

# Eastrail Regional Advisory Council Monday, April 19, 2021 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM --- Virtual meeting by remote technology ---

All participation will take place using Zoom – Register here to attend.

- 1:00 PM 1:05 PM Introductions and Agenda Review
  - RAC Chair/King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert
- 1:05 PM 1:10 PM Approval of January 29, 2021 RAC Meeting Summary
  - RAC Chair/King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert
- 1:10 PM 1:45 PM Major Capital Project Status (Information Item)
  - RAC Principals Staff Team Members
- 1:45 PM –2:05 PM Eastrail Partners/RAC Memorandum of Understanding Scoping (Discussion Item)
  - Katherine Hollis, Eastrail Partners
- 2:05 PM 2:20 PM **Co-creation Action Proposal (Discussion Item)** 
  - RAC Principals Staff Team Members
  - Debbie Lacy, Executive Director, Eastside for All
- 2:20 PM 2:35 PM State and Federal Funding Updates (Information Item)
  - Eastrail Partners and RAC Principals Staff Team Members
- 2:35 PM 2:45 PM **Progress and Success Updates (Information Item)** 
  - RAC Members and RAC Principals Staff Team Members
- 2:45 PM 3:00 PM **Public Comment**

#### **Adjourn**





















#### EASTRAIL REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

#### **MEETING SUMMARY**

January 29, 2020 | 2 – 4 PM

**Zoom Meeting** 

Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Members Present: Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember (Chair); Jay Arnold, Deputy Mayor, City of Kirkland (Vice Chair); John Stokes, Bellevue Councilmember; Christie True, Director, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks; David Hoffman, Puget Sound Energy; Jessica Forsythe, Redmond Councilmember; Randy Corman, Renton Council President; Tom Teigen, Director, Snohomish County Department of Conservation & Natural Resources; Luke Lamon, Sound Transit; Les Rubstello, Woodinville Deputy Mayor

#### Welcome and Introductions

Chair Claudia Balducci called the meeting to order at 2:07 pm, welcomed all in attendance to the first RAC meeting of 2021, and reviewed the agenda.

#### Approval of October 29, 2020 RAC meeting summary

Councilmember Forsythe moved to approve the October 29, 2020 meeting summary. Councilmember Stokes seconded. There being no objections, the summary was approved.

Chair Balducci announced she will be stepping down as RAC Chair though she will continue to serve on the RAC. The vote for Councilmember Lambert to take over as Chair will happen at the next meeting.

## **Co-Creation Framework for Community Engagement Supporting Eastrail Trail Development**Debbie Lacy, Executive Director of Eastside for All, gave a presentation on inclusive and equitable community engagement to inform approaches for community engagement around Eastrail development.

- Traditional community engagement efforts can and have often been more transactional, tokenizing, and exclusive, eroding trust with communities and causing further harm. Placemaking activities, especially those involving art, can be a powerful tool for inclusive community engagement.
- All projects have the potential for collaborative co-creation, and in this framework, community
  members may shift between categories of participation (inform, consult, involve, collaborate,
  empower) based on capacity, interest, passions, and talents. This model of engagement recognizes
  that placemaking is fluid, has multiple points of entry, and that community must be actively involved
  as a maker—not just a user—of a place.
- Co-creation model seeks to build transformational rather than transactional relationships. This
  begins with developing relationships and identifying areas of mutual concern or interest,
  participating in their events (rather than just asking for time on their agendas), compensating people
  for their time and expertise, being honest and clear about the ways participation will
  influence/impact decisions, and providing transparent feedback loops and report backs.
- Additional resources:
  - EastsideForAll.org/community-learning-institute
  - o Places in the Making: How Placemaking Builds Places and Communities
- Chair Balducci asked staff and RAC members to think about next steps for co-creation around the Eastrail and opportunities for inclusive placemaking, including using events as a way to build

relationships and expand feelings of ownership around the trail. King County staff will continue discussions with Eastside for All about applying these engagement principles to Eastrail development.

#### **Eastrail Partners Service Agreement Closeout and Planning for Ongoing Collaboration**

Katherine Hollis, Executive Director of Eastrail Partners, provided updates on the Eastrail Partners 2020 service and funding agreement deliverables, shared priorities for work going forward, and discussed future partnership agreement.

- In its first year, Eastrail Partners focused on maturing the organization and developing advocacy
  efforts and partnerships with external partners. Despite the inability to hold in-person events in
  2020, highlights included securing \$1 million each in Eastrail investment from REI and Facebook and
  engaging with Washington's federal delegation.
- The vision for future partnership with the RAC is focused on working to unify and catalyze the Eastrail effort by communicating and celebrating progress, building relationships to cultivate corporate support, unifying and amplifying advocacy efforts at the state and federal level, engaging community, and creating opportunities for efficiencies toward a fully connected trail.
- Opportunities at the state and federal level around a transportation package or other infrastructure
  and stimulus initiatives would be a useful area of focus for the partnership. There are also
  opportunities to apply for funding through PSRC; the RAC and Eastrail Partners will continue to work
  to understand individual member priorities and how they fit with Eastrail priorities to facilitate
  alignment and synergies rather than competition.
- Eastrail Partners will work with RAC staff to determine how to structure its working relationship moving forward and develop a continued partnership agreement.

#### Eastrail Trail Use Counting: 2020 Results and Developing a Long-Term Counting Plan

Mike Ullmer and David St. John from King County Dept. of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP) provided updates on 2020 trail use count data and plans for trail counts in 2021. Trail count data is useful for understanding who, how, and why people use trails, informs decision-making and operations and maintenance, supports funding requests, and measures impacts of trails and trends over time. King County conducts trail counts through various methods, including manual counts and intercept surveys, temporary counters, and permanent counters.

