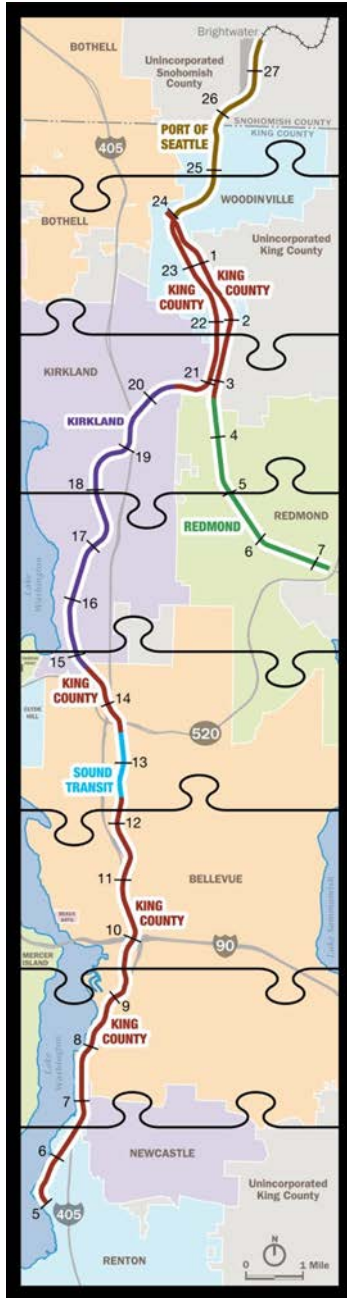


# Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Advisory Council

July 15, 2016

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Redmond City Hall Council Chambers



10:00 **Welcome and Introductions** - Claudia Balducci

10:10 **Near Term Activities** – various staff and elected officials

We will begin reporting activities by ERC *segment*, with the following governments reporting on current projects and activities both within or directly impacting the ERC. Puget Sound Energy (PSE) and Sound Transit have property interests encompassing the entire rail banked corridor and may have activities to share in any segment.

- **Snohomish North** - Snohomish County
- **Woodinville/Sammamish River Valley** - Woodinville, Kirkland, Redmond, King County
- **Redmond Connector** - Redmond
- **Cross Kirkland Corridor** - Kirkland
- **Wilburton North** - Bellevue, King County, Sound Transit
- **Wilburton South** - Bellevue, King County
- **Lakefront** - Renton, Bellevue, King County

