietnamese.” – WABS*

*“My community is close to downtown Everett, North Everett. In my community the top languages are Spanish, Vietnamese, Korean, Arabic, Japanese and Hindi.” – WABS*

*“My community is North Everett, and we have Spanish, Hindi, Marseilles, Mandarin, Arabic. I think in North Everett is where the majority of the Marseilles’ speaking population is.” – WABS*

### 2.3.3 COVID-19 has moved most outreach and engagement online

Like the rest of the world, most of the outreach and engagement for the organizations interviewed have moved online. While this has become the norm and people are getting used to it, older generations and disadvantaged populations without reliable internet access are disproportionately affected. Other issues, like lack of childcare, also impact how effective virtual meetings and engagement can be.

*“[COVID-19] affected [us] 100%. It’s all been online... [Once] we got over the technical barrier of having technology and know how to navigate it, we were able to knock down some other barriers because more people were able to attend our meetings.” – WABS*

*“In my community it has been difficult. Because many parents didn’t know how to use their phones. A regular mom usually doesn’t know how to use the computer, how to turn it on, how to connect to Wi-Fi, how to use their kids’ technology. So, to hold meetings in our group has been very difficult because also, moms have to take care of their kids.” – WABS*

*“Lack of internet access can be a deterrent to engagement especially during COVID, since it’s replaced in-person engagement... internet access is a barrier.” – C3*

*“There are a few other organizations for elders, but it is very hard to reach them. Their members are 1st generation who are not comfortable with internet use, and they often do not have regular staff. The best way to reach them is through our organization, since we already have built-in relationships and points of contact.” – Korean Community Service Center*

*“Every single time that we organize workshops or trainings, what the community always ask for is childcare. Because these families have a hard time attending meetings if they don’t have that support. And yes, maybe it’s easier for some to attend meetings via Zoom, but for our families they are also dealing with the fact that they have their babies crying in the background and that prevents them from paying attention to the meeting.” – Connect Casino Road*

*“I have also noticed that late afternoon [or] evening meetings work better. That way, if the mom is the one attending the*



*meeting, dad is back from work and can support by taking care of the children.” – Connect Casino Road*

### 2.3.3.1 Tactics Mentioned

#### In-person

*“We used to have people set up in our lobby to give information.”  
– Everett Food Bank*

*“[Everett Gospel Mission’s] current approach is bringing services in, and then encouraging people to go to those services from then on. It’s more of an oral outreach approach rather than written materials since that suits the community’s needs more. More personalized and relational, and less about wordy fliers [or] posters.” - Everett Gospel Mission*

*“Everett Gospel Mission could also set up a public event for Sound Transit with the community, as an alternative option.” – Everett Gospel Mission*

*“Sound Transit could come in-person into the men’s campus day center’s meeting room to directly meet with the community. The women’s center is much less public.” – Everett Gospel Mission*

*“We can figure out how to co-host a meeting, it could be us partnering with the City of Everett and the Station District.” – Downtown Everett Association*

*“We are always open to presentations from the community who are wanting to speak to us.” – SEPAC*

*“We hold information events and fundraisers; we like to let the community know why SEPAC exists.” – SEPAC*

*“Before COVID we held our workshops and trainings in our office that has a capacity for 15 people, although we have gotten up to 24 people in here! And we also organize many fairs... Health Fairs in partnership with churches. Two Health Fairs a year, and then during Summer, we hold the Latino Expo.” – LETI*

*“We have an extensive social service program, we have 1:1 personal contact with most all of our residents and many of them are actively engaged in our services at various levels. We communicate to our residents through our staff... The 1:1 personal communication is very effective. If we have the information, we have the ability to give to our staff.” – Housing Hope*

## Digital Media

*"Facebook works really well for us." – Familias Unidas*

*"[Videos]! I have noticed that they don't pay much attention to flyers. We have a group called Madres de Casino Rd (Mothers of Casino Road) and they have a huge network on their Facebook group. And I've noticed that their president, Miriam Vargas mostly shares information via videos, nothing or almost nothing written. And they are very short videos which makes it really easy to share them." – Connect Casino Road*

*"We used Facebook a lot. A lot of the community we serve are adults, so they use Facebook. Also, WhatsApp to send messages to our different groups. Email, and our website." – Korean Community Service Center*

*"Spanish-speaking community uses WhatsApp largely." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

*"We have newsletter that goes out once a month [on] Facebook, social media." – Downtown Everett Association*

## Traditional Media

*"The agency coordinating outreach activities with the non-profit organizations, and having these activities televised would be ideal. I think the agency would have much better results." – LETI*

*"I think TV. Considering Univision is the only source of news, it would be good to use them." – LETI*

*"The radio works in the morning, or late afternoon, especially when people are driving to their jobs or back home. Sound Transit can also send us flyers so we can share them with our community, and we can use them to train our members on how to get involved in this process." – Familias Unidas*

*"With surveys or posters, we can have them up in the libraries." – Mariner Community Campus Advisory Group*

## Partnerships

*"Partner with neighboring schools for outreach. Try to visit the local places." – Mariner Community Campus Advisory Group*