- Fall 2020 Eastrail count took place on two dates in September and October across ten locations and
  was conducted by volunteers recording user type and travel direction. Data showed there were
  3,636 users (64% pedestrians, 36% cyclists). The highest single two-hour count was in Kirkland, and
  intensity and type of use varied widely by location. Most sites had higher pedestrian than bike
  counts. They plan to develop an intercept survey for various locations on the Eastrail to gather more
  qualitative data from users in spring or early summer.
- Staff will develop recommendations for long-term Eastrail data collection program, including counter installation, counting methodology, locations, data management, and costs and present recommendations at the July RAC meeting for feedback.
- RAC members are interested in trends over time, as well as the ability to disaggregate and provide data to individual jurisdictions for their own sustainability tracking and reporting efforts.
- RAC members shared concerns about data privacy of counters depending on whether photo or video-based technology is used. This should be considered and factored into the plan.

#### **Progress and Success Updates**

<u>King County</u> – 2.5 miles of trail south of I-90 will open in May. Northern segment rail removal (in Kirkland, Redmond, and Woodinville) will be complete next month and will be followed by gravel trail construction completed in September. The NE 8<sup>th</sup> St. Bridge crossing is nearing 100% design; groundbreaking will occur in fall or early 2022. The County is continuing to work with the City of Renton on acquiring the segment near Gene Coulon Park from BNSF.

King County Council completed their biennial budget; as part of that process, Councilmember Balducci was able to direct funding slated for other district 6 projects to support the connection between the 520 regional trail and Eastrail by Northup in Bellevue and, in partnership with DNRP, ensure full funding for the Japanese American legacy project at the NE 8<sup>th</sup> St. crossing. They would like to have conversations with Sound Transit about connecting Eastrail to the light rail station in the Bel-Red area.

Members should review workplan updates in the meeting packet, including the fiber project update as well as updates on state and federal funding priorities. Members should be prepared for potential opportunities to engage on legislative and funding opportunities before the next RAC meeting.

<u>Bellevue</u> – the Japanese American legacy project is going well; Councilmember Stokes is serving as the Arts Commission liaison. Bellevue is in the final stages of completing the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail connection with the Eastrail.

<u>Woodinville</u> – Woodinville and Snohomish County are partnering on lawsuits regarding the operator of railroad on a segment in order to be able to develop the right of way. By the end of the year, they should have plans for developing the right of way in Woodinville.

<u>Renton</u> – Renton is eager to work with King County to acquire the final piece of the southern segment near Gene Coulon Park. Rocale Timmons of SECO Development and Renton staff provided testimony at the Senate Transportation Committee's hearing on a transportation revenue proposal.

<u>Sound Transit</u> – OMF East construction is nearly complete; Sound Transit is hoping to make a public announcement in March. Staff are currently negotiating terms with the development team related to the TOD site, which includes mixed-use development with affordable and market rate housing and will be approved by the King County Council. The downtown Redmond Link project is under construction and they are approaching 100% design for two Link stations opening in 2024. They will begin construction of downtown Redmond station and Redmond Central Connector beginning in 2022.

<u>PSE</u> – PSE had a productive meeting with Eastrail Partners in November and are continuing negotiations on easement language with Redmond staff on the Redmond Central Connector part 3 portion of transmission project, as well as the permitting process for that project with Kirkland.

<u>Snohomish County</u> – As mentioned above, they are working with Woodinville on lawsuits for right of way use of rail corridor. They are supportive of the state budget request related to the Snohomish River bridge project.

#### **Public comment**

 David Allen of Bikes Make Life Better emphasized the importance of the Eastrail as a commute corridor and the need to prioritize unfunded segments in Bellevue to mitigate traffic that will increase as major employers move into the area.

- Peter Bartnik of Woodinville noted the importance of maintaining the existing rail corridor and right of way for transit and future light rail rather than completely converting it to trail.
- Hasan Ajazi noted the importance of installing lighting on trails for evening use.
- Eastrail construction timeline can be found here: <a href="https://kingcounty.gov/~/media/services/parks-recreation/parks/ERC/Eastrail maps/Eastrail Anticipated Openings 2020-2026 July 2020.ashx?la=en">https://kingcounty.gov/~/media/services/parks-recreation/parks/ERC/Eastrail maps/Eastrail Anticipated Openings 2020-2026 July 2020.ashx?la=en</a>
- Christine Baker requested staff follow up with her about how residents of west Bellevue can be engaged in both Eastrail efforts as well as Bellevue's Neighborhood Enhancement Program.

The meeting recording is available here: <a href="https://kingcounty.gov/council/issues/erc/2021-meetings.aspx">https://kingcounty.gov/council/issues/erc/2021-meetings.aspx</a>. Interested parties should send comments to <a href="mailto:eastrail@kingcounty.gov">eastrail@kingcounty.gov</a>. Joe Inslee will compile any comments received.

#### Next steps and adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 pm.



# Eastrail Regional Advisory Council April 19, 2021

The meeting will begin shortly.

1:05 PM – 1:10 PM Approval of January 29, 2021 RAC Meeting Summary

1:10 PM – 1:45 PM Major Capital Project Updates

1:45 PM –2:05 PM Eastrail Partners/RAC Memorandum of Understanding

Scoping

2:05 PM – 2:20 PM Co-creation Action Proposal

2:20 PM – 2:35 PM State and Federal Funding Updates

2:35 PM – 2:45 PM Progress and Success Updates

2:45 PM - 3:00 PM Public Comment\*

\* If you would like to make a public comment, please indicate so via the chat function.



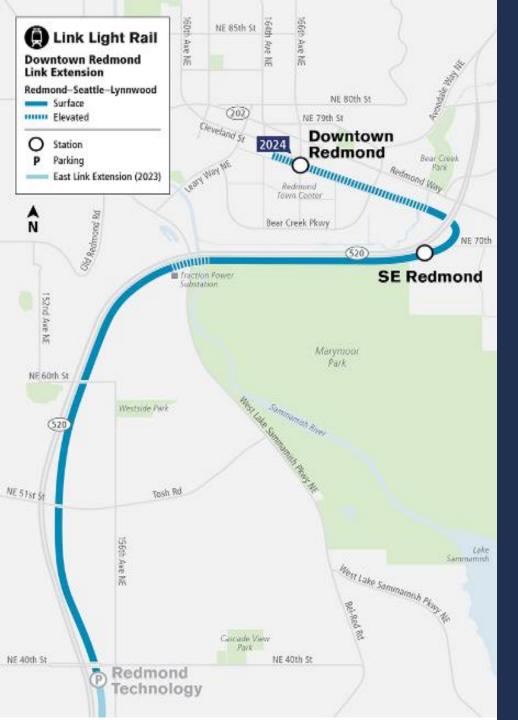
### **Eastrail Capital Project Updates**

