



Ballard Link Extension

Q4 EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT REPORT - BLE

October through December 2025

Ballard Link Extension (BLE) outreach and engagement activities snapshot



Between October and December 2025, our team...



Responded to **10 comments and questions** from inbox and voicemail



Held **7 briefings** with property owners, tenants, and community groups



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



Ballard Link Extension project overview

The [Ballard Link Extension project](#) will 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.

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soundtransit.org/ballardupdates



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 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), alternatives, and station options

- Comments and questions about outreach approaches and timing considerations for Draft EIS engagement with CID and Little Saigon small businesses.
- Questions and comments about the Draft EIS timeline, publication process, project milestones, and next steps in the environmental review and decision-making process.
- Questions and comments about tunnel configurations and alignment options, including broader system implications for downtown capacity, reliability, and connectivity.
- Questions and comments about station locations and access in the CID and Midtown areas, including concerns about transfers, rider experience, and reduced one-seat rides.
- Questions about cost savings efforts and how cost considerations could affect the project and tunnel elements, alongside broader concerns about delays and rising project costs.
- Question related to project delivery, including design services selection and construction procurement timing.
- Questions about construction sequencing and the anticipated duration of major construction activities in the downtown core.
- Suggestions for potential engagement activities and opportunities during the Draft EIS comment period.

Property questions and fieldwork

- Questions and comments about the property acquisition process, including timing, early acquisition, valuation, appraisal, and ownership transitions.
- Questions and comments about whether specific properties could be affected, including potential acquisition, partial acquisition, or construction easements.

South Downtown Hub (SDH)

- Questions and comments about SDH design concepts, including raised crosswalks and improvements to pedestrian connections.