*"School liaisons." – Mariner Community Campus Advisory Group*

*"You can pay us. I say that flippantly but seriously. When it comes to tapping into our communications: sponsorships, coming to events, be present." – SEPAC*

*"We have a contract with Metro Link. We will be participating in their event around July or August, helping with the community survey and advertising about the Link extension and ORCA card." – Korean Community Service Center*

*"Another great outreach tool from her experience is reaching out through Spanish-speaking pastors and priests." – Lynnwood Food Bank*

### **2.3.3.2 Additional Organizations to Engagement as Recommended by Interviewees**

- Snohomish County Food Bank Coalition
- The Arc
- Casino Road
- YWCA
- Partnership to End Homelessness
- Everett Station District Alliance
- Everett Housing Authority
- The Board of Everett District Alliance
- The Economic Alliance
- The Rotary Club – South Everett/Mukilteo Club, Morning Club, Everett Tuesday Club
- Immigrant Refugee Center
- Homage Senior Services
- Lynnwood Health Commission
- Lynnwood Police Department and Fire Department.
- Snohomish County Black Heritage Community
- YMCA of Snohomish County
- Millennia Ministries
- Zaid
- University of Washington Bothell
- Hand in Hand
- Korean Women's Association
- McKenney-Vento/Homelessness Assistance Act



# ***Everett Link Extension***

## **APPENDIX A**

### **Participant Questions for Sound Transit**

## Project Details

- Where will the stations be built?
- How large will each station be?
- Is the Airport Road station in addition to the Mariner station?
- Why doesn't the track go straight down I-5?
- The route deviates over to the west side, is that to accommodate Mukilteo and Boeing?
- When will we know the cost of traveling via light rail?
- Will the buildings be safe and accommodating?
- What are policies of ridership?
- What can cause police to come down on stations?
- Will people know why police were called?

## Project Impact

- How will it impact our shelter and our current operations?
- How much will it bring in ridership?
- What are rider expectations?
- What's the economic impact and the recession's impact on the project schedule?
- How is the station's location promoting a good place for families to live?
- What are the housing trends around EVLE?
- Don't you think it's just rich white people using it anyway?
- Will it be where gangs form?
- Will it be where the homeless find refuge?

## Outreach and Engagement

- Who have you reached out to so far?
- What's your timeline for next steps as far as community engagement?



# ***Everett Link Extension***

## **APPENDIX B**

### **Interview Script and Questions**

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_.

*Thank you for agreeing to speak with me about Sound Transit's Everett Link Extension project. During this phase of the project, we are meeting with community members and leaders like you to gather information to better understand your interests, concerns, and any upcoming opportunities for us to engage with the community you serve.*

*We have a quick presentation to share followed by a few questions about how you're engaged in the community. Our conversation usually takes 1 hour – does this time still work for you to chat? Thank you! I will be sharing my screen for the presentation. Please feel free to ask any questions as they come up.*

*[Staff presents high-level PPT presentation about Sound Transit and the project].*

*We are excited to learn more about you. Before we dive in, do you have any questions for us? Do you have any questions about Sound Transit and the work we do?*

## Introductions

1. Could you share with us more about your organization and the communities you serve?
  - a. Who makes up your community (members, employees, etc.)?
2. What languages are spoken by those your organization serves?
  - a. Would in-language discussion group be well-received?
3. Which areas/communities/cities is your organization most active in?

## General transit questions

4. How often would you say members of your community use transit? How do members of your community use transit?
5. What's exciting or concerning to your community about light rail coming to you? What could transit change for you, and would it affect where you live?
  - a. How are you most likely to access a light rail station in [insert nearby station area]?
  - b. What are your concerns regarding transportation and how people get around within station areas?
6. In what ways might new light rail service in your community have a positive or negative impact on equity locally?
  - a. What are some ways that we can improve equity through this project?
7. Do you or your community have any concerns about safety within station areas? If so, what are they?

### **Meetings and information share**

8. Are there any upcoming events, meetings, or gatherings you are hosting where we could provide a presentation (e.g. monthly meeting, special event, etc.)?
  - a. Has your meeting schedule changed due to COVID-19?
  - b. Would you prefer us to send a multi-lingual team member?
9. How can we best share updates and information with you and your community? (e.g. a local radio station popular with constituents where we could advertise)?
  - a. How would you/your community like to receive information from the project team (email/mailers/posters/etc.)?
10. Do you have a recommendation on other people and/or organizations we should connect with?

### **Conclusion and next steps**

11. Do you have any questions for us?
12. Do you have any additional thoughts you want to make sure we capture?
  - a. Any ideas or visions for the project?

Thank you so much for your time. We look forward to continuing to work with you and the community! We are excited for light rail to be coming to Everett. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions or comments you have. The emails should have the materials we walked through attached but let us know if you need additional information. Thank you!





# ***Everett Link Extension***

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Interview Plan**

## Overview

Sound Transit is committed to involving the public in the alternatives development process to reach the Board of Directors' identification of a preferred alternative for the Everett Link Light Rail Extension. As part of a comprehensive outreach strategy, Sound Transit will conduct interviews with stakeholders along the representative project. The interviews will provide an opportunity to gain a better understanding of stakeholders' current experience, priorities, and concerns related to regional transit and the Everett Link Extension and to identify engagement opportunities for the Community Engagement and Communications Plan (CECP).