Eastrail Regional Advisory Council April 19, 2021

## Downtown Redmond Link Extension SOUND TRANSIT/KING COUNTY



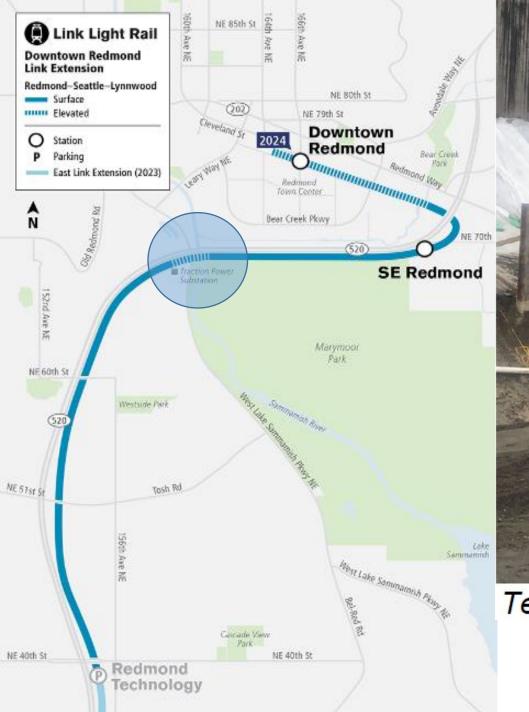




### **Downtown Redmond Link Extension**

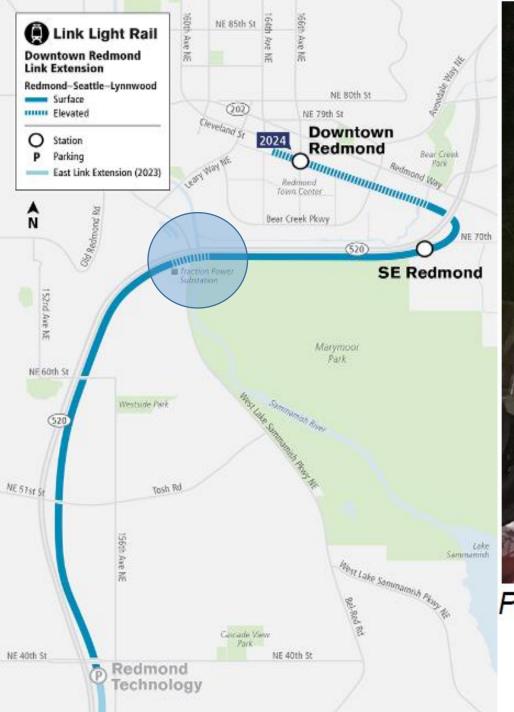
- 3.4 miles, 2 stations
  - SE Redmond
  - Downtown Redmond
- 1,400 stall parking garage at SE Redmond with Ground floor transit center
- Design Build Delivery
- Notice to Proceed September 2019
- Design nearing 100%
- Construction start Fall 2020
- Current work utilities, cut and cover crossings (NE40th, 51<sup>st</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup>), walls, garage and elevated guideway foundations

