



Thursday, April 30, 2020
1:00 PM- 3:00 PM
--- Virtual Zoom meeting ---

1:00 PM – 1:05 PM Introductions and Agenda Review

- RAC Chair/KC Councilmember Claudia Balducci

1:05 PM – 1:10 PM Approval of Meeting Summary for January 31, 2020 RAC Meeting

- RAC Chair/KC Councilmember Claudia Balducci

1:10 PM – 1:20 PM Information Sharing Regarding Coronavirus Impacts on Eastrail Activities

- RAC Members

1:20 PM – 1:45 PM Fiber Optic Project Implementation Leadership and Roles (Information and Discussion Item)

- Darryl E. Hunt, King County IT
- David St. John, King County DNRP

1:45 PM – 2:10 PM 2020 Eastrail Delegation and Legislator Outreach Planning (Discussion Item)

- Katherine Hollis, Eastrail Partners
- Warren Jimenez, King County Parks

2:10 PM – 2:30 PM Status of RAC 2020-2022 Work Plan Priorities (Information Item)

- RAC Principals Staff Team

2:30 PM – 2:45 PM Member Progress and Success Updates

2:45 PM – 3:00 PM Public Comment

Adjourn

**REGIONAL
ADVISORY
COUNCIL**



EASTSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

January 31, 2020 – 10:00 AM

Sound Transit – First Floor Conference Room

705 5th Avenue South

Seattle, WA 98104

Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Members Present: Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember (Chair); Jay Arnold, Deputy Mayor, City of Kirkland (Vice-chair); Susan Boundy-Sanders, Woodinville Councilmember; Vicky Clarke, Eastside Greenway Alliance; Randy Corman, Renton Councilmember; Jessica Forsythe, Redmond Councilmember; Luke Lamon, Government and Community Relations Officer - Eastside, Sound Transit; John Stokes, Bellevue Councilmember; Tom Teigen, Parks Operations and Community Partnerships Manager, Snohomish County; and Christie True, Director, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks.

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Claudia Balducci called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m., welcomed all in attendance and asked the RAC members to introduce themselves.

Approval of October 17, 2019, meeting summary

Councilmember Corman moved approval of the October 17, 2019, meeting summary. There being no objections, the summary was approved.

Fiber Optic Project Return on Investment Analysis Final Report and RAC Resolution

Darryl Hunt, King County Information Technology, summarized the background of the consultant, CTC Technology and Energy. The objective of the report was to provide a return on investment analysis to help guide investment decisions for fiber construction in the Eastrail. It also includes a projected cost avoidance savings. While sufficient revenue is projected to cover operating costs and some for capital expenses, steady revenue can only be reliably projected through a formal procurement process with the private sector or through marketing of the asset once fiber construction is complete.

Joanne Hovis, President, CTC Technology and Energy, addressed how they went about developing a sense of what the private market would be interested in and how much they would be willing to invest. She noted that the incremental cost of putting in more fiber is relatively low, it is the labor that can be costly. It was difficult to get concrete data regarding pricing and market commitments, because companies are reluctant to share that information. A range of different scenarios was developed to depict potential outcomes. Fiber is a long-term asset that can remain viable for decades, particularly when it is encased in conduit. It is anticipated that interest will continue for the long run.

The first bullet under the “Finding: Value to county & city users” section of the presentation materials which reads in part “...avoided cost of \$3,600,000/yr” was clarified to reflect \$3,600,000 as a 20-year right-of-use value that would apply if the County and its affiliates opted for a 20-year access lease. For ongoing one-year leases based on regional pricing, the savings would be about \$443,000-\$886,000.

Chair Balducci reviewed the contents of the fiber optic resolution. Discussion ensued regarding ownership of the fiber network, the tunnel and the right-of-way; conduit specifications; percentage of the estimate that is for conduit versus fiber; potential impacts to trail users; options for the delivery method and who will be in control of decisions. By approving the resolution, the RAC would be giving its support to move forward with the convening of a meeting within 60 days to identify a project lead entity and initiate development of a formal project implementation plan.