*Note: the term "interview" is not a community-friendly word. For the purpose of this plan, it will continue to be cited as "interview;" however, it will be publicly referred to as "Community Conversation."*

## Overall goals

During these interviews staff will:

- Build relationships with stakeholders along the corridor.
- Be open to going off-script with stakeholder and be comfortable/knowledgeable enough to go off-script to allow for more personal and unique responses. Try not to follow the script verbatim.
- Listen to stakeholder concerns and interests related to regional transit.
- Begin to identify opportunities and limitations of community's options for methods of engagement.
- Gain a better understanding of community ideas, values, and visions for the Everett Link Extension project.
- Identify important community assets that should be protected or might be enhanced as part of this project.

## Planning stakeholder interviews

Sound Transit and EnviroIssues will coordinate stakeholder interviews and work with The Vida Agency (TVA) to facilitate in-language interviews. In order to plan community conversations and determine interview logistics, Candice Plendl and/or Kyle Jensen (EnviroIssues) will set up meetings with Sound Transit prior to the anticipated April 20 kick-off.

The following details need to be finalized prior to stakeholder interviews:

- First eight stakeholder interviews.
- Interview dates/times (coordinate with stakeholders).
- Finalize staffing needs, roles for all interviews.
- Final approval of initial email language.

- Finalize materials to reference during interviews.

## **Timeline**

The below timeline is subject to change based on the interests and availability of the community.

- April 7: finalize Community Organizations and Service Provider Interview plan.
- April 19 – May 28: reach out to stakeholders and conduct interviews.
- June: develop interview summaries.

## **Timing and interview procedure**

Sound Transit will contact organizations as follows, pending materials creation:

1. Initial email: week of April 19.
2. Follow-up email: week of April 26.
3. Follow-up call (if needed): week of April 26.
4. Interviews: Monday, April 26 – Friday, May 28.

If an organization does not respond after three attempts, the team will hold on reaching out.

After each interview, the project team will develop a high-level summary of interview responses that will be shared with the project team. EnviroLytical will also be used to keep a record of individual briefings and notes. EnviroIssues will log each individual briefing after it occurs, including the summary, date, time, and attendees.

## **Staffing**

- EnviroIssues with Sound Transit staff (two total) will conduct 20 interviews. Sound Transit will be represented by one of Ryan Bianchi, Erik Ashlie-Vinke, Miranda Redinger or Martha Russell, depending on schedule. Candice Plendl or Kyle Jensen will represent EnviroIssues, depending on schedule.
- The Vida Agency (TVA) and a separate individual who speaks/understands the language (whether consultant or Sound Transit individual) will conduct six fully in-language interviews as an in-language note taker as well as an in-language interpreter.
- Sound Transit will conduct interviews as needed in addition to the initial 26.

## **Notifications**

- Direct emails and phone calls to stakeholders.

- Emails and notifications will most likely be sent by Candice and/or Kyle. Sound Transit (Erik) will reach out to those he has an existing relationship with, and TVA (Patty) will reach out to the in-language organizations.

## Materials

- Project webpage.
- PowerPoint Presentation transcreated into Spanish, Russian and Korean. Other language requests may need to be fulfilled upon ongoing outreach.
- Project fact sheet.
- *Backpocket: CECP*.
- Internal: Google Forms for notetaking.

## Tracking

All communications and correspondence will be tracked via EnviroLytical.

## Meeting time(s) and platform

Sound Transit and/or EnviroIssues will work with stakeholders to identify a date and time for community conversations following the initial email sent April 12. Interviews will take place between April 26 and May 28; dates/times for individual interviews TBD.

For accessibility purposes, stakeholder interviews will be conducted via Zoom. Stakeholders will not need to register or sign into their existing account and only need to click on the link to the Zoom meeting invite. Stakeholders can join an interview via computer or mobile phone, breaking down potential barriers to participation.

Once an interview timeslot is determined, EnviroIssues will send a Zoom invitation to the relevant stakeholder and interviewer. EnviroIssues will serve as meeting host and notetaker while Sound Transit will conduct the interview.

Staffing for in-language conversations will comprise of all bilingual staff.

## Draft email requesting interview

**To:** [stakeholder]

**From:**

**Sent:**

**Subject:** Everett Link Light Rail Planning: We want to hear from you!

Hello \_\_\_\_\_,

My name is [ ], and I'm reaching out on behalf of Sound Transit about the upcoming Everett Link Extension light rail project. I'm hoping to connect with someone from your organization for a one-hour conversation to understand how we can best engage the communities you serve as the project progresses. We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to learn more about you and your organization. **Would you be available for an informal conversation with a couple members of our project team during the weeks of [date] and [date]?**

Our team is bilingual and happy to chat in your preferred language. And in appreciation for your time, we'd like to offer a \$150.00 Visa gift card.

*About the project:* The Everett Link Extension will add 16 miles and new light rail stations connecting Snohomish and King County residents to the regional network, and an operations and maintenance facility. As both the longest and northernmost project in the Sound Transit light rail system, service is currently scheduled to start in 2036.

