



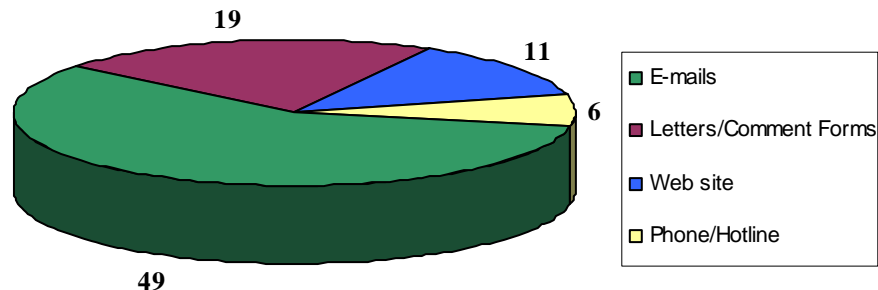
JULY 2008 COMMENT SUMMARY

Introduction

In July, 85 comments were submitted to the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program team.

Comment Format and Origin

Comment Format



This month's comment totals include three pieces of correspondence to the governor that were referred to the program office for response. Comments and questions received at outreach events are summarized separately.

Comment Categories

There are six comment categories: transportation, design/construction, economic, transit, environmental/public safety and structures/locations. No comments were made in the structures/locations category in July. Each comment submitted is categorized by the content of the message. Please note that some comments fit into more than one category, while others do not fit into any of the categories. The bullet points below are quotes that were extracted from the July comments.

Transportation:

This group includes categories such as traffic, connections/circulation, pedestrians, and bicycles. In July, there were 21 comments in this category. Below is a sampling of the comments.

- The current higher gas prices affect the driving patterns of Seattle area residents. There are far fewer cars using the streets and roads in Seattle now.
- Alaskan and Airport Way, First, Fourth and Sixth Avenues will become major traffic arterials if either I-5 or SR 99 is closed. It would be smart to make these roads as effective as possible.

- Trucks will likely remain the dominant mode of goods transportation in the future.

Design/Construction:

This group includes categories such as construction, urban design, the seawall, and engineering. In July, there were 33 comments in this category. Below is a sampling of the comments.

- The new viaduct should be a double-decked design which can accommodate six lanes of traffic and light rail transit.
- Bicycle lanes should be a standard feature in any road construction in the entire metropolitan area.
- An off-ramp from SR 99 at S. Atlantic Street would make it much easier to get to I-5 and I-90 from the viaduct. It could also connect SR 99 to the stadiums, Pioneer Square and the South Downtown area in general.

Economic:

This group includes categories such as cost, funding, property value/acquisition, and tolls. In July, there were five comments in this category. Below is a sampling of the comments.

- Investments in transit are a much better use of public funds than spending on new roadways that may not be used in the future.
- Is it true that of only \$1.5 billion of the \$2.8 billion allocated for the Alaskan Way Viaduct project remains?

Transit:

This group includes categories related to transit, such as light rail and buses. In July, there were nine comments in this category. Below is a sampling of the comments.

- Transit, along with walking and biking, will be more utilized in the future due to rising gas prices.
- In other cities many people depend on transit for transportation. It is not uncommon for people not to own cars due to the wide variety of transit options.
- I fail to see evidence that light rail or rapid transit projects increase transportation options for West Seattle residents.

Environmental/Public Safety:

This group includes categories like noise issues, public safety, earthquakes, and visual quality. In July, there were ten comments in this category. Below is a sampling of the comments.

- Higher levels of congestion on I-5 and surface streets could mean more frequent accidents.
- I am concerned about the safety of bicyclists on SR 99 due to its poor road surface and lane markings.

Outreach Events

Outreach events provide another way to gather feedback about the program. The feedback from these events is summarized separately and summaries are available upon request. Outreach events attended in July included:

Community Briefings

The program team attended nine community briefings in July.

- July 2: Cascade Bicycle Club

- July 3: Seattle Design Commission
- July 8: Interest Group Briefing for environmental, transit, bicycle and pedestrian groups
- July 9: Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board
- July 10: Seattle Planning Commission, Transportation Committee
- July 15: City of Seattle- Freight Mobility Advisory Committee
- July 17: Interest Group Briefing for environmental, transit, bicycle and pedestrian groups
- July 24: Bemis Building owner, David Huchthausen
- July 30: Mountains to Sound Greenway

Public Hearings

The program team hosted two public hearings in July, held in Downtown and West Seattle. The events were attended by approximately 80 members of the public.

- July 10: South Holgate Street to South King Street Viaduct Replacement Environmental Assessment (EA) Hearing
- July 15: South Holgate Street to South King Street Viaduct Replacement EA Hearing

Stakeholder Advisory Committee meetings

The program team attended one Stakeholder Advisory Committee meetings in July, it also attended by approximately 30 members of the public.

- July 24: Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Fairs, Festivals and Farmers Markets

The program team attended nine events in July, and received approximately 2215 visitors. Outreach events are summarized separately; summaries are available upon request.

- July 6: Broadway Farmers Market
- July 11-13: West Seattle Summer Fest
- July 12, 13: Chinatown-International District Festival
- July 17: Boeing Safety & Wellness Fair
- July 19, 20: White Center Jubilee Days
- July 23: Wallingford Farmers Market
- July 24: Queen Anne Farmers Market
- July 26, 27: Ballard Seafood Fest
- July 30: Maple Leaf Summer Social