Action: Councilmember Stokes moved approval of the resolution of the Eastrail Advisory Council regarding the proposed fiber optic project in the Eastrail. The motion was seconded. There being no objections, the motion was approved by consensus.

RAC Work Plan for 2020/21/22

David St. John, Government Relations Administrator, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, provided introductory remarks. Joe Inslee, Communications Specialist, Business Development & Partnerships, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, presented the proposed RAC work plan for 2020-2022. Included in the work plan are projects for consideration, anticipated timelines and potential costs, to include cost shares. A wayfinding plan, event and community engagement and underserved communities engagement are the primary cost sharing items for 2021 and 2022. Conversation covered making sure each entity's sign shop is capable of producing the wayfinding signs, ensuring good collaboration with links to other trail systems, providing more detail on what the wayfinding plan encompasses and adding a line item that tracks the progress of the fiber project. The freight easement on the Woodinville section is unsettled, so as yet there are no plans to tear up the rails and discussions regarding development of trails have not taken place.

Eastrail Partners Status

Taldi Harrison, Eastrail Partners Board, introduced Katherine Hollis, Eastrail Partners new Executive Director, who addressed the RAC. Completion of the final service agreement will be a big priority over the next couple of weeks - members were reminded they only need to return the executed page. Near term goals will be filling out the full board of directors to include board members that are reflective of the communities that the corridor passes through, working to develop and implement the financial and operating plans, and looking at where we need to go and what type of sponsorships and partnerships need to be developed moving forward. Suggestions from RAC members on potential board members are encouraged prior to the next meeting on the 24th. It was suggested that a look be taken at current projects in each city to assess whether those projects might benefit from private investment.

Capital Project Dashboard Update 1:22:00

Joe Inslee, reviewed the dashboard listing a summary of projects that are on the radar. He noted that work has started on the I-405 expansion, work on the Totem Lake Connector will begin offsite this year, and numerous other projects will start during the 2021-2023 time frame. Of particular importance is ensuring RAC members are fully apprised so they can respond to constituents. A new interactive map providing information on trail activity was unveiled. The hope is to have the map available for use this spring.

Member Progress and Success Updates

Snohomish County – Recently completed a three-year wayfinding project on river systems, have recently been to Washington DC District Court on Surface Transportation Board (STB) issues, working closely with the City of Woodinville on an approach that works for all to have active rail, and hope to hear back on STB lawsuits by April.

Redmond – Sound Transit Redmond Link Extension is underway and Redmond Lights took place in December with about 16,000 people showing up on the trail.

Renton – Interim trail is becoming increasingly popular - interest in when it will be completed, and happy that connectivity issues with Coulon Park are being addressed.

Kirkland – Council will be approving bids in April on the Totem Lake Connector Bridge with an anticipated completion in February 2022.

Eastside Greenway Alliance - In the process of bringing the Greater Redmond Transportation Management Association (GRTMA) on board, recent meetings in Olympia asking legislators to keep Eastrail on their radar, and an upcoming trip to Washington DC for lobby day will allow the opportunity to bring up Eastrail.

Bellevue – Progress is being made on the Factoria project, continue to work with WSDOT on the I-405 crossing, exploring alignment options for the Spring Boulevard Connector with King County, and had some pop-up events over the summer to increase trail awareness.

Sound Transit – Downtown Redmond project is underway and should ramp up this summer - working with the GRTMA to get information out, OMF East project is in the home stretch – light rail vehicles will start being delivered in 2020, and groundbreaking for the Bellevue to Renton project is expected soon.

