



Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Advisory Council

Thursday, April 5, 2018

9:00 AM- 11:00 AM

Bellevue Botanical Gardens

12001 Main St, Bellevue WA 98005

- 9:00 **Welcome and Introductions** – King County Councilmember CM Claudia Balducci
- 9:15 **Fiber Feasibility Update**—Brenda Cooper, City of Kirkland, Darryl Hunt, King County DIT
- 9:40 **ERC Branding Effort**—Curt Warber, King County DNRP, Sujata Goel, King County DNRP (Information, Guidance and Discussion)
 - Update on project schedule and consultant selection
- 10:00 **Funding Commission**—David St. John, King County DNRP; Jeff Muhm, King County Council Staff; Jamie Strausz-Clark, PRR
 - Update on commission activities and charter
- 10:25 **Member Progress and Success Updates** (Discussion)
- 10:45 **Public Comment**
- 11:00 **Next Steps and adjournment**



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Fiber and the ERC

Exploring the potential addition of new communications infrastructure to the corridor

April 5, 2018

Presenters:

Brenda Cooper, City of Kirkland, CIO

Darryl Hunt, King County, I-Net Business Manager



What are we thinking about - "Fiber in the ERC"

Overview

- ▶ A regional group of ERC partners have been meeting for about a year, and in March 2017 released an RFP to find a vendor to perform a feasibility study related to putting fiber-optic cable in the ERC. We have been communicating with the PST throughout this time frame.
- ▶ This briefing is designed to keep you up to date on our exploration. We will review the following with you today:
 - ▶ Why this matters
 - ▶ The scope of the feasibility study
 - ▶ The funding model for the feasibility study
 - ▶ The possible next steps

Why do we care?



High Speed Internet Access Matters

- ▶ Much of our future economic prosperity and equality is dependent on the availability of high speed broadband to all.
 - ▶ Schools, government, businesses, visitors, people of all income levels, students
- ▶ Broadband powers most smart community efforts.
 - ▶ Smart transportation, smart lighting, smart information
- ▶ Almost all broadband is either directly or indirectly dependent on fiber-optic cable to carry signals.

Use Cases

- ▶ Long haul fiber for us / others
- ▶ Direct provision of services on the ERC (wireless internet access, smart lighting, smart parks, and more)
- ▶ Other devices on the corridor (small cell backhaul? Backhaul for our wireless? Internet of Things-IoT?)
- ▶ Cameras (surveillance, safety, wildlife streaming?)
- ▶ Point to point connectivity?
- ▶ Broadband providers (e.g. AT & T, Verizon, Comcast) may be interested in a build. This may help defray cost.

Why do this now?

- ▶ If a fiber build is a good idea, it will be expensive.
- ▶ It will take time to create and build a team and locate funding.
- ▶ It will be far less expensive to build while most of the trail is “interim” and before more lasting features like hard-surface trails are installed.

Feasibility Study Scope and Deliverables

► Scope:

- Create a conceptual fiber route along the length of the corridor, including the logical begin and end points.
 - This should include a fiber plan, a very high level design, and a budgetary cost estimate.
- Explore business models for accomplishing the build
 - Business models must reflect an understanding of the owner's and stakeholder's goals to enhance King County's economic growth and job creation, in addition to projecting private sector interest in developing this infrastructure.

► Deliverables:

- Assumed broadband technical and capacity requirements;
- Construction cost estimates;
- A fiber plan (aerial/underground route map) including the cost for varying amounts of fiber build and identification of physical limits to the size of the build;
- A list of strategic points of presence such as the Westin, Sabey, and KCRECC;
- A business case analysis describing the necessary criteria and conditions to successfully complete the build;
- A description of possible business models and options and an analysis of construction funding.

Cost

- ▶ We estimate that the cost of the feasibility study will be between \$50,000 and \$100,000. It could be higher.
- ▶ There are a number of parties who have committed to help fund the feasibility study. These include King County, the cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Redmond, and Renton, the Community Connectivity Consortium, the Pacific Northwest GigaPop, and possibly Lake Washington School District and Evergreen hospital.
- ▶ Kirkland is helping with the procurement process and King County is providing project management.