11:00 **Long Term Planning** – Deb Eddy

- 2016 SUMMIT: Priorities and recommendations discussion

11:30 **ERC RAC Re-design** – Claudia Balducci

- Process for a redesign ensuring successful public sector collaboration

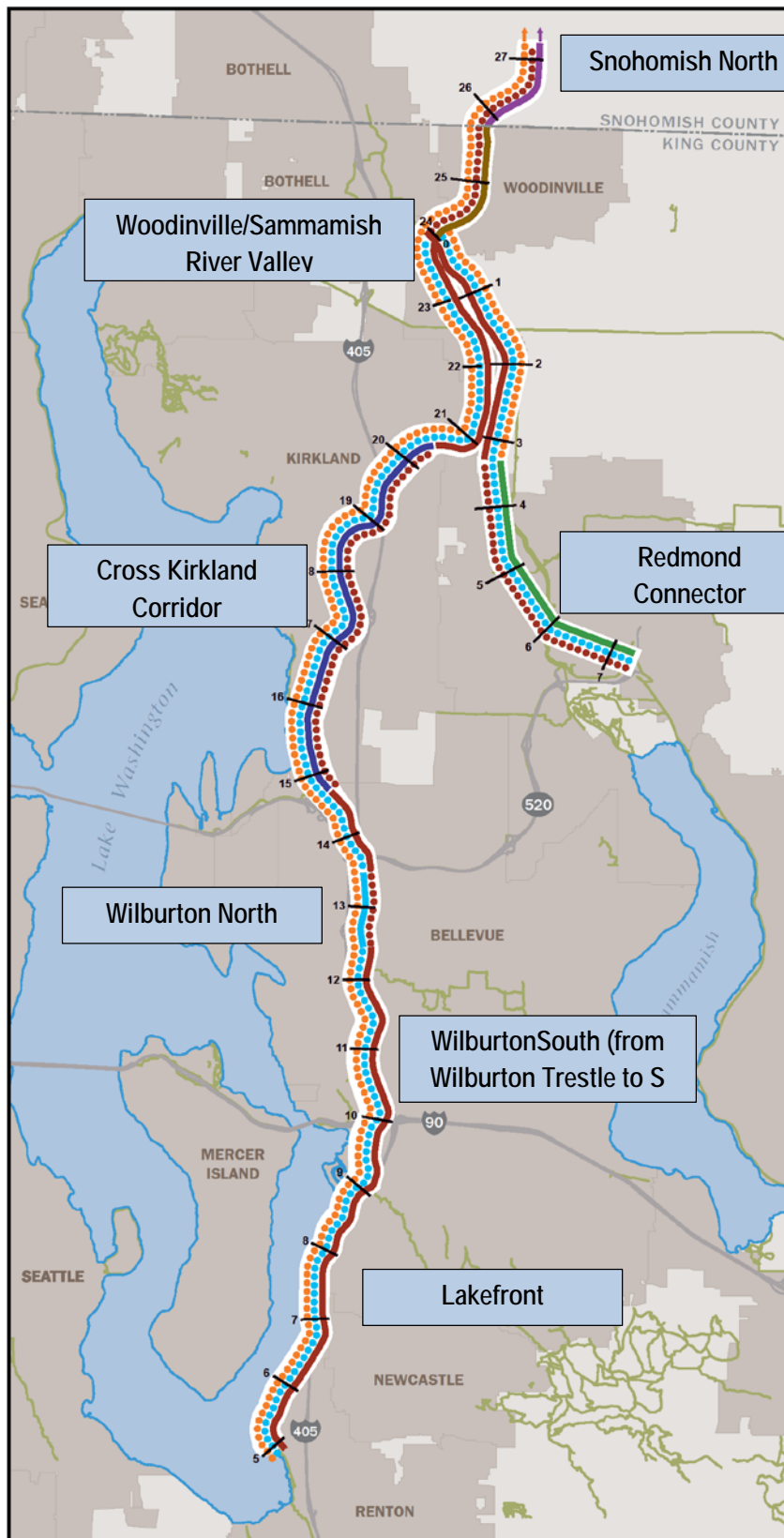
11:45 **Public comment**

12:00 **Next steps and adjournment**



# ERC Property Interests

AS OF 5/24/2016



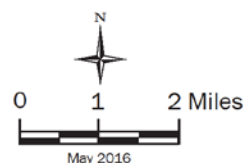
Approximate length, location, and type of property interests

| King County        | Residual Interest*                    | Easement/Covenant                         |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Sound Transit      | <span style="color: red;">—</span>    | <span style="color: red;">•••••</span>    |
| Puget Sound Energy | <span style="color: blue;">—</span>   | <span style="color: blue;">•••••</span>   |
| Redmond            | <span style="color: green;">—</span>  | <span style="color: green;">•••••</span>  |
| Kirkland           | <span style="color: purple;">—</span> | <span style="color: purple;">•••••</span> |
| Woodinville        | <span style="color: brown;">—</span>  | <span style="color: brown;">•••••</span>  |
| Snohomish County   | <span style="color: orange;">—</span> | <span style="color: orange;">•••••</span> |

\* Residual Interest here is shorthand for all of the rights that BNSF conveyed to the Port, less those specific easement rights conveyed by the Port to others (e.g. PSE, Sound Transit, etc.). The interests labeled as Residual Interest here thus may amount to fee simple title to the corridor in some segments, or a railroad easement in others.