Please feel free to respond to this message or call me at 206-370-5533 if you are interested in scheduling a meeting or if you have any questions we can help answer.

Thank you, and I look forward to hearing from you.

[signature]

### **Draft phone script requesting interview**

*Hi, my name is [ ], and I'm calling on behalf of Sound Transit and the Everett Link Extension project, which is bringing light rail service from Lynnwood to Everett. I'm hoping to connect with someone from your organization for a one-hour conversation to learn how we can best engage the community you serve through this planning period. Our team is bilingual and would be happy to speak in your preferred language. We would greatly appreciate the opportunity to hear from you and would like to offer a \$150.00 Visa gift card for your time. **Would you be available for an informal phone discussion with a couple members of the project team during the weeks of [date] and [date]?***

*If you would like more information, I can email you our project fact sheet or guide you to the project webpage.*

# **APPENDIX D**

## **Interview Notes**

## Volunteers of America - Everett Food Bank | April 27, 2021

### About

- Volunteers of America - Everett Food Bank has two parts:
  - A warehouse for 30 to 40 other organizations that serve the community, like other food banks and meal programs. Currently located in Everett but planning to move to Arlington Airport.
  - Everett Food Bank that used to just serve Everett zip codes, but now serve all of WA.

### Reach

- Primarily Everett area organizations and community, but recent policies have extended their reach to the entire state.
- Works with people from all walks of life – the elderly, schools (elementary, middle-school, Everett Community College).
- Works with people speaking English, Russian, Ukrainian, Spanish, and Asian languages.

### Comments

*“If I understand correctly, [EVLE] will link Everett to Lynnwood to Seattle. We are 20 blocks north of that, someone would have to combine that with a bus trip if using transportation. I hate driving so I'm looking forward to using light rail. Our clients, they might be out there but not seeing that right now.”*

*“[Around the Everett Center I can see people get off their shift, take the Link, so] that they can get food and get other services. A lot of people will go through that area. Great place to get the word out and get services to people.”*

### Recommendations

- They recommend Sound Transit speak with the meal programs that serve the local community.

### Engagement Support

- They are open to working together with Sound Transit to advertise Sound Transit's programs.

### Concerns

- Cost and time of the development.

- Limited parking around the stations.

## **Everett Gospel Mission | April 30, 2021**

### **About**

- Everett Gospel Mission (EGM) originally started with a men's shelter. A women's and children's shelter opened more recently.
- EGM provides shelter, a day center, food distribution, and educational programs for those struggling with homelessness.

### **Reach**

- EGM directly serves the homeless community in Everett.
- The day center houses serve a more transient community; the overnight shelter is for people that see the shelter as home.
- In the men's shelter, basically everyone speaks English. In the women's shelter, there is more diversity of languages - Ukrainian, Spanish, and Vietnamese are the languages heard most often.

### **Comments**

- EGM loves their current location and is excited to have more transit options for those they serve.
- They liked the proposed station location of the Metro Everett Plan, which lines up with the proposed location from Sound Transit.
- New light rail would have a massively positive impact on EGM's community.

### **Recommendations**

- EGM suggests Sound Transit reach out to:
  - McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Act
  - YWCA
  - Partnership to End Homelessness
  - Housing Hope
  - Everett Station District Alliance

### **Engagement Support**

- They welcome Sound Transit to join their online meetings or come in person to the men's campus day center meeting room to meet with the community directly.
- EGM can also set up a public event for Sound Transit with the community.



## Questions

- What's the economic impact and the recession's impact on the project schedule?
- Where is the final station going to be?
- How will that impact EGM shelters and current operations?

## Concerns

- Slightly concerned about future density; developments tend to lead to political and social pressure for homeless shelters to relocate, as homeless shelters can be seen as problematic to the surrounding area by some.
- There are concerns about the light rail moving east of I-5. Uncertainty over the development is holding EGM back from purchasing properties for expansion.
- The women and children's center naturally has more safety concerns.

## Downtown Everett Association | May 3, 2021

### About

- Downtown Everett Association works with downtown Everett's community of businesses, residents, workers, and visitors by supporting economic vitality, promoting local experiences, cultivating a strong organizational network, and stewarding public spaces and historic places.

### Reach

- They have a volunteer Board, a Snohomish representative and City representative, five active volunteer committees, and a parking and transportation committee.
- Works with local property owners, business owners, a lot of people who have been around Everett a while.
- Their service area follows the BIA footprint - from Pacific Ave to Everett Ave, West Marine View Drive to Broadway (about 40 blocks).
- Haven't worked with many languages apart from Spanish.

### Comments

*"People want [EVLE] to come sooner."*

*"I think people would take the light rail for sure. The arena is pretty close (Angels of the Winds arena)."*

## Engagement Support

- They are in regular conversations with the City (Parks Department, the Mayor).
- Their Board meetings are a little tight for presentations, but quarterly meetings are more flexible.
- They have a newsletter that goes out once a month that Sound Transit can use.
- Open to discuss opportunities to co-host a meeting, partnering with the City of Everett and the Station District.

## Questions

- If Sound Transit wants to encourage mass transit, how will people get to and from the light rail stations?
- Who have you reached out to so far?
- How large is the station going to be?
- How much will it bring in ridership?
- Why doesn't it go straight down I-5?

