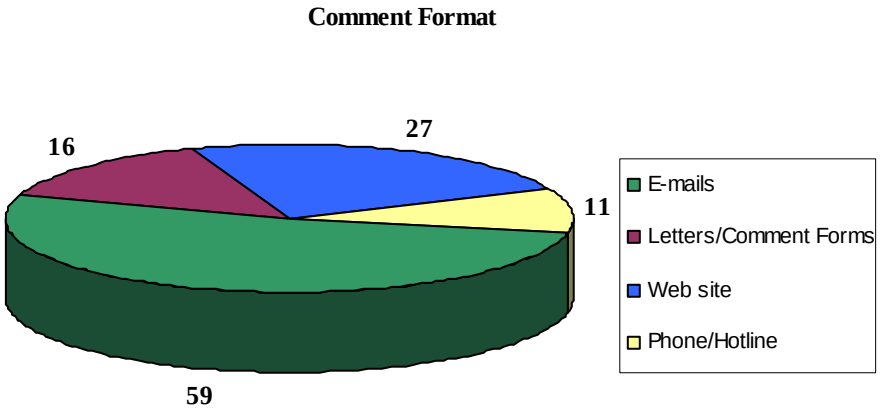
JANUARY 2009 COMMENT SUMMARY

Introduction

In January, 113 comments were submitted to the Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program.

Comment Format and Origin



Comments and questions received at outreach events are summarized separately.

Comment Categories

We have six comment categories: transportation, design/construction, economic, transit, environmental/public safety and structures/locations. No comments were received in the structures/locations category in January. 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 January comments.

Transportation:

This category includes comments related to traffic, connections/circulation, pedestrians, and bicycles. In January, there were 30 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- It looks to me like Magnolia and Ballard residents will be left with a surface street option once the existing viaduct is demolished.
- Will there be access to downtown from the tunnel?

- If the Western/Alaskan couplet option is selected, the pedestrian environment on Western will be destroyed.
- Will all of the lanes through the tunnel be HOV or general purpose?

Design/Construction:
This category includes comments related to construction, urban design, the seawall, and engineering. In January, there were 61 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- The bored tunnel option is the best option for Seattle.
- Replace the viaduct with another elevated highway.
- I'm very pleased with the recommendation to replace the viaduct with a bored tunnel.
- How will construction of the bored tunnel affect my commute?

Economic:
This category includes comments related to cost, funding, property value/acquisition, and tolls. In January, there were 19 comments in this category. Below is a sampling.

- Is tolling being considered as a way to help pay for the final cost of the tunnel?
- I have doubts that current cost estimates for the bored tunnel are accurate.
- Make sure that people realize the amount of money we're *saving* by building the bored tunnel, because we will be able to keep construction impacts to a minimum!

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

- Please consider building underground high speed mass transit as part of this project.
- I think that the funds being spent on the tunnel would have been better spent building light rail and other mass transit options.

Environmental/Public Safety:
This category includes comments related to noise issues, public safety, earthquakes, and visual quality. In January, there were nine comments in this category**.** Below is a sampling.

- Has there been any archaeological analysis done in the area where the tunnel will be bored?
- Will the bored tunnel be safer during an earthquake than the current viaduct?
- What effects will the ventilation buildings for the tunnel have on the surrounding environment?

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 January included:

<u>Community Briefings</u>
The program team attended 12 community briefings in January.

- Jan. 13: UW Urban Transportation Planning Class
- Jan. 13: Cascade Bicycle Club

- Jan. 15: Seattle Design Commission
- Jan. 18: Seattle Design Commission
- Jan. 21: Allied Arts
- Jan. 21: Duwamish Transportation Management Association
- Jan. 22: Washington Society of Professional Engineers
- Jan. 26: Senate Transportation Committee
- Jan. 27: Manufacturing Industrial Council Executive Committee
- Jan. 27: North Seattle Industrial Association
- Jan. 28: International District Rotary Club
- Jan. 28: House Transportation Committee

Fairs, Festivals and Farmers Markets

The program team attended one event in January, and received approximately 190 visitors. Outreach events are summarized separately; summaries are available upon request.

- Jan. 24 & 25: Tet Festival