## Legend

- Existing trail
- Freeway
- Incorporated Area
- Unincorporated Area
- Lake
- Trail Mileposts



Note: Width of trail is exaggerated for information display purposes.

The information included on this map has been compiled by King County staff from a variety of sources and is subject to change without notice. King County makes no representations or warranties, express or implied, as to accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or rights to the use of such information. This document is not intended for use as a survey product. King County shall not be liable for any general, special, indirect, incidental, or consequential damages including, but not limited to, lost contracts or lost profits resulting from the use or misuse of the information contained on this map. Any sale of this map or information on this map is prohibited except by written permission of King County.

File: 1605\_6738m\_ERC\_PROPERTYYmap.ai

## RESULTS OF BREAKOUT SESSIONS: 2016 ERC SUMMIT

The following priorities and ideas emerged from the ERC Summit held January 9, 2016. Over 200 attendees engaged in recommending these Year One Priorities and Ideas. Based on the common vision for the ERC that includes multiple uses and objectives, these priorities illustrate why the ERC is an excellent example of “catalyst infrastructure”, the re-purposing of obsolete facilities to new uses. The results of the breakout sessions have been condensed and numbered, for ease of reference only. For today’s meeting, six months after the Summit, the questions for discussion are

**Q Taken individually, are these priorities still important?**

**Q If important, what would progress look like?**

### Development and Land Use Planning

1. Build political support through public engagement.
2. Incentivize development through consistent policies (across jurisdictions).
3. Encourage adoption of affordable housing policies and strategies.
4. Integrate promotion of cycling as a transportation mode and land use.
5. Update zoning to encourage TTOD (transit/trail oriented development)
6. Build corridor identity through branding.

### Multi Modal Mobility

1. Engage with Sound Transit on HCT plans for the corridor.
2. Create strategies that build community support for transit/nonmotorized use of the ERC.
3. Pursue state and federal programmatic transportation funding for the corridor.
4. Integrate regional and local transit and nonmotorized connections throughout the ERC.
5. Integrate Snohomish County as a partner (contiguous to the north).

### Parks, Recreation and Cultural Opportunities

1. Identify common design principles for access points, signage through different jurisdictions.
2. Identify and incorporate art, culture and historic locations into design of the corridor.
3. Protect and integrate public interactions with important natural areas in and near the corridor.
4. Engage and grow the community alliances that support this recreational and cultural asset.

## ***EASTSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (ERC RAC)***

---

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

July 15, 2016 – 1:30 PM

Redmond City Hall

**Advisory Council Members Present:** Claudia Balducci, County Councilmember (Co-Chair); Kathy Lambert, County Councilmember; Reagan Dunn, County Councilmember; Jay Arnold, Kirkland City Councilmember (representing Amy Walen, Kirkland Mayor); Bob Burns, Deputy Director Department of Natural Resources and Parks (representing Dow Constantine, King County Executive); Angela Birney, Redmond City Councilmember (representing John Marchione, Redmond Mayor); Ric Ilgenfritz, Executive Director - Planning, Environment, and Project Development, Sound Transit (representing Peter Rogoff, CEO); Randy Bannecker, Bannecker and Associates (representing Sharmila Swenson, Puget Sound Energy Manager of Local Government Affairs); Doug Jacobson, Renton Deputy Public Works Administrator (representing Denis Law, Renton Mayor); John Stokes, Bellevue Mayor; Sharmila Swenson, Manager of Local Government Affairs, Puget Sound Energy; and Bernie Talmas, Woodinville Mayor; Elizabeth Kiker, representing the Eastside Greenway Alliance; and Steve Dickson, Snohomish County Public Works Department.

**Welcome and Introductions** - Claudia Balducci called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. and asked for introductions from the participants.