## Concerns

- There have not been enough conversations about Everett Transit.
- No paid parking downtown, 90 minute-limit, a lot of people rolling the dice on parking. Downtown will be moving toward paid parking. If someone commutes right now to Everett Station and wants to go elsewhere, it's going to be very slow and not very efficient.

## Housing Hope | May 7, 2021

### About

- Housing Hope has 65 residential units for people who are experiencing homelessness.
- They also have the largest child development center in the county and want to more than double their space. Looking to move their headquarters adjacent to the Hope Works building.
- The only affordable housing developer actively working in Snohomish County.

### Reach

- Works in the entire Snohomish County, serves low-income families.
- They have two projects adjacent to the Lynnwood light rail center.
- All of their housing is on bus lines and feeds into Everett Station.
- They don't have staff that are multi-lingual.

## Comments

*“All of this transportation development means it improves access to employment. It broadens their horizons, whether pursuing training for a job or getting to a job. We do a lot of employment work, the only avenue out of poverty is through a living wage job. It means gaining skills, gaining employability, training, investments. Transportation is vital. It is providing a necessary tool to escaping poverty.”*

*“A lot of our residents are entirely dependent upon transit, and I don't see that changing.”*

## Recommendations

- Greg Tisdale has a voice in this community and when he heard Housing Hope was doing this study, he was highly skeptical.
- Their study concluded that it would be beneficial to retain some of the existing uses in the neighborhood and not push out current warehouse users, primarily in the southern area of the neighborhood.
- Housing Hope suggests Sound Transit reach out to:
  - Community Foundation of Snohomish County
  - Everett Housing Authority
  - The Board of Everett District Alliance
  - Economic Alliance
  - The Rotary Club

## Engagement Support

- They are open to have their staff share information with the people they serve.
- Housing Hope wishes to have great conversations about opportunities for development in that neighborhood.

## Concerns

- If the station ends up being elevated, it would provide a big barrier to the neighborhood and would damage the potential for neighborhood development along McDougall.

## Lynnwood Food Bank | May 24, 2021

### About

- The food bank serves diverse, large immigrant communities and senior communities. Since COVID the number of people they serve went through the roof.

## Reach

- The food bank has volunteers that are Spanish-speaking, Vietnamese-speaking and Chinese-speaking.
- The Spanish speaking communities tends to be near Edmonds Community College, as well as Casino Road.
- Lynnwood Food Bank realized they were missing a lot of people and recognized a need for more targeted outreach.

## Comments

*"In general, access to transit for all station areas in Lynnwood and South Everett would be a massive resource for low-income and disadvantaged communities who need to get to their jobs. Generally, the concern is displacement and gentrification as low-income communities are pushed further north."*

## Recommendations

- Lynnwood Food Bank suggests Sound Transit reach out to:
  - Immigrant Refugee Center
  - Pastors along the corridor - they know their community best.

## Concerns

- The further north, the more people will need to use cars to get to light rail stations, so there is a need for parking infrastructure.
- There are some concerns about property values going down because of the light rail, but the majority of folks are more afraid of displacement and property values skyrocketing.

## Snohomish Ebony Political Action Committee (SEPAC) | June 14, 2021

### About

- Snohomish Ebony Political Action Committee (SEPAC) is the African American community's political action arm to support and elect leaders to represent African Americans and other BIPOC.
- Their vision is to be source of information to create a Snohomish County that reflects everyone.

### Reach

- SEPAC membership are individuals, working families, and individuals interested in politics.
- Their members are mostly around the Everett area, some are in Edmonds, Marysville, and Lynnwood.

- They are focused on candidates of the African diaspora.
- They don't currently do translations.

## Comments

*"It would be great if I can go from Snohomish County to King County without having to worry about transportation or traffic when driving down there. It would be great to hop on transit system that will get me to downtown Seattle to see a Hawks game and get home before transit shuts down. Would love to see level of accommodation for people, like New York or D.C."*

*"I see this as a positive impact regarding moving people from point A or point B. When it comes to locations and costs, that's when it gets granular."*

## Recommendations

- Sound Transit need to reach out to people with disabilities, access to stations needs to be a consideration.
- SEPAC suggests Sound Transit reach out to:
  - Snohomish County Black Heritage Community
  - Sudanese/Muslim communities, which are growing communities
  - YMCA of Snohomish County
  - Millennia Ministries

## Engagement Support

- SEPAC would include Sound Transit in their communications for a fee.
- They are always open to presentations from people who want to speak with them.

## Questions

- Is Sound Transit doing outreach to communities along the corridor to ask where the alignment and stations should be?
- Will the environment and future growth of the building make it safe and accommodating?
- What are the exact locations of the stations?
- Will it be where gangs form?
- Will the stations be where the homeless find refuge?
- How is the station location promoting a good place for family to live?
- What can cause police to come down on stations?
- Will people know why police were called?

- What are rider expectations?
- What are the policies of ridership?

### **Concerns**

- Transit needs and usage of Mukilteo is not being considered.
- Litter, degradation of the environment, and other unintended consequences as a result of transit-development around Everett and surrounding areas.

