



Ballard Link Extension

Q3 2025 EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT REPORT

July through September 2025

Ballard Link Extension (BLE) outreach and engagement activities snapshot



Between July and September 2025, our team...



Responded to **18 comments and questions** from inbox and voicemail



Held **13 briefings** with property owners, tenants, and community groups



Attended **6 festivals**, engaging **4,550+ community members**



Sent **1 email update** to **12,000+ subscribers**



Continued ongoing **fieldwork activities** throughout the project corridor



Ballard Link Extension project overview

The Ballard Link Extension will (BLE) provide fast, reliable light rail connections to dense residential and job centers in the Chinatown-International District (CID), Downtown, Interbay, and Ballard neighborhoods. In addition, a new downtown Seattle light rail tunnel will provide capacity for the entire regional system to operate efficiently.

Stations include Chinatown-International District, Midtown, Westlake, Denny, South Lake Union, Seattle Center, Smith Cove, Interbay, and Ballard.



Fairs and festivals

In the BLE project corridor, we attended and hosted booths at **six events** to share information about the project with the community, engaging with over **4,550** residents. Events included:

- **CID Celebration**
 - July 12, 2025 | Visitors: 526
- **Ballard Seafood Fest**
 - July 12 and 13, 2025 | Visitors: 1,681
- **CID Summer Food Walks**
 - July 19, 2025 | Visitors: 252
- **Celebrate Little Saigon**
 - Aug. 16, 2025 | Visitors: 224
- **Fishermen's Fall Festival**
 - Sept. 13, 2025 | Visitors: 875
- **CID Night Market**
 - Sept. 27, 2025 | Visitors: 1,001



Email updates

During the reporting period, the project team sent **one email update** to more than **12,000 subscribers**. The message shared information about upcoming community events along the project corridor.

The email encouraged subscribers to visit the project booth to ask questions and learn about progress on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). It also provided an overview of the environmental review process and reminded readers about the upcoming BLE Draft EIS and public comment period.



Common questions and comments

The following is a summary of questions and comments received through property owner and tenant meetings, community briefings, emails, and voicemails.

Draft EIS, alternatives, and stations

- Questions about the BLE Draft EIS timeline and next steps.
- Feedback and suggestions on outreach strategies for the Draft EIS engagement period, including ways to reach Chinatown-International District (CID) communities, seniors, and local workers through culturally relevant and in-language methods.
- Questions about BLE station locations, alternatives, and system operations in the CID and Midtown areas.
- Questions about traffic data related to 4th Avenue South and CID station alternatives.
- Ideas for potential transit uses for King Street Station and for a new Midtown Station, emphasizing transit accessibility and opposition to car-focused alternatives.
- Input suggesting consideration of an additional station between Interbay and Smith Cove to support future redevelopment and transit-oriented growth.
- Ideas proposing an alternative downtown tunnel alignment for the Ballard and West Seattle Link Extensions, including suggestions to improve ridership, reduce costs, and serve additional areas of downtown.

Property questions and fieldwork

- Questions from property owners and tenants about fieldwork, property access, and acquisitions.

South Downtown Hub (SDH)

- Questions and comments about the South Downtown Hub concepts, including traffic impacts, parking, wayfinding, community representation, and integration with BLE station development.
- Comments about traffic flow, turn restrictions, and street design in the South Downtown Hub area.
- Questions and comments about accessibility, transparency, and project updates for the BLE and South Downtown Hub.