

The Alaskan Way Viaduct & Seawall Replacement Program

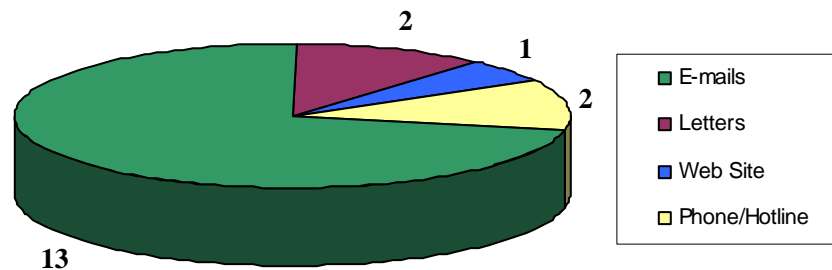
NOVEMBER 2007 COMMENT SUMMARY

Introduction

In November, 18 comments were submitted to the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program (AWVSRP) team.

Comment Format and Origin

Comment Format



This month's comment totals include four pieces of correspondence to the Governor and other elected officials that were referred to the program office. 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. 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. This month, no comments were made in the transit or structures/locations categories. The bullet points below are quotes that were extracted from the November comments.

Transportation:

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

- The mayor and the council are living in a dreamland with their plans to move cars from the viaduct to surface streets. There is no way that cars traveling 50

mph without stops are going to go through a city at 30 mph with stops in the same amount of time- or without causing catastrophic gridlock.

Design/Construction:

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

- I was on the waterfront and noticed you are paving over the waterfront streetcar tracks. Is this a temporary measure?
- What are the specific dates for any demolition and/or construction that may be occurring on the Yesler portion of the program?
- Have you considered the fact that if we can successfully re-route traffic during the demolition and construction of the viaduct, we may not have to build a new one?

Economic:

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

- I have some concerns about how the viaduct projects may impact our business over the next two years.
- I am a student and would like to have more detailed information about the surface street option, especially the cost. Could you send me any documents that contain cost estimation for this option?

Environmental/Public Safety:

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

- To protect public safety, the State should proceed to retrofit the viaduct now.
- Could you send me more information about the causes of the cracks in the viaduct? Are they caused by wear and tear or earthquakes? What is the main mechanism for potential failure besides the failure of the seawall?
- Did the Draft Environmental Impact Statement actually involve “real” re-routing of traffic, or simulated exercises?

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 November included:

Community Briefings

The program attended three community briefings in November.

November 8: Downtown District Council

November 8: AACE International, Seattle Section

November 19: Mountains to Sound Greenway

Fairs, Festivals and Farmers Markets

The program attended one festival in November, and received approximately 125 visitors.

- November 14: Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center Transportation Fair