King County – Introduction of new King County Parks Director – Warren Jimenez. Solicited request for proposals for excursion service on the rails remaining on King County's northern portion – no proposals were received so removal of the rails will proceed allowing for 2.5 miles of interim trail that will provide for connection of the Cross Kirkland Corridor to the Sammamish River Trail and the future Redmond Central Connector Phase III Trail. Along with a new bridge over the gap on I-405 there will be 2.5 miles of paved trail south of I-90 - hope to have it open by spring 2021. The NE 8th Street crossing is still in the design phase, thanks to Councilmember Balducci and City of Bellevue for working on incorporating recognition of the Japanese-American community and their history and heritage, and a lot of effort continues to wrap up on the branding work.

Public comment

There was no one present wishing to provide public comment:

Next steps and adjournment

The next meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 11:47 m.

Eastrail Fiber Initiative Regional Advisory Council April 30, 2020 Update

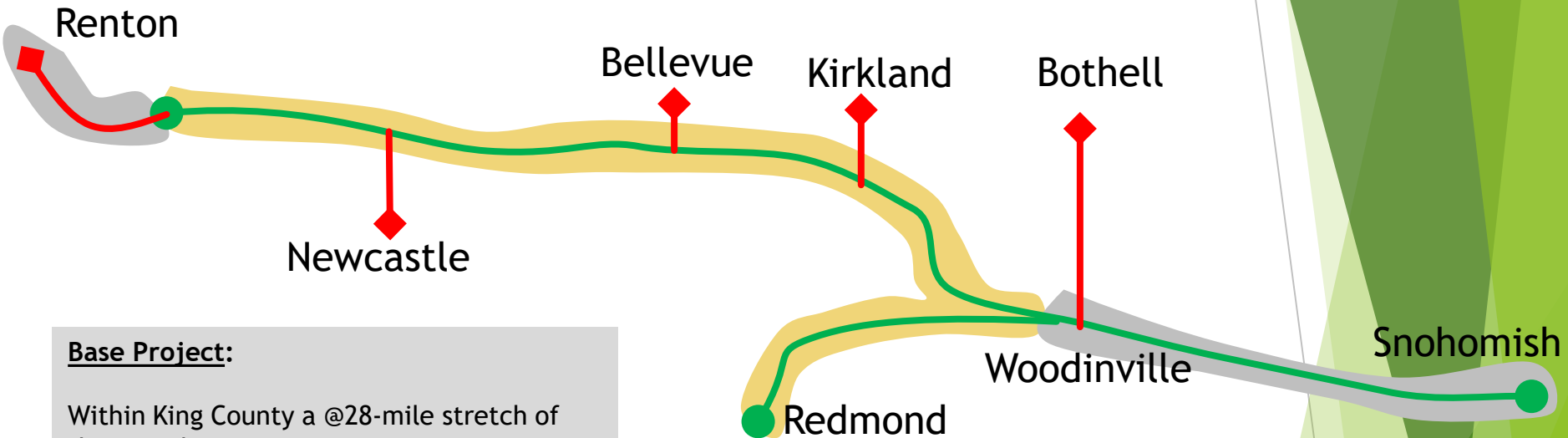
Eastrail Regional Advisory Council Resolution Actions

The 1/31/20 RAC resolution supports the following next steps for the project:

1. King County convenes a meeting to identify the project lead entity and initiate development of a formal project implementation plan.
2. King County invites all RAC member entities to this meeting in addition to additional parties with an interest in the project.
3. Plan regular and timely updates to the RAC to ensure that development and implementation of the project aligns well with the RAC's vision for the Eastrail.