Start of service: 2024



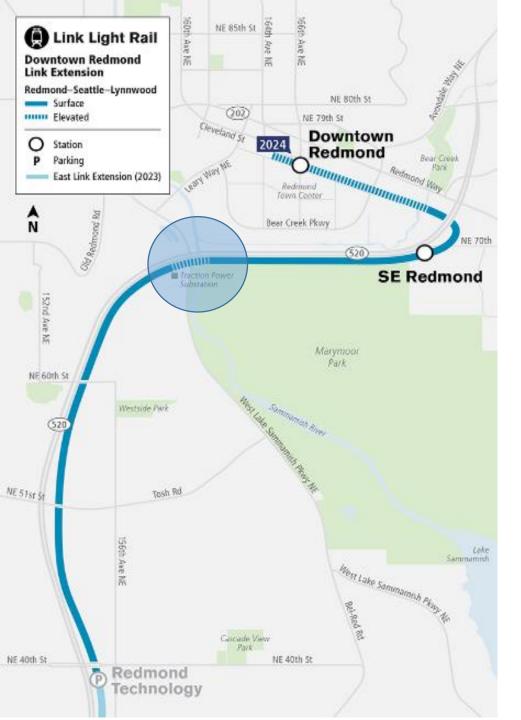


Temp Wall for A01 and A02



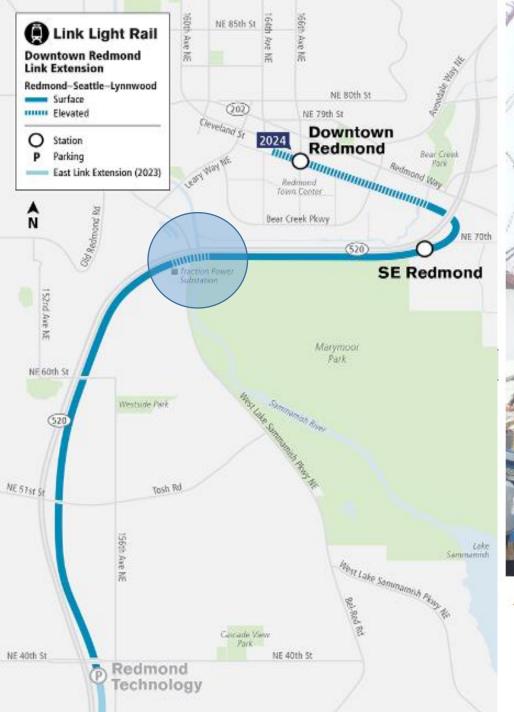


Pouring A1EB Drilled Shaft





A07 Shaft Reinforcing





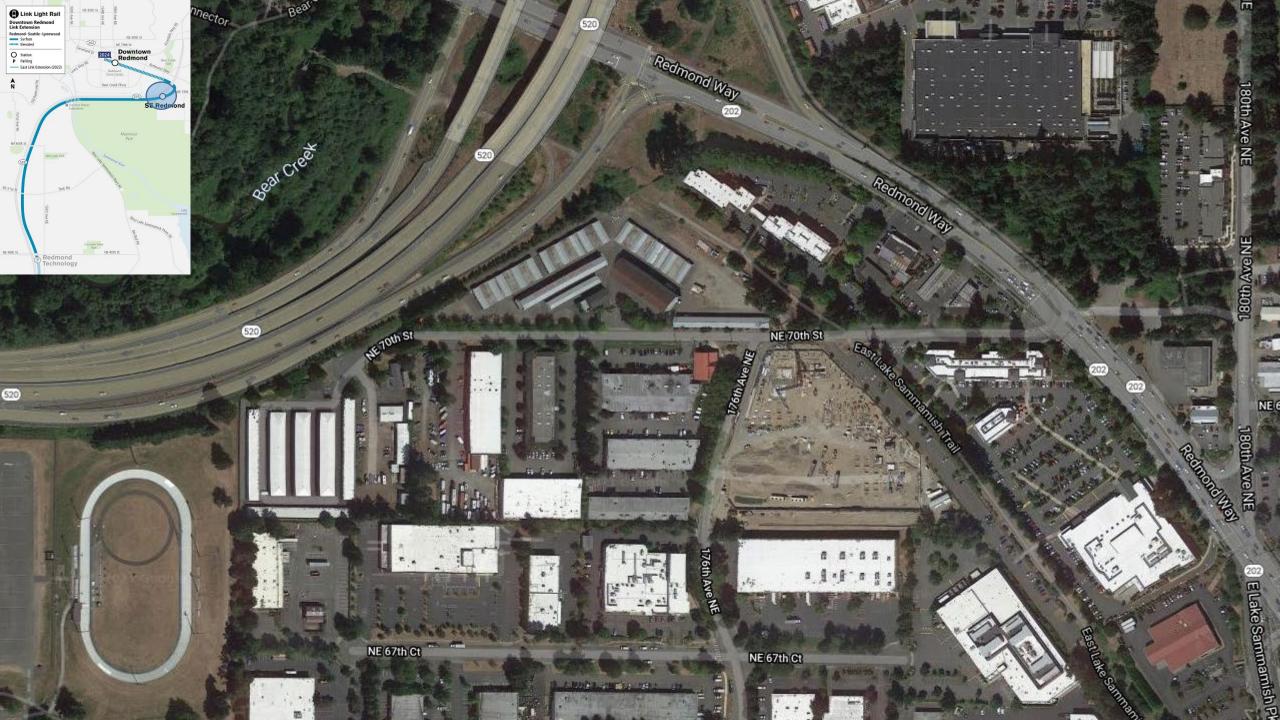
A07 concrete placement

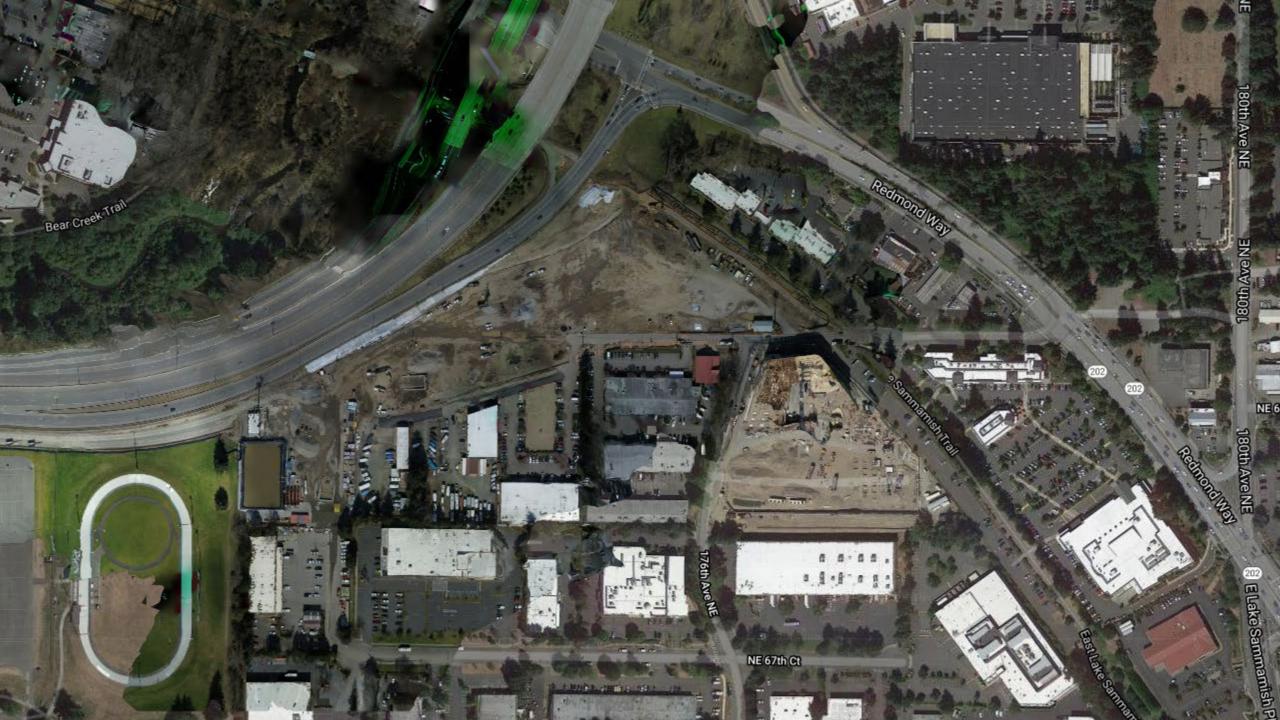


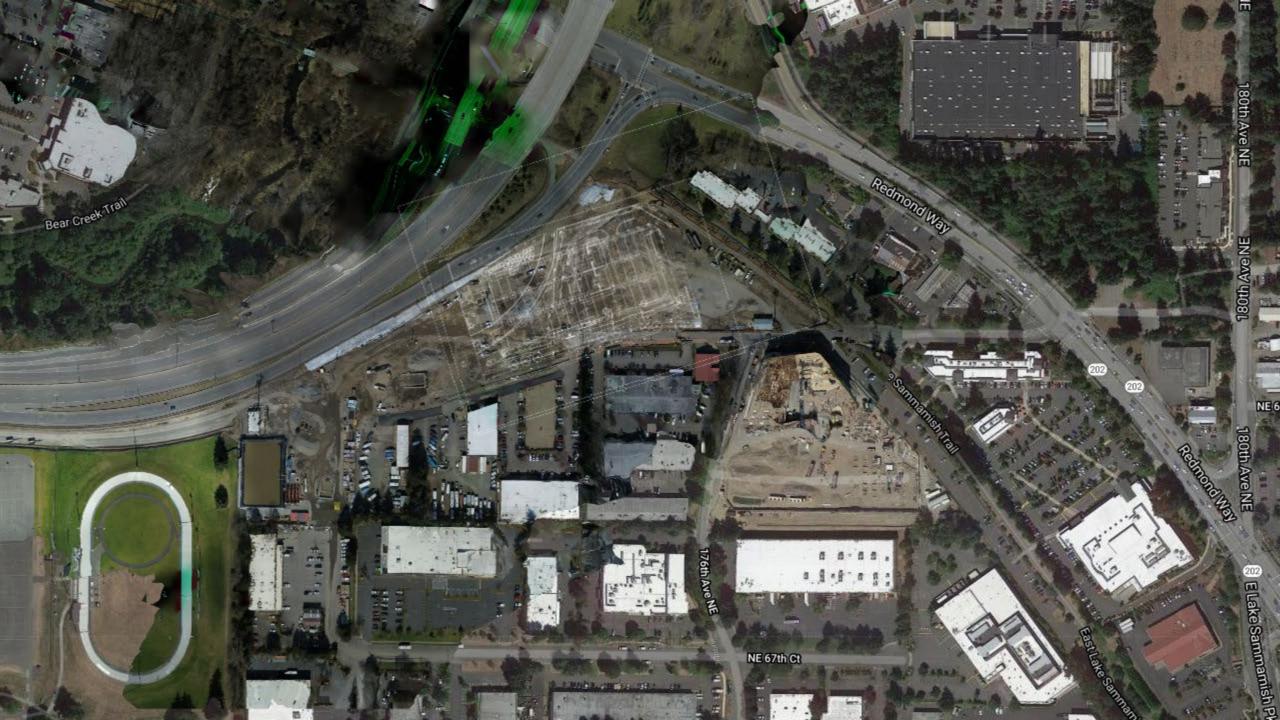


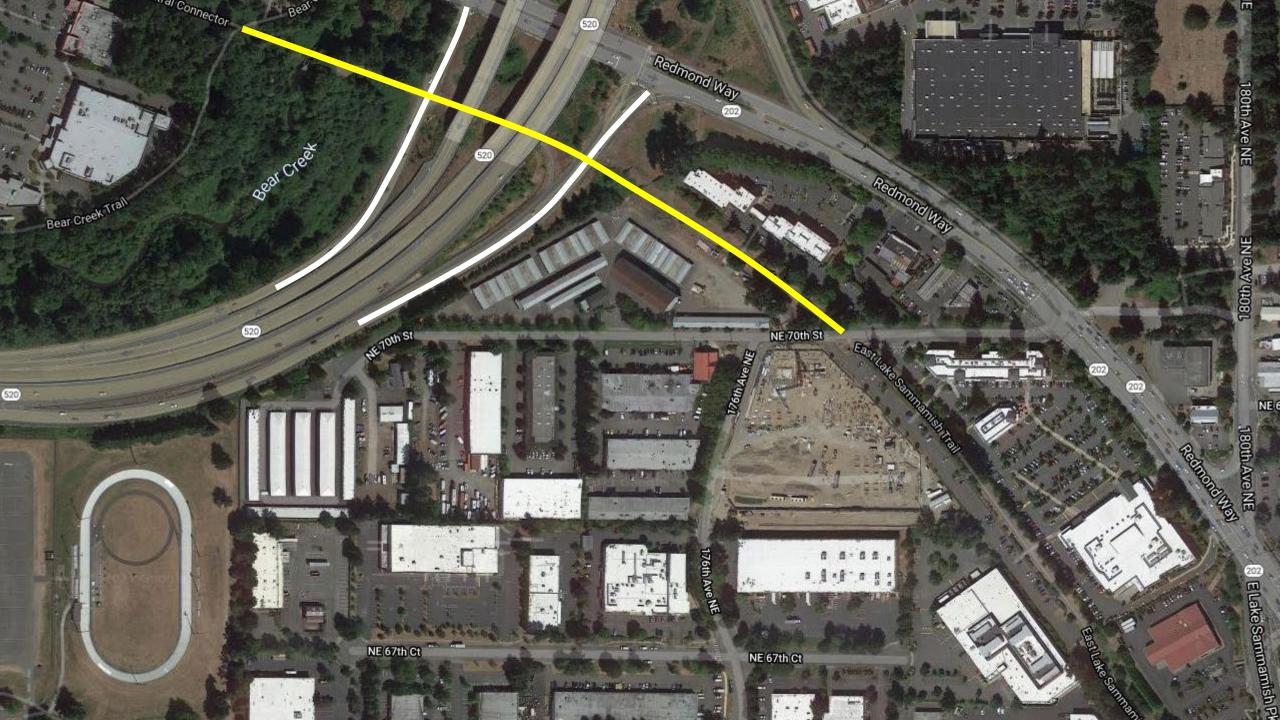
Access Road Adjacent to Marymoor Park





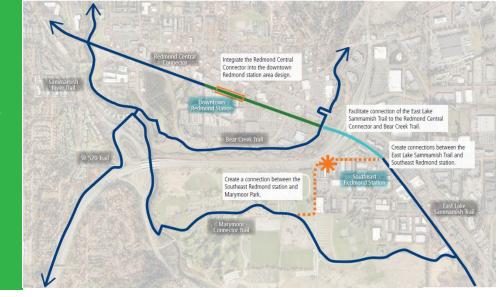






### East Lake Sammamish Trail — North Extension KING COUNTY/REDMOND/SOUND TRANSIT

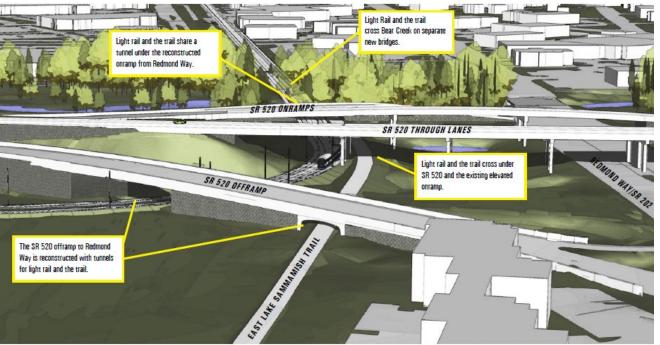
- The East Lake Sammamish Trail (ELST) North Extension will provide a long-sought connection between the RCC section of Eastrail in Downtown Redmond and the East Lake Sammamish Trail.
