

**East Link Extension
Preparing for Construction**

February 9, 2015 – Bellevue City Council Study Session

Construction Management Program

Goal:

- Complete a safe and quality project on time and on budget
- Minimize impacts to the public
- Coordinate with jurisdictions, stakeholders and the public

Approaches:

- High-quality contract documents
- Integrated construction management team
- Robust construction outreach program
- Well-organized, usable and thorough procedures
- Partnerships that recognizes the mutual goals and objectives of all the parties involved in or affected by construction

Phases of Construction Management

1. Pre-Construction Phase
2. Construction Phase
3. Post-Construction Phase



Typical Construction Sequence

2015 and 2016

Construction begins

2023

Open for service



Relocate
utilities

Prepare the
work zone

Build station
and supporting
infrastructure

Install track and
power

Install and test
systems



Community Outreach during Construction



City of Bellevue Light Rail Best Practices

- **Coordinate with City staff** dedicated to manage the project and resolve issues on the City's behalf.
- **Conduct frequent community involvement** during the design and construction of the project to keep the community informed of project developments, upcoming events and opportunities to participate
- **Conduct frequent public forums and use web-based communication** throughout the duration of the project to broaden the reach of public involvement efforts
- **Use computer visualization** to demonstrate and analyze the visual impacts of the various profiles and in designing stations
- In collaboration with the City and stakeholders, **develop a construction management program** that includes participation by and assistance to affected residents and business owners
- **Involve the contractor** in meetings with the public to share information and respond to questions and concerns about construction

East Link Outreach: By the Numbers

8 years of community engagement on East Link



58
public meetings



3,837
public comments



820
station naming
comments

in 2014



The East Link animation
video was viewed
191,500
times



82
East Link Outreach
Briefings in 2014



Provide advanced notice to
200
property owners before
conducting field work

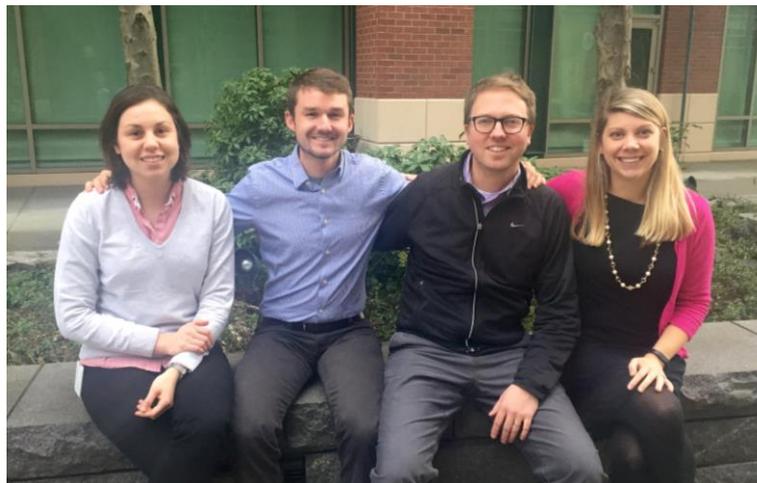
Good Neighbor Construction Commitments

- Keep communities **informed** about progress & potential impacts
- Develop a **business relations program** to address impacts
- Keep the site and adjacent streets **clean**
- **Minimize noise** caused by construction, in addition to complying with local noise codes
- Keep construction **lights** away from homes or businesses
- **Maintain access** for vehicles, bikes and pedestrians
- **Minimize parking impacts** from contractor employees
- **Keep traffic moving** (cars, buses, trucks, pedestrians and bicycles)



Delivering on Our Good Neighbor Commitments

- Dedicated staff during construction integrated with construction management team
- Contract specifications with the contractor
- Coordination with agencies & project partners



Sound Transit Business Relations Program

Education/Awareness

- Educate and inform businesses of construction-related impacts.

Construction Mitigation

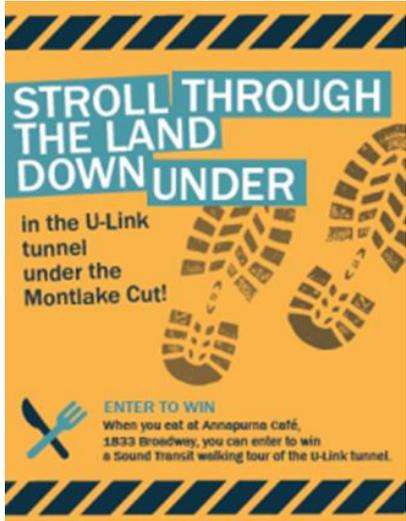
- Ease physical impacts of construction on businesses.

Marketing/Promotion

- Create awareness that businesses are open.
- Encourage patrons to frequent businesses.

Resource Tools/Partnerships

- Connect businesses to partner tools and business resources.



