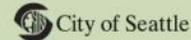
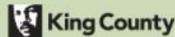
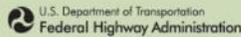


Alaskan Way Viaduct & Seawall Replacement Program



Communications Summary

January 2011

What We're Hearing

In January, 202 comments were submitted to the program. Staff also prepared summaries of comments gathered at outreach events during the month.

Source of Comments	Qty.
Community briefings	108
Emails	34
Other	33
Website	17
Phone/hotline	10
Total comments	202

NOTE: Please note that some comments fit into more than one comment category, while others do not fit into any of the categories.

Comment Category	Qty.
Design or construction	26
Economic	22
Environmental or public safety	18
Structures or locations	11
Transportation	21
Transit	6
Fieldwork	0

Public Comment Themes

The following are a sampling of comments we received:

Design and construction

(This category includes comments related to construction, urban design, the seawall and engineering.)

- Once the tunnel boring machine starts drilling, how would you start building the interior of the tunnel?
- Why are you eliminating mid-town ramps from SR 99?
- Will the rest of the viaduct remain open during the south end ramp closures?
- What would be the design life of the bored tunnel?

Economic

(This category includes comments related to cost, funding, property value/acquisition and tolls.)

- Would Seattle be responsible for cost overruns on the bored tunnel project?
- How would tolls for the bored tunnel be determined?
- Is there federal funding involved with the bored tunnel?

Environmental and public safety

(This category includes comments related to environmental and noise issues, public safety, earthquakes and visual quality.)

- Where would you put the spoils from the bored tunnel?
- What will happen to the fill soil during an earthquake?
- What would happen if tunneling is stopped by archeological sites?

Structures or locations

(This category includes comments related to historic structures and districts, portals, stadiums and neighborhoods.)

- Would tunnel boring damage the Seattle Underground?
- What is the plan for operation of Colman Dock during the downtown tunnel construction?
- Will the Battery Street Tunnel disappear once you build the proposed bored tunnel?

Transportation

(This category includes comments related to traffic, connections/circulation, pedestrians and bicycles.)

- How would the proposed bored tunnel impact travel times?
- How would two lanes of traffic in each direction in the proposed bored tunnel sufficiently replace the three to four that we have on the viaduct today?
- How will viaduct replacement work affect traffic in Pioneer Square?

Transit

(This category includes comments related to transit, such as light rail and buses.)

- How will Metro transit services from West Seattle be affected?
- Did the eight scenarios that were considered during the stakeholder process include elements like transit?
- We want more people riding buses? How are you going to make that happen?

Field Work

(This category includes comments related to geotechnical drilling, utility surveying and building surveys.)

There were no field work comments in January.

Where We've Been

Outreach events provide another way to engage residents and businesses. In January, the project team attended 18 events, which included

community group, individual interest group and elected official briefings as well as informational tables in local business lobbies or at fairs and festivals.

Community briefings in January were attended by approximately 210 members of the public.

A map of all program events held this year is located [here](#).

Community briefings

- Seattle Skyline Rotary (Jan. 4)
- Pioneer Square Preservation Board (Jan. 5)
- Southwest District Council (Jan. 5)
- National Association of Women in Construction (Jan. 10)
- Downtown Seattle Association (Jan. 11)
- Duwamish Transportation Management Association Public Forum (Jan. 12)
- Magnolia Community Club (Jan. 13)
- University of Washington graduate course: Transportation and Land Use Policy (Jan. 18)
- Belltown Community Council (Jan. 19)
- Pioneer Square Neighborhood meeting (Jan. 20)

Individual interest group briefings

- Western Building tenants meeting (Jan. 18)
- ING/Martin Smith/505 First/83 S. King Street buildings (Jan. 28)
- Quality Inn & Suites (Jan. 31)

Elected official/agency briefings

- SeaShore Transportation Forum (Jan. 7)
- Seattle City Council (Jan. 10 and 18)
- King County Council Environment and Transportation Committee (Jan. 11)
- Washington State Senate / House Transportation Committee member brown bag (Jan. 13)

Fairs and festivals

There were no fairs or festivals in January.

Lobby outreach

There were no lobby outreach events in January.

Public open houses

There were no public open houses in January.

Construction Outreach

In January the project team provided notification for several construction activities by distributing letters or emails to nearby property owners and tenants, conducting door-to-door outreach, responding to comments and questions from the public and hosting a monthly construction meeting in Pioneer Square. A weekly S. Holgate Street to S. King Street email update is sent to a list of project neighbors and interested parties.

Outreach and notification activities focused on:

- The foundation work for the new southbound SR 99 roadway south of S. Dearborn Street.
- Pile driving and building the northbound SR 99 on-ramp detour along First Avenue S.
- Building the new East Frontage Road S.
- Paving S. Atlantic Street between Colorado Avenue S. and Utah Avenue S.
- Feedback on the draft SR 99 bored tunnel noise variance application.

Media Relations

The majority of media coverage in January focused on the signing of the SR 99 bored tunnel alternative design-build contract, ongoing south end construction, and the mitigation options for the Western Building. More than 115 program-related articles were published in local and national newspapers, blogs or other publications.

Focus of article	Qty.
Western Building mitigation	22
South end construction	15
SR 99 bored tunnel design-build bid opening	15
Cost overruns	12

NOTE: Listed above are only those topics receiving the most frequent coverage.

The project team distributed three media releases and hosted three media events in January to provide timely and accurate information to the public.

Media releases

- WSDOT and Seattle Tunnel Partners to sign contract to design and build SR 99 bored tunnel (Jan. 5).
- Another step forward: WSDOT signs contract for SR 99 bored tunnel with Seattle Tunnel Partners (Jan. 6).
- WSDOT sends SR 99 bored tunnel project agreements to Seattle City Council for approval (Jan. 28).

Press events

- Briefed media outlets about the closure of First Avenue S. and south end traffic impacts through April (Jan. 3).
- Bored tunnel design-build contract signing (Jan. 6).
- Media and elected tour of the Western Building (Jan. 18).



Ron Paananen addresses the media at the bored tunnel design-build contract signing on Jan. 6.

Public Materials

Printed materials, such as fact sheets and folios, are created and distributed to inform the public about the program. Handouts are prepared based on frequently asked questions and topics of interest.

New or updated materials

- Fact sheet: SR 99 Bored Tunnel Alternative Design-Build Project – Seattle Tunnel Partners’ proposal and team description (new).

- Fact sheet: SR 99 Bored Tunnel Alternative Design-Build Project: Contract Award Process (updated).
- Folio: Proposed SR 99 Bored Tunnel - Alignment and Portals (updated).

In January one email update was sent to approximately 6,500 subscribers. The program added approximately 110 subscribers in January. The update included articles about upcoming south end construction and the bored tunnel design-build contract signing.

Email update

Most popular links clicked from the January e-mail update:

- S. Holgate to S. King St. Project page.
- Central Waterfront Replacement Project page.
- S. Holgate to S. King St. “what’s happening” and closures.

In addition to producing printed materials and email updates, the team frequently updates the program website (www.alaskanwayviaduct.org) with the latest materials and information.

Website usage

- January visitors: 20,289
- January page views: 30,146