## **Connect Casino Road | June 23, 2021**

### **About**

- Connect Casino Road grew out of the community's need to have a space to gather. It is a collaborative that started in 2017, currently located in the community center called The Village on Casino Road.
- The Village is a center where 12 different organizations offer their services. It includes a preschool, youth programs, education programs for women and men, and a Christian church that holds mass on Sundays.

### **Reach**

- Connect Casino Road mainly serves the residents of Casino Road.
- They primarily serve the Spanish-speaking community, but they also have seen more Russian families, some Cambodian, Arabic, and Vietnamese families too.

### **Recommendations**

- A lot of families would definitely need to receive information in their native languages.
- The community needs to talk to someone they trust. People feel really comfortable talking and sharing with someone that talks and looks like them.

### **Questions**

- When will we know the cost of traveling via light rail?

### **Concerns**

- Their main concern is that this project will bring more people that will bring higher rent fees, and all the current residents will be displaced. Many of them are immigrant families with children.

## Mariner Community Campus Advisory Group | July 1, 2021

### About

- A local group to create an accessible Mariner Community Campus to provide basic needs and resources to local residents in the Mariner-area community.

### Reach

- They serve more than 25,000 people that live in the area bounded by Everett to the north, Lynnwood to the south, east of Highway 99, and west of I-5.
- Used community groups to see the highest needs for languages. Working with community members that speak several different languages.

### Comments

*“We definitely have people who solely rely on transit, location does impact customers. We see that flow of traffic going from the bus stop.”*

### Recommendations

- Sound Transit should partner with neighboring schools and local businesses for outreach.

### Engagement Support

- They are willing to share surveys or posters.
- UW Bothell helped with promotion to students and families.
- Looking for more engagement and information from Sound Transit to implement or share with their partners.

### Questions

- Do you have a map of where the stations are planned to be?
- Is the Airport Road station **in** addition to the Mariner station?
- What is the timeline for next steps as far as community engagement?

### Concerns

- Displacement and affordability are huge topics in people's minds.
- Lack of street parking is also a concern.

## Communities of Color Coalition (C3) | August 23, 2021

### About

- In the summer of 2000, leaders from various communities of color began meeting to establish a communications network. The coalition initially worked to identify issues most relevant to communities of color in Snohomish County.

### Reach

- C3 primarily works with BIPOC communities in Snohomish County

### Comments

*"The community won't lean on what Sound Transit has done in the past, but what the community is getting from Sound Transit today."*

### Recommendations

- Have a physical office location. The community might feel better engaged if Sound Transit were available in the community.

### Engagement Support

- Offered the opportunity to speak at a future C3 meeting to discuss the project and realignment.
- Sound Transit has a number of projects in the region that lend themselves to engaging in a more communal approach.

### Questions

- About the advisory groups - who elects ELG members, how do the ELG & CAG work, and do they work together?
- Has there been some change to what has been originally put forward?

### Concerns

- Lack of internet access can be a deterrent to engagement especially during COVID, since it's replaced in-person engagement.
- Concerned that the very first screening is handed down to ELG and the decision-making is taken out of the hands of the community.
- The realignment decision is happening in a marginalized location, Casino Road. That's a particular concern for people that live out there.



## Familias Unidas | June 7, 2021

### About

- Familias Unidas represents the communities and cultures they serve. Specializing in Trauma Informed Care, they serve people facing instability and crisis; helping people deal with mental health, domestic violence, and substance abuse; and giving them the opportunity to improve their education, find jobs, and regain hope.

### Reach

- They serve all Snohomish County and have supported people even from King County. But the majority of the population they serve are residents of Everett, Marysville, Lake Stevens, Granite Falls, Arlington, Lynnwood, and a few from Kenmore.
- The people they work with are predominately Spanish speaking.

### Comments

*"I think it's a really good thing. Especially because our offices are located in an area where public transit has very little access, this is not a public transit friendly area."*

*"We are working a lot with the homeless population; and the majority of them use public transit. One of the services we provided was to buy the bus tickets. We gave these tickets to the community so they can attend medical appointments, appointments with us, job interviews, etc. About 80% of the homeless population depend on these services. A small percentage have their own cars, and some others have friends that can drive them to their different appointments."*

### Recommendations

*"Hand in Hand is a good resource for this project."*

*"The Arc and Casino Road are also good sources of information."*

*"It's important to have the information in different languages."*

### Engagement Support

- Will share Sound Transit polls, survey, and other information on their Facebook page.
- Open to scheduling meeting with members of the community.

## Korean Community Service Center | June 16, 2021

### About

- The Korean Community Service Center a non-profit organization that strives to provide education, resources, social justice, and public health to the Korean community in King and Snohomish Counties.
- Established in 1983, they work as a bridge between Korean and American communities.

### Reach

- They serve the Korean community in North King County and Snohomish County.
- The people they connect with are usually from an older generation that speaks mostly Korean.

### Comments

*"I just hope the Link extension to be delivered soon, so we can all enjoy riding it!"*

### Recommendations

- They recommend Sound Transit reach out to Korean Women's Association.

### Engagement Support

- The Korean Community Service Center can help Sound Transit reach out to organizations of elders and 1st generation immigrants who are not comfortable with internet use, and often do not have full time staff.
- They will also be participating in the Sound Transit event around July or August, helping with the community survey and outreach regarding the Link extension.