Timeline and Next steps

- ▶ Continue to talk with potential partners (Ongoing).
- ▶ Evaluate the RFPs and select a vendor if there is a good choice (early Q2-18).
- ▶ Complete the feasibility study (by end of Q3-2018).
- ▶ Brief the PST and the RAC on progress as desired (date TBD).
- ▶ Bring the recommendations from the final report to the RAC (date TBD).
- ▶ Complete fiber buildout (date TBD)

Presenter Contact Information

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Open Discussion, questions?



Eastside Rail Corridor Regional Trail Trail Funding Commission *Charter, April 2018*

The purpose of charter is to clarify the charge and responsibilities of, and expectations for the Eastside Rail Corridor Trail Funding Commission. The Trail Funding Commission members will be asked to review, provide feedback on, and affirm a revised version of this charter at the first meeting of the Commission.

About the Eastside Rail Corridor Trail Funding Commission

The Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC) is a 42-mile rail corridor that runs from South Snohomish County to Renton, with a spur from Woodinville to Redmond. The vision is for the ERC to be a multi-use corridor that enhances regional mobility and connectivity, supports utility infrastructure needs, and provides recreational opportunities.

[Insert ERC map]

The ERC will provide a regional trail that will connect the Eastside and provide Renton, Bellevue, Kirkland, Woodinville, Redmond, and South Snohomish County with new non-motorized recreation and transportation options. The opportunities are many, whether it is expanding transportation options, creating economic and cultural opportunities, protecting natural resources, maintaining access to scenic vistas, or providing recreation around the beautiful Northwest.

For planning and project development purposes, trail development has been broken into smaller projects. Some projects have already been constructed. Timing for implementation of the remaining projects depends on multiple factors, including the availability of funding. These agencies have raised or are in the process of raising a substantial portion of the cost to develop the trail through public funding sources, but funding from private, non-governmental sources will be needed to close the gap and complete the trail.

A Regional Advisory Council made up of representatives from organizations supporting the development of the ERC is convening a Trail Funding Commission. The Trail Funding Commission—comprised of community leaders from the private and nonprofit sectors—will produce recommendations for identifying and securing funding from private and non-governmental sources to complete development of the trail within the ERC. The Trail Funding Commission will develop a report that summarizes these recommendations and present it to the RAC in December 2018.

Charge of the Trail Funding Commission

The Trail Funding Commission is charged with:

- **Funding Source Options:** Identify options for funding the projects through which the trail will be implemented, with a focus on private, non-governmental, and public-private partnership sources in the context of public funding opportunities. Also identify where different types of sources can be used to leverage other sources.
- **Recommending Actions to Fund:** Identify projects that are the best candidates for current and future funding streams and best suited to leverage public and private funds. The commission will also consider geographic distribution of projects when making its recommendations to the RAC.
- **Building and Sustaining Support for ERC Corridor Development:** Identify ways RAC members and supporters can build support for trail and corridor development, within the context of transit and utility uses, within their own constituencies and how to turn that support into an organized strategy to fund and sustain the trail and corridor in its entirety.

Membership

The Trail Funding Commission includes the following members:

- Gene Duvernoy, Forterra – Co-Chair
- Greg Johnson, Wright Rundstad – Co-Chair
- Matt Cohen, Community
- Bill Finkbeiner, Community
- Stacey Graven, Meydenbauer/Visit Bellevue
- Blair Howe, Kidder Matthews
- Steve Kramer, KG Properties
- Bob Moser, King County Parks Foundation
- Dan Perrow, Kaiser Permanente
- Heather Sheffer, Boeing
- Greg Shelton, Physio Control
- Edna Shim, Children’s Hospital
- Kay Taylor, Evergreen Hospital
- Dave Tomson, SRM Development
- Rocale Timmons, Seco Development
- Taldi Walter, REI
- Dave Witt, Woodinville Chamber

Roles and Responsibilities

Trail Funding Commission members will:

- Participate in up to six meetings between April 2018 and December 2018
- Review background materials in advance of meetings
- Engage in positive, productive communication with other members, the Co-Chairs, facilitator, and project staff
- Review and provide written comments on meeting summaries and final Trail Funding Commission report
- Find opportunities for agreement whenever possible

Trail Funding Commission Co-Chairs will:

- Ensure that each Trail Funding Commission member has a meaningful opportunity to participate in discussions
- Keep meetings focused on the agenda
- Work with the project team to prepare meeting agendas
- Start and end meetings on time, unless the Trail Funding Commission agrees by unanimous vote to extend the meeting time

The Facilitator will:

