

8/6/2020 Executive Committee Meeting
Public Comment Submissions

Submissions

Joe Kunzler..... 2
Dennis Noland 3

Joe Kunzler

31 July 2020

Dear Sound Transit Executive Committee;

Joe A. Kunzler here. First, thanks for the hyperlinks to the notifications of meeting agenda packets big enough to see to click on. Much appreciated.

Second, I am giving this advice quite beyond Sound Transit but I feel with a vaccine likely by the end of the calendar year that every federated board should start considering if, how, when and where to physically reopen. The time to start those soul-searching discussions is soon - complete with being prepared to push back against gubernatorial directives to reopen only to have Tackling Tsimerman sell more copies because a certain Alex is back among other consequences. So I am going to sound the alarm now.

At least e-mail only public comments have stopped the sensationalization of what are supposed to be dry, focused Sound Transit public meetings about matters costing millions of taxpayer dollars. You should please fight *for* retaining them.

Very thoughtfully;

Joe A. Kunzler

growlernoise@gmail.com

Dennis Noland

August 6, 2020

Sound Transit System Executive Committee:

As your committee considers realignment and next steps for the capital program, I would like to remind the committee members that, for the West Seattle Link Expansion, there are routing choices for segments of the West Seattle Expansion that stay within the budget as defined by the voters when they chose the representative alignment. One expansion segment that stays within this budget is the Yancy-Andover Alternative.

As this guideway leaves Yancy-Andover and continues south and west from where SW Yancy Street meets Avalon Way, staying in the existing the public right-of-way (Avalon Way) will be the least expensive alternative for this next segment of the West Seattle Link Expansion. PLUS, this routing saves housing that is so precious today in Seattle and avoids displacing people.

I ask you to envision an elevated guideway, heading north/south on Avalon Way between SW Yancy Street and 35th Ave SW. An elevated Avalon Station could be constructed at the Starbucks and Taco Time locations, adjacent to 35th Ave SW. This slight alteration of the Avalon station from the positioning in existing planning diagrams will save additional homes, avoiding displacements. The light rail guideway will become part of the new urban environment for the numerous apartment dwellers along Avalon Way (much as it is for residents along Martin Luther King Way).

At the June Sound Transit Board meeting, Don Billen, Project Director, suggested a way to lower future costs: Sound Transit could make strategic right of way acquisitions sooner rather than later, thus precluding future development that would, in turn, increase acquisition costs.

A perfect example of a strategic acquisition: Three surface parking lots on 26th Ave SW adjoining SW Andover St. These three undeveloped properties are an ideal location for a transit center serving the Yancy-Andover (Delridge) light rail station and could provide TOD opportunities beneath an elevated Delridge station. Additionally, these parking lots open the door to the Yancy-Andover (Delridge) station placement moving slightly south and west of where it is in current drawings. This refinement to the station location will enhance operational aspects.

All the best and stay well,

On behalf of the Youngstown Neighborhood Coalition we thank you for listening.

Dennis Noland

1615 SW Cambridge St.

Seattle, WA 98106

206-708-7735