THE PROJECT - Eastrail Fiber Build Base Project and Extents (not to exact scale)

North
→



Base Project:

Within King County a @28-mile stretch of the corridor:

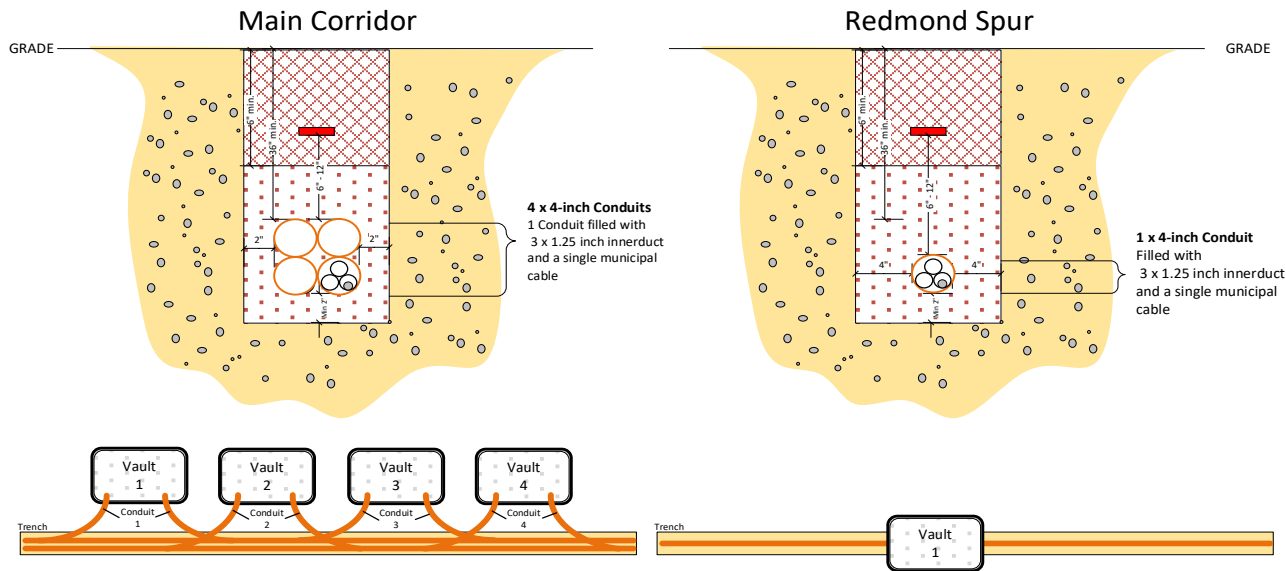
- Renton to Woodinville; Milepost 5 to Milepost 26
- Woodinville to Redmond; Milepost 0 to Milepost 7

Within Snohomish County a 12 mile stretch of the corridor

Feasibility study included a \$10-12M planning level estimate for build ONLY between Renton/Redmond and county line

- — ● Base Project
- ◆ Potential build out to city centers (separately funded by cities?)
- Yellow shaded area Railbanked corridor
- Grey shaded area Active freight corridor

Conceptual Conduit, Innerduct & Fiber Construction Design



(This is the spec for the existing conduit in RCC Phase 1 and 2)

To Achieve the Objectives of the RAC Resolution

Scheduled 1:1 Meeting's - During April 2020 with

- ▶ **RAC Members:** Cities of Kirkland, Redmond, Woodinville, Bellevue, Renton, plus Snohomish County, PSE, and ST
 - ▶ Staff participants - (PST members, and other staff (e.g. parks, public works, IT, city mgr, gov't liaison).
- ▶ **Purpose:** Discuss and gain consensus on individual participation roles, lead agency and governance framework.

