



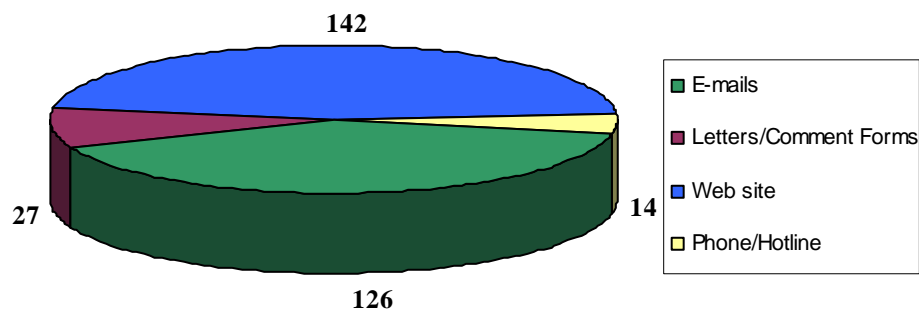
## DECEMBER 2008 COMMENT SUMMARY

### Introduction

In December, 309 comments were submitted to the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program.

### Comment Format and Origin

Comment Format



Comments and questions received at outreach events, such as the public forum, are summarized separately.

### Comment Categories

We have six comment categories: transportation, design/construction, economic, transit, environmental/public safety and structures/locations. 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 were extracted from the December comments.

#### Transportation:

This category includes comments related to traffic, connections/circulation, pedestrians, and bicycles. In December, there were 143 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- Any additional capacity built in to I-5 will immediately be consumed.
- Surface streets breed congestion and gridlock.
- Improvements to SR 519, as well as a new design of the viaduct's south end, will provide significant access improvements to the waterfront already.

- Do not forget all of the future pedestrians and bicycle commuters along the waterfront.

### **Design/Construction:**

This category includes comments related to construction, urban design, the seawall, and engineering. In December, there were 239 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- It seems like an alternative that is underground has the highest benefits of any of the options.
- My husband and I favor the surface street-bored tunnel option that was mentioned in today's newspaper.
- The final surface street design should prioritize the movement of transit, pedestrians and bicyclists, and create human scale public spaces.
- The elevated option is the one that I prefer most.

### **Economic:**

This category includes comments related to cost, funding, property value/acquisition, and tolls. In December, there were 46 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- I would hate to see an income tax added in Washington State because Seattle decides to build a multibillion dollar roadway.
- I am willing to pay for a bored tunnel with tolls, increased car tabs and fees.
- We are in a real financial hard spot and cannot afford glitzy options.
- Tolls should be considered seriously.

### **Transit:**

This category includes comments related to transit, such as light rail and buses. In December, there were 22 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- Streetcars are not a viable mass transit option, as they slow the surrounding traffic due to additional traffic stops.
- As much money as possible should be invested in improving public transit.

### **Environmental/Public Safety:**

This category includes comments related to noise issues, public safety, earthquakes, and visual quality. In December, there were 28 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- A tunnel would be a natural magnet for terrorists.
- Get the noise, air and visual pollution out of the waterfront.
- A new viaduct will continue to promote crime and drug trafficking and be a home for rats and other pests, making the waterfront an undesirable and unsafe place to visit.
- A park along the waterfront could be like Grant Park in Chicago, one of the best urban parks in the country.

### **Structures/Location:**

This category includes comments related to historic structures and districts, portals, stadiums and South Lake Union. In December, there were seven comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- In the surface/I-5/transit solution will any historic buildings or structures along Western Avenue be removed?

- There are some really nice old buildings hidden behind the current viaduct. These need to be shown off, not put behind another structure.

## **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 December included:

### **Community Briefings**

The program team attended 8 community briefings in December.

- Dec. 2: Municipal League Public Forum on the Alaskan Way Viaduct
- Dec. 4: Manufacturing Industrial Council
- Dec. 4: Rainier Chamber of Commerce
- Dec. 9: Seattle/King County Building and Trades
- Dec. 16: Freight Mobility Advisory Committee
- Dec. 16: Downtown Seattle Association, Transportation Committee
- Dec. 17: Pioneer Square Community Association
- Dec. 18: Parking and Access Review Committee

### **Open Houses**

The program team hosted one open house, held in downtown Seattle. The event was attended by approximately 140 members of the public.

- Dec. 15: Central waterfront public forum and scoping meeting

### **Stakeholder meetings**

The program team attended three stakeholder meetings in December.

- Dec. 2: Stadium representatives
- Dec. 9: David Huchthausen
- Dec. 15: Stadium representatives

### **Fairs, Festivals and Farmers Markets**

The program team attended one event in December, and received approximately 200 visitors. Outreach events are summarized separately; summaries are available upon request.

- Dec. 10: Pemco Transportation Fair