### **Near Term Activities**

#### **Snohomish North**

- Will be addressing deferred maintenance on some of the corridor structures this summer.
- Received a state grant to improve the railroad crossing at 240<sup>th</sup> Street SE.
- Consultant is working on the 30% design – calling this our Centennial Trail South project (12 miles). Need to decide which side of the trail the rail will be on. Still have active rail lines. City of Snohomish is a key partner with us in this project.
- Partnering with King County in the south part of the corridor.
- Have acquired the property just north of Brightwater to build new county park.

#### **Kirkland**

- Kirkland Park and Ride elevator is currently in permitting in Bellevue. Permitting will be done in September with construction starting this fall.
- City funds have been dedicated to get the pedestrian bridge design ready.
- Working on an art integration plan that will use different themes for different areas along the corridor.
- Google has sponsored blue tooth beacons along the corridor – these will feature topics such as wildlife, history and other pertinent information.
- The elevator/pedestrian bridge will go to the Council for vote on August 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Anticipate having the lower portion of the Cross Kirkland Corridor open by Bike to Work day 2017.
- Transit Oriented Development (TOD) project – the connection between the TOD and the corridor is very important.

- Led a charrette with Bellevue and Sound Transit staff to look at the NE 8<sup>th</sup> crossing and determine desires and needs. A preliminary draft from the designer is expected in late August/early September.
- A good response was received in regard to the Puget Sound Regional Council grant for design work at Wilberton. There are a couple more steps before final confirmation.
- REI has expressed a lot of interest in connectivity around their store.

### **Redmond**

- The Central Connector is in Phase III.
- Trail grading and the construction of retaining walls are currently taking place.
- A fish friendly culvert will also be installed.
- It is on target for completion at the end of 2016
- Some interpretive interests will be added.
- The Bazaar will be coming up in August.

### **Bellevue**

- xxx will connect with the King County interim trail on 116<sup>th</sup>.
- Working on design of the NE 8<sup>th</sup> overpass.
- Conducting grand connection visioning.
- A report to will be provided to the City Council on the 27<sup>th</sup>.
  - Beginning the process of putting together a land use selection team.
- Consultant noted that the ERC could be an important element of an urban center.
- City staff just had a design workshop for the Wilberton South section
- An Arts Commission has been put together to discuss the types of art to have along the corridor.

### **Sound Transit**

- Board of Directors adopted the SoundTransit3 (ST3) plan to include a couple proposals that affect the corridor.
  - Include a new light rail project from south Kirkland to Issaquah via Bellevue; and
  - A study of the corridor further north to see how it might be used in the future.
- The NE 85<sup>th</sup> bus/rapid transit inline stop will be included and is scheduled to open in 2024.
- The Issaquah to Bellevue portion will not be using the rail corridor.
- (missed a lot as I had to step away from the keyboard to get a name plate for a member).

### **King County**

- Trail master plan preferred alternative and the environmental impact statement are close to being ready to publish and are expected to be sent to Council in September. The preferred alternative is a combination of the off- and on-railbed alternatives.
- The final master plan and EIS will be published next week.
- The trail master plan sets the pace for detail design.
- Rail removal is proceeding on schedule in two phases.
  - Phase one should start late this year in the south end.
  - As rails come up a gravel surface will be laid.

- We are studying the wine/beverage industry in the Woodinville/Sammamish Valley segment and how the trail can support and relate to it.
- Tracking ST3's proposed Redmond station next to Marymoor Park as well as discussing associated opportunities and a potential connection to the park.

#### **Renton**

- In the process of finalizing the contract with the consultant to update their trail and park master plan city-wide.
- If ST3 passes we will have parking facility at N 44<sup>th</sup>.

Wilburton South to Renton – Funding to establish a seamless connection to Renton is being pursued. The initial focus will be at the trestle. This is about near-term connectivity.

Wilburton Gap – Another charrette was held with WSDOT and Bellevue regarding the design needs and necessary structures in the Wilburton Gap. Councilmember Balducci suggested that this body (ERC RAC) be able to provide input into that design. Councilmembers Balducci and Lambert expressed a preference for the wider versus the narrower option. Further discussion covered curves in relation to sight lines and calculations for cars per owner.