Developing an East Link Business Relations Program

1. Incorporate national **best practices**
2. **Build relationships** with businesses and key stakeholders most affected by construction
3. **Learn** from the local business community on how Sound Transit can be a good neighbor during construction
4. Develop an informed, relevant and supportive East Link **business relations program** to suit the communities' needs based on their input and the known impacts of light rail construction

1) Incorporate national best practices

Key Findings:

- Construction outreach is essential
- Signage and wayfinding is typical
- Most agencies identified business promotion/marketing tactics

- **Regional Transportation District of Denver**
- **MetroLinx (Toronto)**
- **Sacramento Regional Transit District**
- **San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency**
- **St. Paul Metro Council**
- **Utah Transit Authority**



2) Build relationships with businesses & stakeholders

Approaches:

- Direct Contact: briefings, door-to-door outreach, phone calls, public meetings and drop-in sessions
- Indirect Contact: email and postcard mailings
- Use existing networks and contacts
 - Bellevue Downtown Association
 - Bellevue Chamber of Commerce
 - King County Metro
 - City of Bellevue
 - Downtown Residents Association
 - Commute Trip Reduction Programs
 - Commute Advantage
- Stakeholder Survey

By the Numbers:

13,570 contacted by phone, email, mail

350+ visited or briefed by outreach staff

1,164 responses to the survey

3) Learning from the local business community

Downtown Bellevue

Forward Public Safety Noise Light Rail Sooner
 Retail Business Bellevue Construction
 Detours Drive Concerns Road Closures
 Public Transit Impact Hope it will Help **Access** Excited
 Longer Commute Traffic Congestion

Bel-Red

Truck Construction Parking
 Congestion Business Road Closures
 Freight **Access** Deliveries Traffic

4) Program Development → Next Steps

Develop an East Link business relations program to suit the communities' needs based on their input and the known impacts of light rail construction

- Continue outreach in Bellevue
- Develop East Link business relations analysis
- Share findings with business organizations
- Continue to partner and coordinate efforts with the City of Bellevue

Community Outreach During Construction

- Dedicated full-time staff co-located with the contract team
- 24-hour construction hotline
- Timely and accurate notifications of upcoming work
- Up-to-date information on the website and via social media
- Regular construction update meetings with impacted neighbors and businesses
- Create awareness of access
- Collaboratively address issues and concerns
- Construction safety education with local schools, neighborhoods and community groups



South Bellevue Park & Ride



South Bellevue Park & Ride Closure

Why we need a replacement parking strategy

- South Bellevue Park and Ride will be closed for up to five years.

Site preparation

Build the garage, guide way and station

Complete the garage and station finishes

Add systems which include the electrical and safety components of the garage

- 512 parking stalls
- Building off experience during Sound Move

Parking Replacement Plan Goal

Goal:

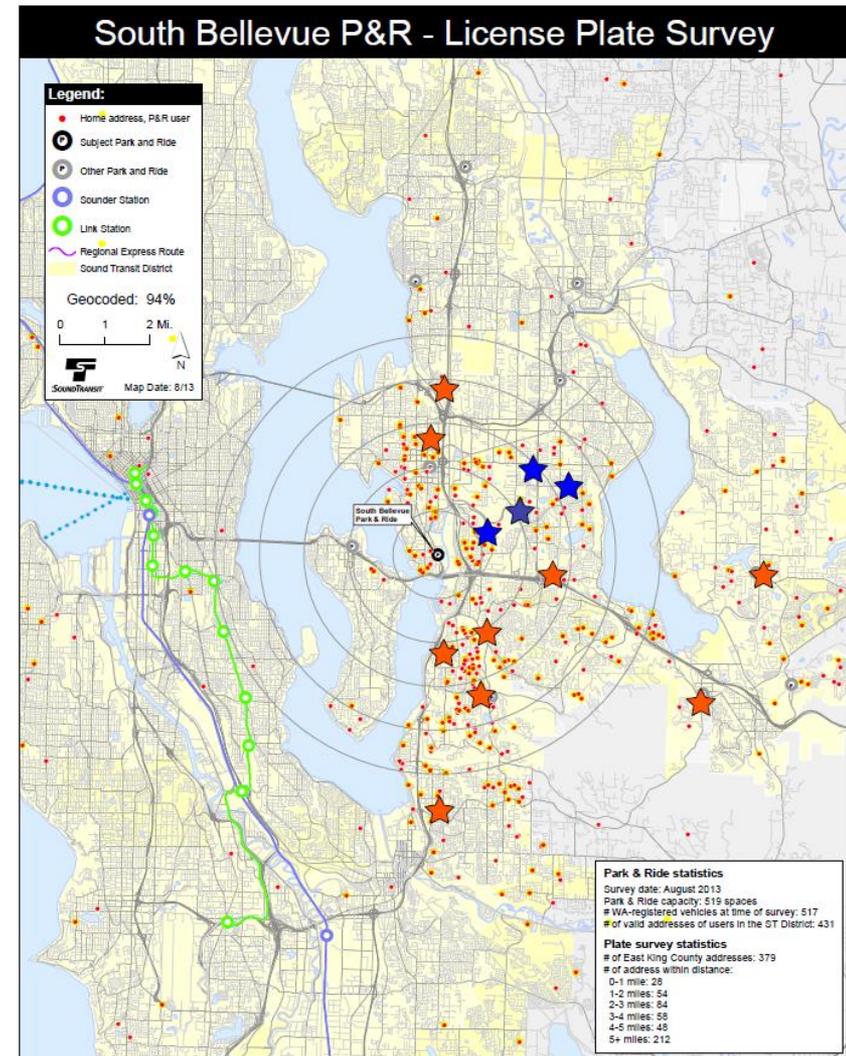
- Connect users with fast, frequent transit service to their destinations