- Trail is being constructed as part of the Sound Transit Downtown Redmond Link Extension (DRLE) Project



#### East Lake Sammamish Trail - North Extension



**ESTIMATED OPENING: 2024** 



The light rail connection between southeast Redmond and downtown will create a corridor to extend the East Lake Sammamish Trail through the SR 520 interchange.



### Redmond Central Connector Phase III CITY OF REDMOND

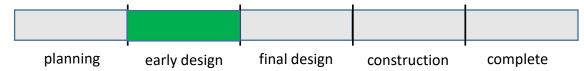




### **Redmond Central Connector Phase III REDMOND**

- RCC III is a 1.6 mile segment that will extend the RCC north to NE 124<sup>th</sup> street at the Kirkland boarder.
- The third and final phase of the Redmond Central Connector.

#### **RCC III PHASE**



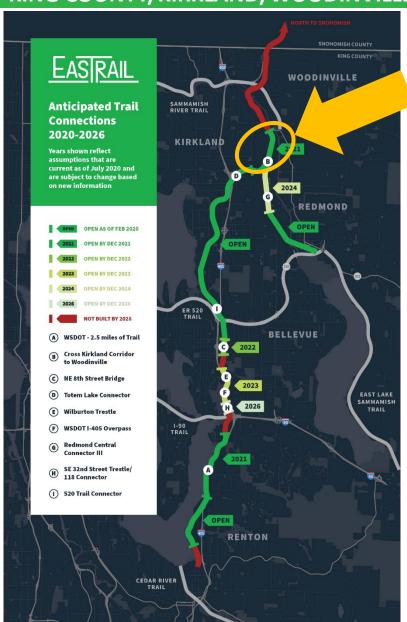