There will be an event at the Wilburton Trestle at 11:30 a.m. on September 8<sup>th</sup> to roll out the trail master plan and announce funding.

The County Council is working on their legislative agenda which will include a request for funding for next steps of this project.

Lakefront – In regard to a question regarding what happens at the Renton end of the trail, it was noted that options have been discussed with the city. Connecting to Lake Washington Boulevard or to the eastern edge of Coulon Park are two options.

#### **Long Term Planning – Deb Eddy**

- 2016 SUMMIT: Priorities and recommendations discussion

Deb Eddy summarized the findings from the 2016 Summit. One of those findings is the critical importance of this piece of infrastructure. It was noted that those who invested in it did so for more than just a trail. One speaker referenced the corridor as a “catalyst infrastructure”. The variations amongst the different areas of the trail and the fact that one-size does not fit all were noted.

A summary of outcomes from the 2016 Summit breakout sessions was provided for comment in regard to priorities and progress. The following input was provided:

- Councilmember Lambert – Build corridor identity through branding. This should be the first thing we do. The second would be updating zoning to encourage transit/trail oriented development.

- Elizabeth Kiker - We are looking for a different model than we've seen in other parts of the country. These topics are all important and we are looking at how quickly we can get it done.
- Deputy Mayor Arnold – Regarding incentivizing development through consistent policies (across jurisdictions), it's not just development of properties near the trail but development of the trail. Under multi-modal mobility, it will be important to coordinate with Sound Transit. We'll also need to address the claims of skeptics who don't think you can't have transit and trail together, and do the first part right. Regarding Innovative funding – I'm interested in feedback. Does this include what we need to work with private sector organizations? This list seems to address the public sector.
- Elizabeth Kiker – There is interest from the private sector and it is currently happening. We're seeing huge results already.
- Councilmember Balducci – The idea of getting it right on Sound Transit (ST) is important. There are two opportunities, ST2 and then ST3.
- Mayor Stokes – I think all these action items are relevant. In regard to encouraging adoption of affordable housing policies and strategies, it would be beneficial to put in place an affordable housing action strategy plan. The Wilburton land use area will be a game changer in terms of how it is done.
- Ric Ilgenfritz – What progress would look like: there is a lot of ST development work occurring in the next few years. The OMSF project. Need to design two stations and xx guideways in Redmond – opportunity for input. If ST3 is successful – Kirkland and Renton design work will be almost immediate. So there is at least for places for input in the next couple years. ST has a 1% art ordinance, so that will be incorporated into our facilities.
- Bob Burns – This can be a connection to economic development and prosperity – if done right this corridor can be transformative not only on the corridor but on the surrounding areas.
- Councilmember Balducci – addressed the necessary component from a city's perspective and various departments that come together for a project like this. How do we pull that together for this multi-jurisdictional group? How do we plan together when we can? Maybe PSRC can pull together a group to accomplish this. Economic development, trail design and branding may all be areas where we can do this.
- Councilmember Birney – We need to look way down into the future.
- Steve Dickson – I would place the priorities as 1) multimodal use, 2) develop the trail and 3) promote ongoing rail use in the corridor. Snohomish County is looking at rail-based recreational opportunities.
- Deb Eddy – I heard general agreement with these priorities but we have emphasized some of them. We need to bring the group together to capitalize on the potential here.
- Elizabeth Kiker – We may need to meet more frequently or have subcommittees. There is too much happening and a meeting every three months doesn't seem like enough.

#### **ERC RAC Re-design – Claudia Balducci**

At the last meeting we talked about future structure of this group. Staff need more detailed direction from this body before they can proceed. Perhaps at the September 9<sup>th</sup> meeting the principal staff team could provide a very specific set of questions to engage us. Deb will be interviewing us using those questions and produce summaries of those discussions. We would need to identify who Deb would be interviewing. They would need to be people who are cognizant of the collaborative effort.