Data:

- Park & Ride License plate survey
- East Link Stakeholder survey
- WSDOT Origin & Destination survey
- Quarterly P&R Utilization reports

Key Observations of Park & Ride Use:

- Majority of South Bellevue users ride the ST 550
- Most of those users are going to Seattle



South Bellevue Park & Ride Closure

Parking replacement strategy:

- 1) Maximize utilization of existing park-and-rides and bus routes
- 2) Lease lots with access to routes serving South Bellevue Park & Ride user destinations
- 3) Potentially modify existing routes
- 4) Work with City to monitor hide-and-ride activity

Parking Replacement Strategy

1) Maximize utilization of existing park & rides

- Many park & ride lots in the regional system are currently underutilized, and have space to accommodate additional vehicles
- Users will be directed to sites served by buses which either go to ST 550 destinations **OR** buses which have connections to those with ST 550 destinations. These sites include:
 - Sammamish
 - Tibbets Creek
 - Newport Hills
 - South Kirkland

Parking Replacement Strategy

2) Lease lots with access to routes serving South Bellevue Park & Ride user destinations

- Lots selected based on City of Bellevue's Transit Master Plan
- Ideal lot characteristics:
 - ❑ Close to a rider's point of origin
 - ❑ Served by buses with ST 550 destinations
 - ❑ Served by buses with connections to buses with ST 550 destinations
- Additional lots still being pursued

Parking Replacement Strategy

3) Potential Modification of existing routes

- Potential modifications include:
 - ❑ More peak-hour I-90 trips
 - ❑ University Link & SR 520 route integration
 - ❑ Modifications to Enatai service

- ST 550 will continue to serve Bellevue Way and South Bellevue Park & Ride, while other routes may use I-405 to reach Downtown Bellevue

- Transit operations will be continually monitored and adjusted as necessary

Parking Replacement Strategy

4) Work with City to monitor hide-and-ride activity

- Developing measures to:
 - Inventory existing neighborhood parking
 - Monitor during South Bellevue Park & Ride closure
 - Monitor during East Link operations

- If necessary, implement enforcement measures in conjunction with City of Bellevue

East Link Station Naming



Overview

During final design of East Link, the public was invited to comment on permanent station names.

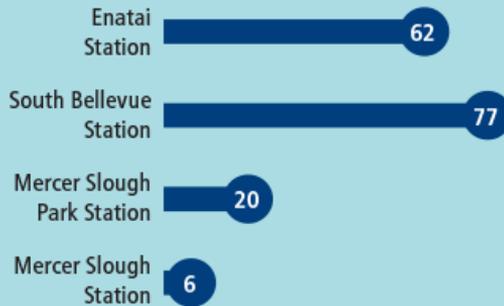
Station names must follow Sound Transit Board Policy:

- Reflect the nature of the community and environment
- Succinct and easy to read
- Comply with ADA guidelines; less than 30 characters
- Avoid commercial references
- Avoid similar names or words in existing facilities



Station Naming Results

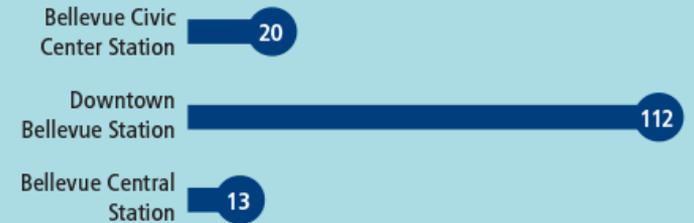
South Bellevue



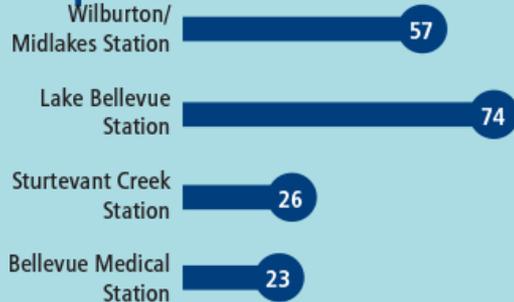
East Main



Bellevue Transit Center



Hospital



120th



130th



Next steps

- Input will be shared with the Sound Transit Board prior to the project baseline.
- The Sound Transit Board of Directors will select station names at the time of baseline.