**ESTIMATED START OF DESIGN** 2023

**ESTIMATED START OF CONSTRUCTION:** 2024





### Kirkland to Woodinville Trail KING COUNTY/KIRKLAND/WOODINVILLE



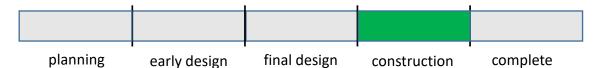


### Kirkland to Woodinville Trail KING COUNTY/KIRKLAND/WOODINVILLE

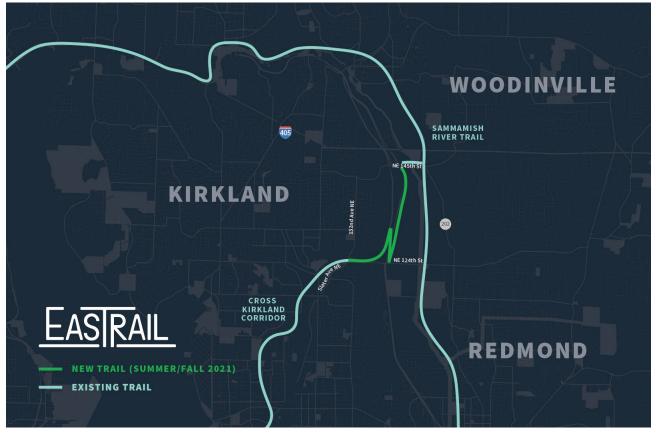
- Partnership to create 2.5 new miles new Eastrail connecting Kirkland and Woodinville.
- New crossing at NE 145<sup>th</sup> in Woodinville will allow Eastrail visitors to connect to the Sammamish River Trail.



#### **PHASE**

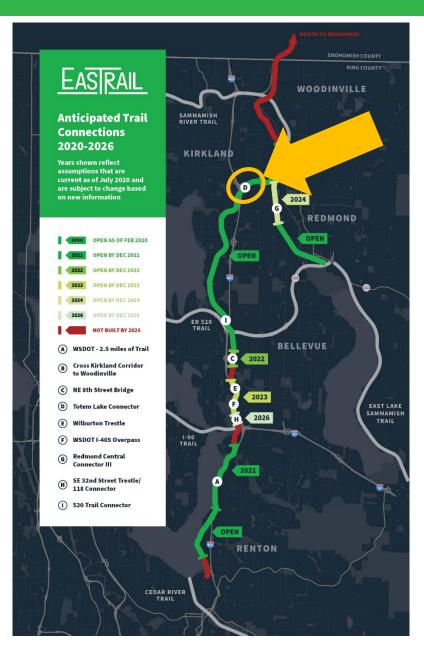


**ESTIMATED OPENING: 2021** 





### **Totem Lake Connector CITY OF KIRKLAND**





### **Totem Lake Connector** KIRKLAND

Bicycle and pedestrian bridge connecting the two ends of the 5.75-mile Cross Kirkland Corridor currently severed by one of Kirkland's most complicated intersections: Totem Lake Boulevard and Northeast 124th Street.