- Work with the Co-Chairs to develop meeting agendas
- Distribute meeting agendas and background materials at least one week prior to the scheduled meeting
- Provide support as needed to the Co-Chairs to assist with managing the meeting and completing the meeting agenda
- Work with the Principal Staff Team to develop information and materials that support the Trail Funding Commission's work

The project team (the Principal Staff Team plus consultants) will:

- Provide background materials, presentations, and data to Trail Funding Commission members to inform their decision-making
- Be present and available at Trail Funding Commission meetings to answer questions and inform the discussion
- Draft and revise the final Trail Funding Commission report, based on Trail Funding Commission members' direction and feedback
- Coordinate meeting logistics

- Summarize the outcomes of the Trail Funding Commission meetings in meeting summaries

Meeting Guidelines

- The Co-Chairs will ensure that all participants have the opportunity to ask questions and provide comments. Discussions will allow for the development of a consensus, but consensus is not required.
- Meetings will begin and end on time. If agenda items cannot be completed on time, the group can decide by unanimous vote to extend the meeting.
- At the meetings, Trail Funding Commission members will:
 - Share the available speaking time
 - Focus on successfully completing the agreed upon agenda
 - Avoid side discussions when others are speaking
 - Voice concerns and complaints at the meeting, not outside the meeting
 - Put cell phones on silent
- Persons who are not members of the Trail Funding Commission may attend meetings as observers but may not participate in group discussion and deliberations, unless called upon.

Decision-making

The Trail Funding Commission will strive for group agreement in its recommendations. This, however, may not always be possible. If it is not possible for the group to come to consensus on recommendations, the meeting summary will document minority and majority opinions.

Meeting Summaries

- The project team will prepare a written summary of the discussion and comments following each meeting
- Meeting summaries will describe areas of agreement and disagreement and clarify where and why there is a disagreement. The meeting summaries will state all points of view clearly and fairly
- The project team will send meeting summaries to Trail Funding Commission members via email.

Communications

Internal

In the interest of streamlining communications, the Facilitator will serve as the arbiter of internal communications. Outside of meetings, if a Trail Funding Commission member would like to

communicate with the rest of the committee, he/she may send the facilitator an email for distribution to the larger group. The facilitator may choose to bundle this email with other emails to the committee.

External

Participants of the Trail Funding Commission should not represent themselves as speaking for the group unless directed by the group to do so. This working rule in no way restricts individual participants, in their capacity as citizens, from interacting with elected officials, the media, or community organizations.

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Public Comments

EASTSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

April 2018 Update

Patricia Brown

March 27, 2018

CONTACT

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COMMENT

We live alongside the ERC near Newcastle Beach Park. WE have been enjoying the new trail but already see issues arising. The trail doesn't really seem to be 10 feet wide, but it is. If two people and maybe a dog are walking, there is no problem until they encounter people coming from the opposite direction. The problems arise when you throw a cyclist into the picture. We are noticing that cyclists seem to think they own the trail and make no effort to slow down when near walkers. They do not warn you they are behind you and passing. Walking neighbors narrowly avoided a collision with one last week. I hate to see what's going to happen when the trail is blacktopped and we will be battling more cyclists. Is there any way that you can post signs on the trail asking cyclists to yield to walkers? Placing signs at crossings isn't working because no one is reading them. People using the trail just want to get past the crossing to avoid cars.

Can you install more port-a-potties? People are going to the bathroom on the trail. I saw that from my yard.

Can you install benches for those of us who occasionally need to rest a little? There is no where to sit unless you want to use the very dirty big rocks at the crossings.

Thank you for the garbage cans. Unfortunately, my neighbors and I are still the ones picking up the garbage on the trail, but at least we now have a place to put it. We are not able to reach any garbage thrown over the fence, though.

Eastbound vehicles at crossing at SE50th Place have no visibility to the south because of foliage in the way. You have to get right onto the trail to see if anything is coming from the south. Almost collided with someone last week.

On the whole, most is positive feedback on the trail except for the things I have stated. Nextdoor network posting for this area neighborhood generated a lot of comments this weekend. Many comments were about problems with cyclists. Those of us whose properties abut the trail are the ones who you should listen to because we actually see what's going on. Hopefully, it will be a good relationship for all.

