



West Seattle Link Extension

Q4 2025 EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT REPORT

October / November / December



West Seattle Link Extension



Where are we now?

During the fourth quarter of 2025, the West Seattle Link Extension (WSLE) team continued to conduct cost saving analysis and design validation in alignment with Sound Transit's Enterprise Initiative. This effort supports the project's goal of maintaining affordability while working to meet growing regional mobility needs.

The engagement team prioritized information sharing this quarter.

Team members communicated updates with impacted community members as they became available. Sound Transit staff presented updates on potential cost savings options during a West Seattle transit forum. The project team plans to present the findings of this work to the Sound Transit Board in 2026 before moving forward with final design.



Engagement highlights

- Responded to **31 community member** calls and emails.
- Attended **10 briefings with community members** and community groups.
- Conducted fieldwork engagement by reaching out through **email and door-to-door visits**.
- Shared **project updates** at a community transit forum.



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Community briefings and property owner meetings

The project team held 10 briefings with businesses and property owners along the corridor from SODO to the Alaska Junction. These meetings, conducted through both in-person and virtual formats, provided staff with the opportunity to connect directly with impacted community members. Briefings focused on providing updates on cost savings work and possible design refinements. Staff shared presentation materials and answered questions about property acquisition, individual property impacts, and what cost savings work means for the project timeline and final design.



West Seattle Light Rail Visioning Forum

On November 24, King County Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda hosted a forum on the West Seattle light rail alongside Transportation Choices Coalition, West Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and the 34th District Democrats. Sound Transit leadership, including CEO Dow Constantine, attended the event to share updated project information. This included presenting the progress on building an affordable project. WSLE project team members supported the event and helped answer questions.

Sound Transit presenters shared possible cost savings options, including phased project delivery, removing the Avalon station, and refining station design. This work will be presented to the Board in 2026 for official decisions on how the project will move forward. The team received many questions during this event on topics such as the Avalon Station, Metro connectivity, timing and phasing, and project cost.



Questions and feedback summary

The following is a summary of questions and topics most frequently brought up by community members through property owner meetings, community briefings, emails, and voicemails to the project inbox:

- **General project questions and feedback:**
 - Timeline for upcoming project milestones.
 - Concern over project timeline and financial feasibility.
 - Questions about transit connectivity for the final alignment.
- **Construction timeline and impacts:**
 - Ongoing fieldwork activities.
 - Anticipated construction schedule.
 - General questions about construction-related impacts to nearby homes and businesses.
- **Property acquisition and relocation:**
 - Timeline for the start of property acquisition and relocation activities.
 - Acquisition and relocation process for businesses, including eligibility and next steps.
 - Timeline for finalizing the list of impacted properties.
 - Requests for briefings from potentially impacted residents and business owners.
 - Questions about specific property impacts.
 - Questions about how the Enterprise Initiative will affect the final list of property acquisitions.
 - Questions about the maintenance of properties that are currently vacant due to early acquisition.
- **Cost savings work:**
 - Timeline for the Board decision on cost savings options.
 - Questions about how cost savings analysis will impact project design.
 - Questions and comments about the elimination of the Avalon Station.
 - Questions and comments about the phased approach to Delridge.