### Concerns

- They are concerned with the potential rise of crime rate in their neighborhood.
- If the fares for the link or transferring transits are set too high, it will be a burden to low-income people.
- Parking safety is also a concern for them. They want to make sure the parked cars do not become a target for crimes.

## LETI | June 11, 2021

### About

- LETI was founded in 1998 to empower their community.
- Their focuses are setting up community services, connecting people to resources, and providing education and training, such as helping people start their own businesses, and certificates for bookkeeping and office assistantship.
- They also contract with Everett Community College to provide Spanish classes, helping people obtain GEDs, and conversational English lessons.

### Reach

- They serve people from Snohomish County, North King County, all the way to Mount Vernon.
- Demographically, 80% of their Board of Directors are Latinos from King and Snohomish Counties.
- They serve first- and second-generation Spanish speaking Latinos.

### Comments

*“[Sound Transit] need[s] to teach people how to use Public Transportation. And especially talk about what’s coming, the light rail. And it makes sense because of the huge impact this will have in the future.”*

### Recommendations

- Sound Transit needs to focus on reaching out to our youth. Young people are not really thinking about using Sound Transit.
- There must communication between non-profit organizations and agencies. Because the community, especially the first generation of immigrants, are look for someone they trust.
- Schedule meetings in-language with the community.

### Engagement Support

- LETI is interested in getting more involved and getting their voice heard. Learning about what areas and communities will be affected or will be left out of the decision-making process.
- They are open to finding ways to partner with Sound Transit.

## Washington Alliance for Better Schools | October 19, 2021

### About

- Washington Alliance for Better Schools (WABS) serves 12 school districts in the Puget Sound area.
- WABS works specifically with underserved families, those furthest from educational justice.

### Reach

- They serve school districts in the Pierce, King and Snohomish Counties.
- The communities they work with have many different cultures and races.
- In North King and Snohomish Counties they work with English, Spanish, Tigrinya, Amharic, and Vietnamese speaking families.
- In North Everett the top languages are Spanish, Mandarin, Marseilles, Vietnamese, Korean, Arabic, Japanese and Hindi.

### Comments

*“Back when we used to hold our Natural Leaders trainings in person, many of the participants would arrive to the location by bus. Even meetings here at our office was a little bit of a problem because we are not close to any bus stops. For me it’s super exciting to have the light rail coming to Shoreline soon because one of the stations will be very close to our offices and at some point, the light rail will go all the way to Everett!”*

### Recommendations

- A big part of the community that uses public transportation are immigrants, and if Sound Transit wants to reach them, it must be in their native languages.

### Engagement Support

- WABS is interested in having more information to share with their community.

### Concerns

- They are worried Sound Transit might get rid of too many bus routes, not everyone will be able to use the light rail, and it’s also more expensive. Most people still rely on the bus system.
- The light rail could increase the cost of housing and displace the local residents.

## **Briefings | May 26, 2021; June 21, 2021; August 24, 2021**

### **Recommendations**

- Sound Transit needs to reach non-English speaking communities.
- Equity, environmental, working people need to be talked to.
- Reach out to schools and find out their thoughts.

### **Questions**

- Are we looking to copy successful projects from other cities and countries?
- Isn't the RTA tax making up for the budget loss?
- Don't you think it's just rich white people using it anyway?
- The route deviates over to the west side, is that to accommodate Mukilteo and Boeing?
- How meaningful is my feedback?
- How is my feedback being used?

### **Concerns**

- Tree removal from construction.

## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – Everett Food Bank

**Date, time:** April 27, 2021, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81377163377>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with the Everett Food Bank, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

#### Materials:

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

Project fact sheet

#### Participants:

<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Ashlie-Vinke <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bianchi	<input type="checkbox"/> Candice Plendl	<input type="checkbox"/> Chris Hatch <input type="checkbox"/> Dean Johnson	<b>Facilitator:</b> Candice Plendl Ryan Bianchi Erik Ashlie-Vinke
			<b>Note Taker:</b> Candice Plendl

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
12:30 PM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Candice
12:35 PM	About the project presentation	Ryan
12:40 PM	Get to know Chris, Dean and the Everett Food Bank	Ryan and Erik
1:20 PM	Questions?	Ryan and Erik
1:25 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Candice

#### Meeting Summary:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – Everett Gospel Mission

**Date, time:** April 30, 2021, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84462743123>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with the Everett Gospel Mission, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

**Materials:**

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

Project fact sheet

**Participants:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Ashlie-Vinke <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bianchi <input type="checkbox"/> Martha Russell	<input type="checkbox"/> Kyle Jensen <input type="checkbox"/> John Hull	<b>Facilitator:</b> Kyle Jensen Ryan Bianchi
		<b>Note Taker:</b> Kyle Jensen

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
12:30 PM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Kyle
12:35 PM	About the project presentation	Ryan
12:40 PM	Get to know John and the Everett Gospel Mission	Ryan and Erik
1:20 PM	Questions?	Ryan and Erik
1:25 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Kyle