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EASTSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

January 26, 2018 – 1:30 PM

Kirkland Justice Center

Advisory Council Members Present: Chair Claudia Balducci, County Councilmember; Vice-chair Jay Arnold, Kirkland City Councilmember (representing Amy Walen, Kirkland Mayor); Don Billen, Director of the Office of Capital Project Development, Sound Transit (representing Peter Rogoff, CEO); Angela Birney, Redmond City Councilmember (representing John Marchione, Redmond Mayor); Brandon Buchanan; City Manager, City of Woodinville; Kathy Lambert, County Councilmember; John Stokes, Bellevue Councilmember; Tom Teigen, Parks Director, Snohomish County; Blake Trask, Eastside Greenway Alliance; and Christie True, Director of King County Natural Resources and Parks (representing County Executive Dow Constantine)

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Claudia Balducci called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m., welcomed all in attendance and asked the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) members to introduce themselves.

ERC Branding Effort

Erica Jacobs, Project Manager with King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP), reported that the Principal Staff Team is working through the consultant selection process with King County Procurement and will be scheduling interviews of the respondents.

Grace Li Bergman with The Trust for Public Land, noted that the initial scope of work was provided at last September's meeting. Once a consultant is selected, it is expected that they will provide the final scope of work and an outline for the public engagement piece. The selection process should conclude in the next few weeks with the consultant starting in March. It is anticipated that they will be introduced at the next RAC meeting where they will present their outreach plan and initial thoughts on branding. The project is expected to wrap up by the end of the year.

Ms. Bergman noted that partners can use their existing infrastructure to individually conduct engagement using the same the consultant develops. They would like input from the RAC regarding areas outside the cities and how far and wide outreach should go.

Discussion ensued regarding maintaining the integrity of the local segments while doing the overall branding, looking beyond current users for input (e.g., younger generations, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, schools, broader public, etc.), the challenge of layered brands, looking at how the ERC connects to the rest of the local trail network and the need for branding to encompass the multiple uses of the corridor.

Funding Commission

Jeff Muhm, King County Council Initiatives Director, reported that 24 potential participants were contacted, with eight to ten having confirmed interest thus far. Upon completion, a strong group is expected. A consultant has been hired who will begin work in March and finish up in September. David St. John, Government Relations Administrator, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, noted that an invitation had been extended to all preliminary and potential members.* Selection of the participants is anticipated in the next week or so. Part of the problem has been getting the invitation to the right person within the organization. The next step will be scheduling. The first meeting is anticipated in March, followed by five additional meetings. The initial meeting will consist of an orientation tour on portions of the trail plus some classroom orientation. The focus of the group will be to look at priorities and funding options and then synthesize those options. Completion is expected by about September.

*The list of those being contacted will be recirculated so that members can provide input.

The following individuals were introduced as the consultant support team:

Emelie East, a consultant with CBE Strategic, commented that she hopes to bring her experience with the federal government here locally and try to help consolidate information and identify where the opportunities are.

Jamie Strausz-Clark, Director of Facilitation & Public Involvement with PRR, will be facilitating the process. She will partner on developing materials and hopes to do one-on-ones with each RAC member. She previously worked on the ERC master plan.

Jenny Bailey, a senior planner with Parametrix, will be a resource for additional technical information if needed.

Further discussion involved gender distribution of the initial funding list, what is realistic to expect to be accomplished in a single meeting, the possibility of having one meeting run longer than the others, assistance in identifying private and non-government entities to participate, having the group encompass the role of a public-private partnership, the fact that the Funding Commission will have no decision-making ability, quick execution of the groups' strategy, the appearance that the solicitation letter did not seem all inclusive of the various entities involved, the need for greater sensitivity regarding inclusiveness, capturing in written communication the essence of the entire group moving forward, using email versus hard copy to share information, letterhead that encompasses all will be available once branding is complete and the need for good communication amongst the members.

Member Progress and Success Updates

City of Kirkland

- With the passage of the capital budget, the Willows Road project (one of the missing links for the Central Kirkland Connector) is now funded.
- The South Kirkland Park and Ride pedestrian bridge and elevator is fully through permitting.
- Totem Lake Connector is at 100% design. It was included as part of the ERC TIGER grant and will cost \$17 million to construct.
- A newsletter regarding planned activity in the Totem Lake area is available.