Meeting Outcomes

- Key Points

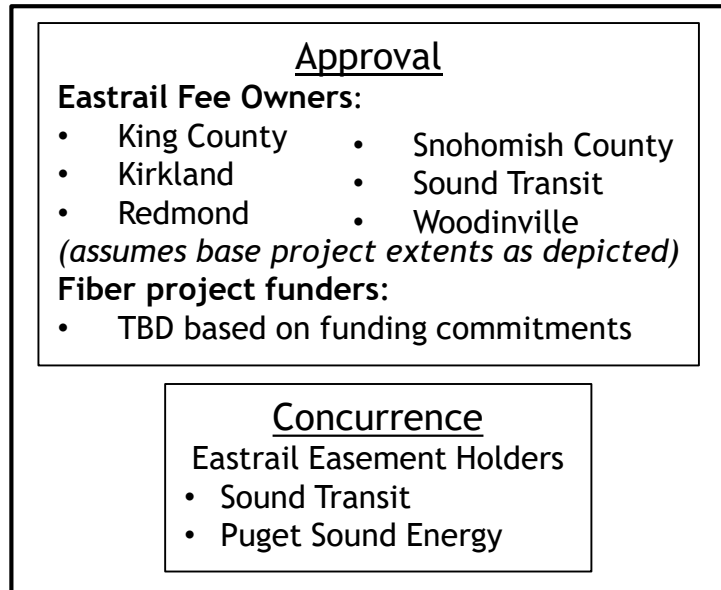
- ▶ **Unanimous support for King County as the project lead**
 - ❖ One member asked if an alternative was considered; there may be an opportunity to incorporate capital project mgmt as a role for the construction vendor
- ▶ **Interest in a governance model that includes all RAC members as owners or funders**
 - ❖ Based on feedback Project Structure 3 is the recommended governance model
- ▶ Snohomish County expressed interest joining project with potential extensions stretching from Vancouver BC to Seattle (Downtown)
- ▶ RAC member cities express interest in building extensions from base project to a (tbd) city center location
- ▶ Private partnership models and public sovereignty of the asset requires owner approval
- ▶ RFP for project construction projected for release Q4-2020
- ▶ Check-in with owners and non-owner funders mid-May on RFP development

6

Project Structure Concept through RFP process completion

Scope oversight

Consensus
decision
making
emphasis -
monthly
meetings



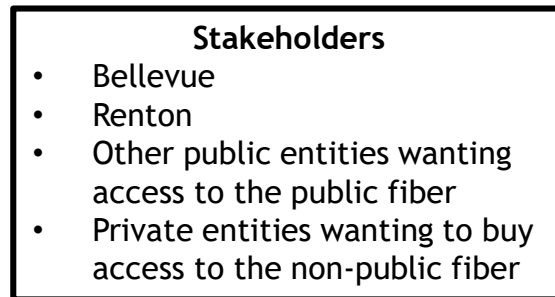
Scope implementation

King County as Project Lead

- Project Coordinator
- Subject Matter Experts from owners and/or stakeholders



After 1st input
meeting, project
updates will
occur via -
quarterly email
updates



Scope input

Next Steps

- ▶ ID KC project team lead for (at least) the RFP phase by end of May 2020
- ▶ Begin work on formal project management schedule and team
- ▶ Begin RFP development for readiness by end of Q3-2020
 - ▶ Design Build models:
 - ▶ option a: "Design-Build-Finance-Operate" (no public funding) (aka DBFO)
 - ▶ option b: "Design-Build-Operate" (publicly financed) (aka DBO)
 - ▶ Hybrid?

Tracking and Advocating for Federal Infrastructure Funding

Four possible mechanisms for Eastrail federal infrastructure funding

- Stimulus package (filling existing programs with more dollars)
- Transportation legislation that is authorized every six years – must pass or be extended in September
- New programs/innovative funding (least likely mechanism)
- Climate change – carbon reduction as a part of trail outcomes

Advocating for the most-ready Eastrail infrastructure projects

- NE 8th St. Bridge
- Wilburton Trestle
- Totem Lake Connector Bridge

Focusing on these does not reflect overall project priorities, but projects that are in process in terms of design and readiness.



August Event Planning

Goals

- Increase awareness and excitement for connecting, constructing, and completing Eastrail
- Bring to life the multiple benefits of the trail, and how Eastrail is part of the solution for our communities emerging from this pandemic.