#### **PHASE**



**ESTIMATED OPENING:** July 2022





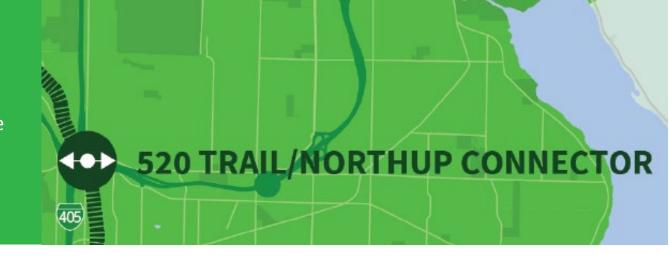
### **520 Trail/Northup Way Connector EASTRAIL PARTNERS/KING COUNTY**



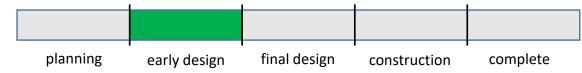


### **520 Trail/Northup Way Connector** EASTRAIL PARTNERS/KING COUNTY

- Construction of a trail ramp to connect the Eastrail to the SR 520 Trail at Northup Way.
- Funding by REI and Facebook (provided \$1 million each).
   King County contributing remaining.



#### **PHASE**

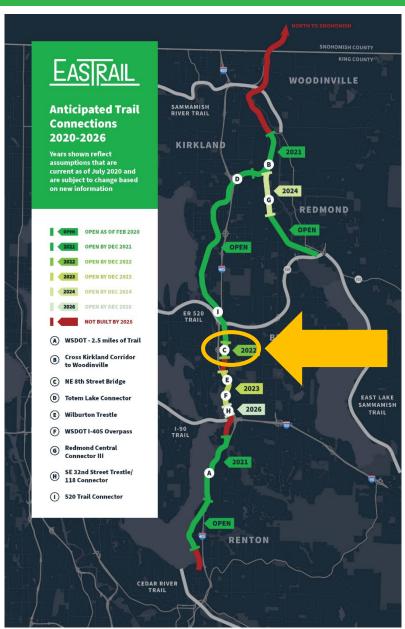


**ESTIMATED START OF CONSTRUCTION:** 2022





### NE 8<sup>th</sup> Street Crossing KING COUNTY





### **Eastrail NE 8<sup>th</sup> St. Crossing KING COUNTY**

- Going to bid Spring 2021
- Provides critical connection to Wilburton Light Rail Station.
- Japanese American Agricultural Heritage commemoration included in contract.

### **PHASE**



**ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION:** 2021 - 2022

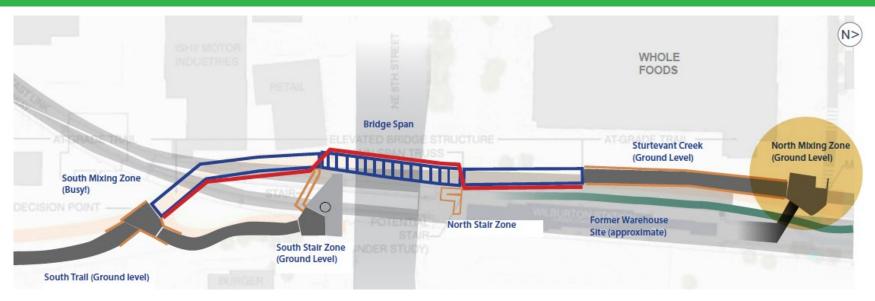


NE 8<sup>th</sup> St. crossing



### Eastrail NE 8<sup>th</sup> St. Crossing

Japanese American Agricultural Heritage commemoration

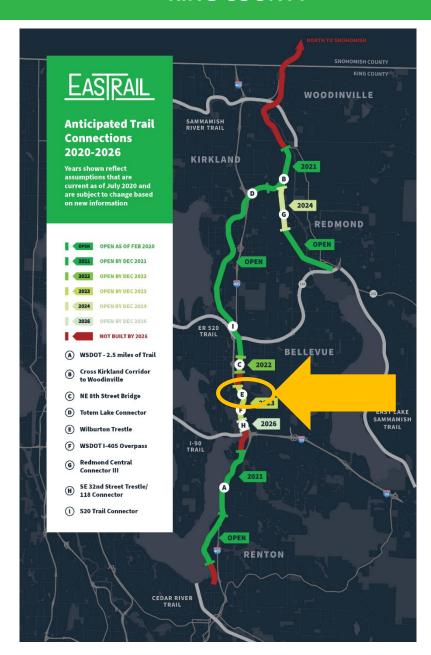




STEEL CUT-OUTS (LOOKING EAST) - 3D VIEW



### Wilburton Trestle KING COUNTY





### Wilburton Trestle KING COUNTY

- Efforts underway to develop 100% design.
- Distinctive railing, benches, overlooks.
- Historic railroad character.
- Open 2023

### **PHASE**



**ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION:** 2022 - 2023

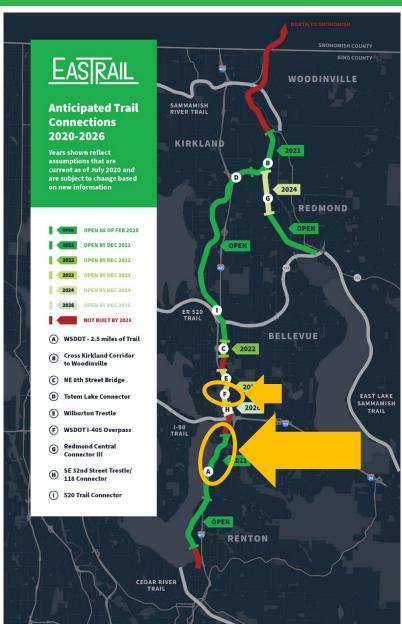




Overlook cross section



### Lake Lanes I-405 Expansion KING COUNTY





### Lake Lanes I-405 Expansion WSDOT/KING COUNTY

- Paved 2.5 miles of wide paved trail open in May 2021.
- New I-405 crossing begins construction in 2021, opens 2023.



#### **PHASE**







# Lake Lanes I-405 Expansion WSDOT/KING COUNTY

- Paved 2.5 miles of wide paved trail open in May 2021.
- New I-405 crossing begins construction in 2021, opens 2023.