King County

- The TIGER Grant request for \$25 million has been submitted, with a response anticipated this first quarter. A great deal of help was received, including over 50 letters of support.
- There is a lot of rail removal taking place.
- While many people are already using the trail, the official opening will be later this spring.
- Design work is underway for the NE 8th Crossing and Wilburton Segment, including the Wilburton Trestle.
- Much work has been done with the Washington State Department of Transportation related to the pedestrian crossing on I-405.
- A RFP will go out in the next couple months to see if there is any excursion service interest for the Valley segment.
- A crossing will be needed at NE 145th Street.
- Portions of the interim gravel sections of the trail will be open in March.
- The Northup Way connector is in progress.

City of Redmond

- Asking for more state funding for Phase III.
- Working with Kirkland on the Willows part of the trail.

Sound Transit (Sent email to Luke requesting the slides 1/30)

- East Link construction is underway around Bellevue City Hall and the Wilburton section of the ERC. The King County trail will be adjacent to the guideway.
- Operations and Maintenance Facility East – a temporary interim bike trail will be created connecting the northerly King County trail with the southerly City of Bellevue trail. This will be part of the 120th NE expansion.
- Site construction has begun on the Overlake Village Station.
- Preliminary engineering has begun on the downtown Redmond link extension.
- The I-405 bus/rapid transit program, including the Totem Lake area, will be presented to the Board soon.
- A new Park and Ride has been established at Southeast Redmond Station.
- Research will be conducted to determine whether there is a market for transit oriented development.

City of Bellevue

- Two connections will be opening up – one in the north in the Kirkland corridor at 120th Street, and a 4-mile section from Gene Coulon Park to Newcastle Beach.
- The Wilburton Commercial Area Advisory Committee is about to wrap up. Changes to the building heights will allow for more residential accommodation. The new requirements incorporate the ERC.
- In the process of looking at alternatives for the Wilburton area.
- Thinking about the area along 116th up to NE 8th and possible expansion opportunities by utilizing lidding over portions of I-405.

City of Woodinville

- Still working on resolving issues with freight operations on their portion of the corridor. Looking at alternatives in the next 7-9 months.

- Excited to work with the County on the 145th Street portion. This will help deal with pedestrian traffic and safety.
- The ERC appeared to be a hot topic at the Association of Washington Cities Community Action Days.

Snohomish County

- Design and engineering work for their portion of the ERC is 30% complete. Aiming to be at 60% by the end of the year.
- A suggestion was received regarding putting forward a tax break for trails.

Eastside Greenway Alliance (EGA)

- An additional one-half million dollars came in on the capital budget.
- Looking forward to advancing their work at the State level.
- The EGA website will be unveiled on February 3, 2018.
- The SR 520 bridge trail opened on December 20, 2107.

Public comment

The following attendees offered public comment:

John Kearnes asked about a request for proposal (RFP) for excursions.

It was noted in response to this question, that an RFP to determine if there are any proposed uses for existing parts of the corridor is expected to be done by the end of the year.

Scott Kaseburg noted that he is part of a group of homeowners that live between the Eastside Rail Corridor and Lake Washington near Pleasure Point in Bellevue. He expressed appreciation for work to remove the rails and noted the professionalism of the contractor doing the work. He commented on severe drainage problems in the area and efforts of various public agencies to remedy them. He expressed concern over a potential lack of communication between the agencies and organizations involved in resolving the drainage issues and suggested that the drainage remediation efforts by the Washington State Department of Transportation be kept out of the rail corridor.

Chair Balducci asked King County staff members to look at what is being proposed and provide feedback.

Jeanne Demund seconded the praise for the professionalism of the contractor doing the rail removal work. She expressed concern regarding trail user and vehicular interfaces, noting that the south end of the trail dumps pedestrians onto a section of Mountain View Avenue in Renton that is a single lane, where visibility can be poor and often pedestrians do not look for traffic before venturing onto the roadway. She also commented on litter and animal waste issues and asked that the trail opening be delayed until fences and bag dispensers for pet waste are installed. Additionally, she noted that there is currently limited parking in the area and asked that parking issues be resolved before opening the trail. She stated that the neighbors are ready and willing to meet to discuss these issues.

Mary Erikson echoed safety and visibility concerns in the evening hours and expressed a desire for safety additions.

Bruce Erickson expressed kudos to Erica Jacobs for the excellent work she has done. He also agreed with the safety concerns previously expressed. He noted that there are some real pinch points at the bridges that deserve some attention.

David Patton introduced himself as the new Regional Director of The Trust for Public Land and expressed his interest in working with the group.

Next steps and adjournment

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 5, 2018. The time and location are yet to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

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