Ideal

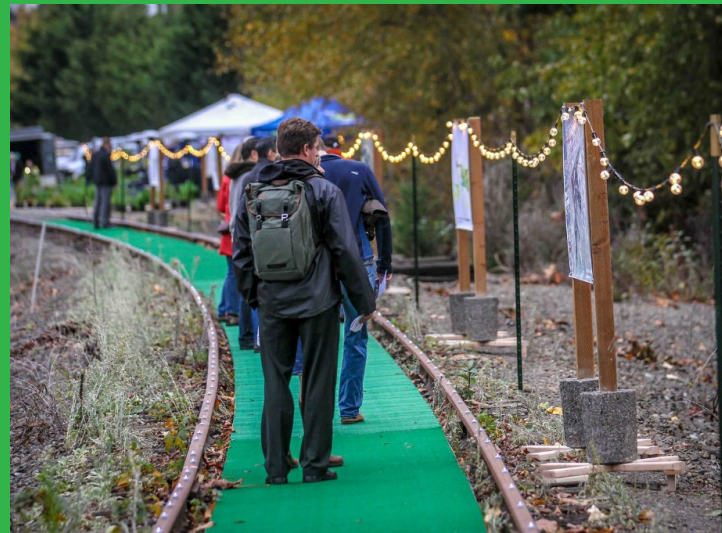
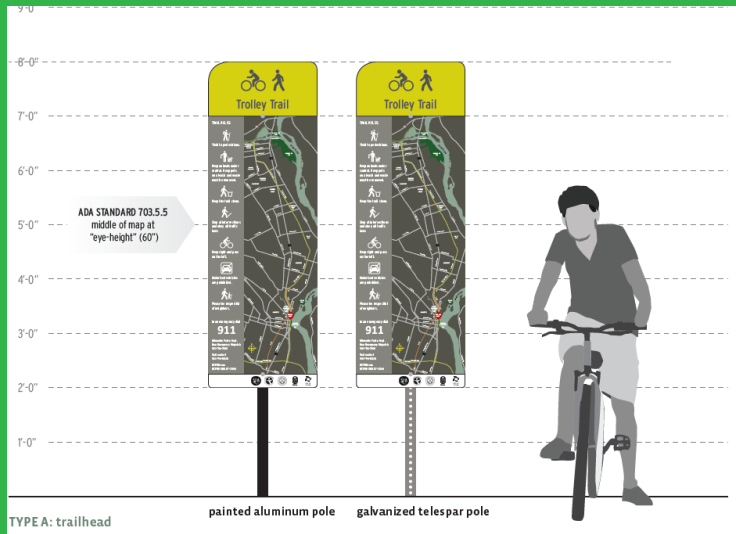
On-the-Eastrail event with federal delegation legislators or staffers, State legislators, and RAC council members, corporations. Based on successful Portland engagement events.

Covid-19 planning

Virtual event: drone footage, perhaps with live presentations from trail.




Eastrail Regional Advisory Council 2020-2022 Work Plan



Eastrail Regional Advisory Council
April 30, 2020

Work Plan Refresher

Category of Funding	2020	2021	2022
Base Staff (no cost share)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RAC support • Capital Project Dashboard • Grant coordination • Congressional and Governor/State Legislature Engagement • User counts data collaboration • Arts plan collaboration meeting • Wayfinding project development 		
RAC Cost Share	n/a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wayfinding Plan (\$100k) • Event and community engagement (\$30K) • Underrepresented communities engagement (\$15k) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Event and community engagement (\$30K) • Underrepresented communities engagement (\$15k)

Status of 2020 Work Plan Items



RAC support



Capital project dashboard



Grant Coordination



Congressional/State Legislature engagement



User counts data collaboration



Arts plan collaboration



= Deliverables on track



= More coordination will occur to develop deliverables

Status of 2021 Work Plan Items

- 1) Recap of RAC members interested in possible cost sharing
- 2) Status of planning for these future work plan items
 - Wayfinding (developing RFP) – KC leading
 - Event and community engagement
 - Underrepresented communities engagement