Councilmember Balducci - The owners have the right to make decision regarding the portion they own as with those who have a right-of-way. Nothing we do here should be perceived as overriding the rights of the owners. The point is, is that we can work together.

Councilmember Birney – I would suggest that we make that very clear moving forward. The document must include a very clear statement of roles and responsibilities.

Councilmember Lambert – I like the idea of sharing art. I see one place for a potential future conflict and a way to avoid that is by having a schematic diagraming who owns what and where the easements are. I think we need to make that very clear, especially where the corridor is narrower.

Mayor Stokes – Opportunity for us to look at how we can work together and make it appear to be cohesive.

### **Public comment**

Cheri Perazzol noted that she was representing The Hearing Loss Association of Washington State, an organization that works with various groups to make sure that facilities, etc. are accessible to individuals with hearing loss. She commented on what is happening in European Countries and how its signage and services are openly available. She noted that design, line of sight, etcetera, matter. She encouraged taking this opportunity to design for all manners of accessibility and consider her organization a resource.

Charity Lovic?, a Redmond resident, thanked the ERC RAC for thinking this through as a community and regional asset. She encouraged thinking of it not only as a trail, but as a connecting resource between communities.

Courtney Landoll expressed appreciation for the direction the conversation was going and complimented Sound Transit for having a standard for public interaction and an arts ordinance. It might be helpful if this body could incorporate some of that.

The next meeting will be held on September 9, 2016. Deb will provide a summary of her interviews and we'll look to agree on key points of the structure of this body and a process for a redesign ensuring successful public sector collaboration.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.

### **What do you want to do?**

Mayor Stokes

- Information sharing
- Collectively manage

Deputy Mayor Arnold

- Public sector help with rallying points
- A King County parks levy



- Advocating for vision
- Emphasize transit and trails.

#### Mayor Talmas

- More than just information sharing
- Differences of opinions/vision on development

#### Councilmember Balducci

- Each Jurisdiction will have the ability to have their own land use vision
- The RAC should know what those are
- Create a map that shows interactive plans (year 1)
- Working together is key
- Branding – Eastside Rail Corridor does not speak to the future
- Must keep independent but have a cohesive message

#### Doug Jacobson

- Impacts to trail/development
- Must be actively engaged and informed

#### Councilmember Lambert

- Maintenance and signage continuity
- Ownership benefits and open communication space and sharing
- Communication
- Should not be dominated by one group
- Must be a destination place

#### Ric Ilgenfritz

- Work together as a group (#4 and 2)
- Preservation of the corridor for multi-use
- Work needs to be communicated (maintenance) (#4)

#### Mayor Stokes

- Regional trail means region must partner and work together
- Must speed up and move forward

#### Councilmember Birney

- Collaborate
- Funding
- Community engagement

#### Bob Burns

- Flexibility
- Must start working together between RAC meetings

#### Elizabeth Kiker

- #1 and 5

Courtney Landoll

- Broad vision is key

## **RAC Relations**

Councilmember Balducci

- Private sector is out in front of us – we're playing catch up
- Collective "clearinghouse" of information and sharing

???

- Lots of unknowns – must be addressed
- Already being used as a trail in Renton
- Development is coming

Councilmember Birney

- Central Connector is ahead of the game. Using it as an opportunity for businesses. So there are many possibilities for others.

Deputy Mayor Arnold

- Sharing of best practices
- Partnerships with private/**NGO** sector

Mayor Stokes

- Companies are going to look at this as a connection for employees and customers

## **RAC Format**

Councilmember Balducci – We should have a letter of agreement.

## **RAC Next Steps**

- Create a Letter of Agreement and circulate to work out any issues
- Sign the Letter of Agreement in/before July

Ric Ilgenfritz questioned the purpose of the letter. Councilmember Balducci noted that new members need to have a sense of how we will work together. Mayor Talmas stated that time is of the essence as they would like to know in order to finalize their own agreements. Councilmember Balducci agreed.