



Monthly Report: External Engagement

PROJECT PHASE: ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

In August we participated in three festivals and presented at 15 community briefings.

 **17 comments and questions**

 **1 email update** engaging more than **4,000** subscribers

 **3 tweets** engaging more than **82,000** Twitter users

 **4 Facebook posts** engaging more than **30,200** followers

 **3 festivals** engaging more than **260** community members

 **15 community briefings**



Monthly Report: Communications and Outreach

COMMUNICATIONS ANALYTICS

17 communications included:

- **11** emails
- **1** letter
- **5** phone conversations

Key feedback:

- Support for video renderings of West Seattle extension
- Questions about subsidized or free transportation for groups of underserved communities
- Question about Alaska Junction construction timeline
- Question about 15th Avenue W alignments
- Concern about potential property impacts with various alternatives

BRIEFINGS

During the reporting period, the project team held **15** briefings, engaging the following groups or individuals:

- Seniors in Action Foundation (8/1)
- Northwest Marine Trade Association, Government Affairs Committee (8/3)
- Seattle Yacht Club (8/3)
- Bowman Refrigeration (8/7)
- Drink and Link (8/8)
- MLK Labor (8/8)
- Western Towboat Tour (8/10)
- The Salvation Army (8/20)
- Wing Luke Museum (8/21)
- Seattle Seahawks and Public Stadium Authority (8/22)
- Housing Development Consortium (8/23)
- Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC) (8/28)
- United Indians of All Tribes Foundation (8/29)
- Saint Luke's Episcopal Church (8/29)
- South Lake Union Community Council, Transportation Committee (8/29)



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BRIEFINGS (KEY FEEDBACK)

Questions and feedback received from briefings during the reporting period.

Corridor wide

- Support for Sound Transit using the Racial Equity Toolkit as part of the planning process
- Comment about the financial constraints that income-restricted community members face in accessing transit
- Questions about the most effective way for community members to make comments on the project
- Questions about the eminent domain process
- Questions about the project budget and if cost will dictate key decisions on potential alternatives
- Concerns about potential noise, visual and vibration impacts of elevated guideways on businesses

Interbay/Ballard (includes stations at Ballard, Interbay and Smith Cove)

- Support for a tunnel to Ballard
- Interest in cost comparisons for bridge and tunnel alignments across Salmon Bay
- Comments about the importance of preserving the water-related heritage of the Ship Canal and associated maritime industry
- Questions about the height of a fixed bridge across Salmon Bay
- Questions about travel times for a fixed bridge versus a moveable bridge across Salmon Bay
- Concerns about traffic impacts to the cruise terminal and Fishermen's terminal

Downtown (includes Seattle Center, South Lake Union, Denny, Westlake and Midtown stations)

- Support for good transit integration at the downtown stations, specifically from the north and east
- Interest in consolidating the Denny and South Lake Union stations into one station or spreading them further apart
- Comment about the importance of a mobility hub at Harrison Street and Aurora Avenue N in the South Lake Union-Uptown mobility plan
- Concern about vibrations and sensitive equipment at the University of Washington's South Lake Union campus area



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BRIEFINGS (KEY FEEDBACK)

SODO/Chinatown-International District (includes stations at Chinatown-International District, Stadium and SODO)

- Support for transit-oriented development in SODO that considers the area's industrial density
- Request to work together with the Chinatown-International District community to help build the neighborhood as a destination rather than a pass-through for transit. Invest in culturally-rooted, community-led spaces to provide the balance to other destabilizing activities in the neighborhood.
- Request to continue exploring alternatives with stations on 4th Avenue and 5th Avenue to determine which would best serve the Chinatown-International District and facilitate transfers
- Request for early and sustained outreach to Chinatown-International District community members and businesses in-language
- Comment about the need to provide time for Chinatown-International District community members to absorb project information
- Comment about the criticality of service reliability and convenient pedestrian transfers between stations for seniors in Chinatown-International District
- Comment about the number of events at CenturyLink Field each year and the criticality of 4th Avenue
- Concern about pattern of past public projects not serving the community and the associated construction impacts, displacement and gentrification
- Concern about the rationale of the Occidental Avenue alignment and associated small business impacts and gentrification

West Seattle (includes stations at Delridge, Avalon and Alaska Junction)

- Support for the Pigeon Point alternative and the Golf Course alternative with a station in Alaska Junction
- Support for an underground alternative that straddles Fautleroy Way SW
- Question about whether parking and hide-and-ride are being considered at stations
- Question about the timing of station openings and whether stations at Delridge and/or Avalon can be opened before Alaska Junction
- Comment that the need for light rail service in West Seattle is further south
- Concern regarding building in working terminal areas and about conflicts on Harbor Island and around Spokane Street



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FESTIVALS

During the reporting period, the project team attended **3** fairs and festivals to share information with the community, answer questions and discuss opportunities to stay engaged.

South Lake Union Block Party (Aug. 10, 2018)

- **126** community members stopped by the booth
- Common questions and topics discussed include project timeline, station locations and parking
 - “What is the estimated timeline for design and construction?”
 - “Where will the stations in South Lake Union be located?”
 - “How often will trains come on these new lines?”

Delridge Day (Aug. 11, 2018)

- **46** community members stopped by the booth
- Common questions and topics discussed include property impacts and acquisition, guideway and station visualizations, and project timeline.
 - “What’s the rough size of a station so we can estimate what the construction impacts might be?”
 - “Elevated eyesore viaducts are being torn down.”
 - “How can we let people know light rail is different from the bus?”

Celebrate Little Saigon (Aug. 26, 2018)

- **94** community members stopped by the booth
- Common questions and topics discussed include parking and Orca Lift.
 - “Can the Ballard Link extension go to Greenwood?”
 - “Wouldn’t want CID businesses to be impacted.”
 - “Can you build this any faster?”