# May Creek Trestle KING COUNTY





# May Creek Trestle KING COUNTY

- Retrofitting May Creek trestle with wide concrete deck panels.
- Open by January 2022

#### **PHASE**





Current May Creek trestle



Recently retrofitted Ripley Lane trestle



#### MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

#### Regarding the Ongoing Collaboration between the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council and Eastrail Partners

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING is made by and among KING COUNTY, SNOHOMISH COUNTY, THE CITY OF KIRKLAND, THE CITY OF REDMOND, A CENTRAL PUGET SOUND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (SOUND TRANSIT), PUGET SOUND ENERGY (PSE), THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, THE CITY OF WOODINVILLE, THE CITY OF RENTON, THE EASTSIDE GREENWAY ALLIANCE (EGA), and EASTRAIL PARTNERS (collectively, the "Parties"). This MOU sets forth the Parties' mutual understanding regarding, and intent to structure the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council (RAC).

#### RECITALS

WHEREAS, parties to the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council (RAC) are working together to develop a 42-mile multiple-use corridor in east King and Snohomish counties, with connected and coincident segments commonly referred to as the Eastrail, Centennial Trail South, Cross Kirkland Connector, and Redmond Central Connector and with its northern terminus located in the Town of Snohomish, WA and its southern termini located in the Cities of Renton, WA and Redmond, WA, respectively; and

WHEREAS, Eastrail Partners (EP) was formed at the recommendation of the Eastside Rail Corridor Funding Commission and by agreement of the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council (RAC) members to play a unique and valuable role in the development of the Eastrail corridor by fostering, increasing, and sustaining private sector and community support for actions to implement the RAC vision for the corridor; and

WHEREAS, EP, since beginning operations in early 2020, has been an integral and effective contributor to the advancement of the work to develop the corridor, including the successful delivery of outcomes identified in the 2020 service agreement between the RAC and Eastrail Partners and cost shared by RAC members; and

WHEREAS, EP will continue to focus its resources and efforts on high priority actions contributing to the development of the corridor; and

WHEREAS, the RAC and EP seek to ensure close alignment and coordination in their respective actions contributing to the development of the corridor.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Parties above have reached the following understanding:

#### **Section 1: Ongoing Collaboration**

EP will continue to participate at the quarterly RAC meetings and the regular meetings of the RAC Principals Staff Team, as means to ensure ongoing alignment of efforts supporting high priorities. Additional contact between EP Board members or staff and RAC members or staff is strongly encouraged as needed to support effective collaboration.

#### **Section 2: Priorities for Action**

EP's focus will primarily be on the tasks noted below. EP's role in these tasks can involve providing leadership, supporting task development, implementing task elements, or other appropriate roles. Additional areas of focus can be added as capacity allows to address new opportunities to advance the development of the Eastrail corridor.

- Developing and implementing a communications framework for shared work to ensure:
  - o good internal communications between staff, RAC members and Eastrail Partners and
  - o good external communications on project status, trail closures and openings, and funding
- Playing a unifying role as primary point of contact on approaches for state and federal governmental funding opportunities.
- Developing, implementing, and/or supporting community-activation events
- Building and maintaining relationships with Eastside-focused businesses, including possible facilitation of capital project delivery.

#### Section 3: Term of this MOU

This MOU will be in effect for two years from the approval of the parties, as determined by the date of signature by all of the Parties. This agreement can be amended by the mutual agreement of the Parties. This MOU can be renewed by the mutual agreement of the Parties.

[Signatures]

### **Co-Creation**



Review of Co-Creation framework



Welcoming Week Proposal



Co-Creation efforts for Welcoming Week



### **Co-Creation**

- Seek to build transformational not transactional relationships
- Meet regularly with community liaisons and leaders: ask them what their community members are currently struggling with and what their hopes are. Identify areas of mutual concern and explore possibilities for co-sponsoring efforts.
- Participate in cultural events and open meetings hosted by community-based organizations, faith communities, etc.
- Listen more than talk: ask open-ended questions
- Compensate community members for the expertise and for tapping into their social capital

### **Co-Creation**

- Be honest and clear about the ways that participation will influence/impact decisions.
- Provide details about events/meetings: format, expectations of attendees, speakers
- Offer a way to track community's contributions (sincere, transparent feedback loop)
- Get creative! Are there alternatives to traditional town hall formats that would attract a broader audience? Offer a variety of ways for people to participate
- Go to where people are already gathering, but be respectful of their priorities and agenda. (transformational, not transactional)

### Traditional/Inauthentic

- Table already built
- Engagers extend"light touch" invitations to formal gatherings
- Relationships are time-limited, centered around agenda (the table)
- Engagers seek input without clearly stating what, if any, influence the input will have on final decisions
- Community leaders stand in for community members
- Engagers risk very little,
   "engagees" risk the most
- Engagement is a means to an end

### **Collaborative Co-Creation**

- No table (yet)
- Involved community members are connecting informally and formally
- Relationships are ongoing
- Participants enjoy a mutual exchange of ideas
- Community leaders are not substitutes for community members
- Those who have typically been "engagers" may ultimately risk the most
- Co-creation is the point.



Photo from Pop-Up Village, Oakland

# Co-Creating with Eastside Communities

- Community-Based
   Organizations: Youth
   Ambassadors, Promotores,
   and Trusted Messengers
- Community "ownership" of sections, uniquely named and designed
- Bellevue's Cross-Cultural Center group

### **Welcoming Week**

### **East King County - #WeWelcome**



#### 4th Annual Welcoming Week

SEPT. 13-22, 2019 EastsideWelcomes.org















- East King County first celebrated national Welcoming Week in Sept 2016.
- Each year immigrant led community groups plan multiple events in partnership with the cities of Bellevue, Redmond, Kirkland, Issaquah, and Sammamish.
- City participation laid the groundwork for Bellevue, Redmond, and Kirkland to join Welcoming America and for city policies and initiatives.
- East King County will celebrate it's 6th annual Welcoming Week Sept 10th-19th: "Belonging Begins with Us."

#### City Council adopts cultural inclusion resolution

Thursday, January 19, 2017 2:18pm | NEWS











At Tuesday night's meeting, the day after Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Redmond City Council passed a resolution affirming the city's ongoing effort of being a culturally inclusive community. The resolution was

brought forth by the mayor and City Council with recommendation from the Arts and Culture Commission,



### **Eastrail Co-Creation effort for Welcoming Week**



\*Partners yet to be determined. Eastside for All to facilitate introductions.

