



External Engagement Report

January – June 2026 (Q1 – Q2)

This report summarizes Sound Transit's community engagement for the Tacoma Dome Link Extension (TDLE) from January through June 2026 (Q1 – Q2). Activities during this period included community events; briefings with community organizations, property owners, and tenants; station area planning engagement; fieldwork notifications; and ongoing communications through project email updates, the project inbox, and the project phone line.

Engagement by the numbers



Held **18 community meetings and property owner briefings.**



Received **6,000+ new visitors** to the station area planning online open house.



Attended **4 community fairs and festivals** and engaged **1,500+ people.**



Sent **5 project email updates** to **12,800+ subscribers.**



Hosted **3 station area planning open houses** with **150+ attendees.**



Mailed a project postcard to **7,200+ addresses**



Held **2 in-language focus groups** with **12 total participants.**



Received **300+ inquiries** through the project inbox.



Fairs and festivals

The project team connects with community members, supports local organizations, and shares information about the project by attending local fairs and festivals. At these events, we answer questions, share project materials, and connect people to resources such as ORCA information and the Youth Ride Free program. In Q1 and Q2 2026, the project team staffed information booths at four community fairs and festivals, engaging with approximately 1,530 community members at the following events:

Date (2026)	Event
Feb. 28	Asia Pacific Cultural Center Lunar New Year
March 26	Federal Way Public Schools STEAM night
May 16	Federal Way Touch-a-Truck
June 19	Tacoma Juneteenth Celebration

Figure 1. Event dates and names.



Project staff engaging with community members and students at Federal Way Public Schools' STEAM night in March.



Community meetings and property owner briefings

The project team hosted 18 briefings or meetings with community organizations, businesses, and property owners along the project corridor. These meetings, held either virtually or in person, helped the project team share information about the project design and timeline and gave participants an opportunity to ask questions directly to project staff. Topics included the Preferred Alternative and potential property impacts.

Sound Transit continues to refine the project design and evaluate potential benefits and impacts as part of the Final EIS. Potential property needs may change as design advances. After the Final EIS is published, the Sound Transit Board will select the project to be built.

To learn more:

- Review our property acquisition and relocation handbooks:
 - [Property Acquisition and Residential Relocation Handbook](#).
 - [Property Acquisition and Business Relocation Handbook](#).
- Email tdlink@soundtransit.org.
- Call [206-398-5453](tel:206-398-5453).



Station area planning engagement

Station area planning engagement focused on gathering community feedback on early station designs and potential station access improvements.

Sound Transit hosted two focus groups in March and April 2026 to understand transportation needs, station access priorities, and communication preferences among Spanish- and Korean-speaking participants in the TDLE corridor. Spanish and Korean are among the most commonly spoken non-English languages in the project corridor. The focus groups provided insight into participants' station access priorities and communication preferences.

Sound Transit conducted an engagement period from May 7 to June 22, 2026, to share early station designs and collect feedback on potential station access projects.

Sound Transit provided information in six languages and invited feedback through an online survey and three in-person open houses. More than 6,000 people visited the online open house during the engagement period, including more than 600 visitors to the translated sites. The online open house included a page for each of the four future stations. In total, the online survey received more than 625 responses, and more than 150 people attended the three in-person open houses.

To learn more, read the:

- [Station Planning Focus Group Summary](#).
- [Station Planning Engagement Summary](#).



Email updates

During this reporting period, the project team sent five email updates to more than 12,800 subscribers. Topics included:

- [Tacoma Dome Access Improvements](#) (Jan. 15, 2026).
- [2025 Tacoma Dome Link Extension Year in Review](#) (Feb. 9, 2026).
- [Details on station area planning engagement period](#) (May 8, 2026).
- [Invitation to join station area planning open houses](#) (May 13, 2026).
- [Reminder to comment on the station area planning survey](#) (June 12, 2026).



Fieldwork

Sound Transit continued fieldwork throughout the project corridor. Activities included wetland and stream delineations, tree surveys, soil resistivity testing, and geotechnical borings. Fieldwork was conducted on private parcels and in municipal rights-of-way in Tacoma, Fife, Milton, and Federal Way.

Property owners and community members were notified of fieldwork activities through methods including email, phone calls, flyers, and door-to-door outreach.

Summary of feedback

The project team received feedback through the project inbox, in-person open houses, and other outreach events from community organizations, property owners, and station planning open house attendees.

Key feedback

- Questions and comments about the [Enterprise Initiative](#).
- Questions about project status, timeline, and funding.

Station area planning

- Questions about the station area planning online open house and in-person events.
- Open house attendees and online survey respondents prioritized future stations that are welcoming, safe, and easy to access by transit.
- Survey respondents shared that they would access future stations by driving and parking, taking transit, or being dropped off.
- Participants expressed interest in station access projects that could make crossings safer and improve walking, biking, and transit connections to the stations.
- Participants shared ideas for station elements that reflect and celebrate local identity, including Puyallup Tribal history and art, local history and industry, and the Pacific Northwest landscape.

Property impacts and relocation

- Questions from businesses and property owners about potential impacts related to the Preferred Alternative.
- Questions about relocation support, eligibility, and how assistance is provided.
- Questions and concerns about Freighthouse Square, its tenants, and how people can stay involved.

Next steps

Sound Transit will continue advancing project design and fieldwork in preparation for the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), expected in mid-2027. The team will also continue coordinating with partner agencies, Tribes, property owners, businesses, tenants, and community groups throughout the project corridor. After the Final EIS is published, the Sound Transit Board will select the project to be built. The Federal Transit Administration is then expected to issue its Record of Decision which moves the project into Final Design.



Project staff talking with an attendee at the Tacoma Juneteenth Celebration on June 19.