**Meeting Summary:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – Downtown Everett Association

**Date, time:** April 30, 2021, 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87109939658>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with the Everett Gospel Mission, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

**Materials:**

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

Project fact sheet

**Participants:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Ashlie-Vinke <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bianchi	<input type="checkbox"/> Candice Plendl	<input type="checkbox"/> John Hull	<b>Facilitator:</b> Candice Plendl Ryan Bianchi
			<b>Note Taker:</b> Candice Plendl

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
12:30 PM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Candice
12:35 PM	About the project presentation	Ryan
12:40 PM	Get to know John and the Everett Gospel Mission	Ryan and Erik
1:20 PM	Questions?	Ryan and Erik
1:25 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Candice

**Meeting Summary:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – Housing Hope

**Date, time:** May 7, 2021, 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84740179973>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with the Housing Hope, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

#### Materials:

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

Project fact sheet

#### Participants:

<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Ashlie-Vinke <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bianchi	<input type="checkbox"/> Candice Plendl <input type="checkbox"/> Denise Gaines	<input type="checkbox"/> Fred Safstrom <input type="checkbox"/> Denise Gaines	<b>Facilitator:</b> Candice Plendl Ryan Bianchi Erik Ashlie-Vinke
			<b>Note Taker:</b> Candice Plendl

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
11:30 AM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Candice
11:35 AM	About the project presentation	Ryan
11:40 AM	Get to know Fred, Denise and Housing Hope	Ryan and Erik
12:20 PM	Questions?	Ryan and Erik
12:25 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Candice

#### Meeting Summary:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – Lynnwood Food Bank

**Date, time:** May 25, 2021, 10 – 11 a.m.

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85273673054>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with Lynnwood Food Bank, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

**Materials:**

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

Project fact sheet

**Participants:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Ashlie-Vinke <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bianchi	<input type="checkbox"/> Kyle Jensen <input type="checkbox"/> Fred Safstrom	<b>Facilitator:</b> Kyle Jensen Ryan Bianchi Erik Ashlie-Vinke
		<b>Note Taker:</b> Kyle Jensen

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
11:30 AM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Kyle
11:35 AM	About the project presentation	Ryan
11:40 AM	Get to know Alissa and Lynnwood Food Bank	Ryan and Erik
12:20 PM	Questions?	Ryan and Erik
12:25 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Kyle

**Meeting Summary:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – SEPAC

**Date, time:** June 14, 2021, 2 – 3 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87203498140>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with SEPAC, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

**Materials:**

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

Project fact sheet

**Participants:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Martha Russell <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bianchi	<input type="checkbox"/> Candice Plendl	<input type="checkbox"/> Louis Harris	<b>Facilitator:</b> Candice Plendl Ryan Bianchi Martha Russell
			<b>Note Taker:</b> Candice Plendl

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
2:00 PM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Candice
2:05 PM	About the project presentation	Ryan
2:10 PM	Get to know Alissa and Lynnwood Food Bank	Ryan and Martha
2:50 PM	Questions?	Ryan and Martha
2:55 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Candice

**Meeting Summary:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – Mariner Community Campus

**Date, time:** July 1, 2021, 12 – 1 p.m.

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89532158161>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with Sno-isle and the Mariner Community Campus, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

**Materials:**

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

Project fact sheet

**Participants:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Ashlie-Vinke <input type="checkbox"/> Miranda Redinger <input type="checkbox"/> Ryan Bianchi	<input type="checkbox"/> Candice Plendl <input type="checkbox"/> Christine Stansfield <input type="checkbox"/> Sandra Beck <input type="checkbox"/> Judy Sasges	<b>Facilitator:</b> Candice Plendl Miranda Redinger Ryan Bianchi Erik Ashlie-Vinke
		<b>Note Taker:</b> Candice Plendl

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
12:00 PM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Candice
12:05 PM	About the project presentation	Ryan
12:10 PM	Get to know Sno-isle and the Mariner Community Campus	Ryan, Miranda, Erik
12:50 PM	Questions?	Ryan, Miranda, Erik
12:55 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Candice

**Meeting Summary:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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## Meeting Agenda

### Community Conversation – Communities of Color Coalition (C3)

**Date, time:** August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 10-11 am

**Location:** Zoom, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82499570392>

**Meeting objective(s):** To connect with the Communities of Color Coalition, learn more about their mission and purpose and the community they serve.

**Materials:**

PowerPoint Presentation

Project website

**Participants:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Erik Ashlie-Vinke <input type="checkbox"/> Alex Ko <input type="checkbox"/> Kyle Jensen <input type="checkbox"/> Jacque Julien (C3) <input type="checkbox"/> Ben Young (C3)	<b>Facilitator:</b> Erik Ashlie-Vinke Alex Ko Kyle Jensen
	<b>Note Taker:</b> Kyle Jensen

Time:	Agenda item:	Lead:
12:00 PM	Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Names, pronouns, affiliation</li> </ul>	Kyle
12:05 PM	About the project presentation	Alex
12:10 PM	Get to know Sno-isle and the Mariner Community Campus	Alex, Erik
12:50 PM	Questions?	Alex, Erik
12:55 PM	Thank you and how to stay involved	Kyle

**Meeting Summary:**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> </ul>
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