Eastside Rail Corridor Update

Bellevue
Transportation Commission
October 8, 2015
Tonight’s Presentation

• King County ERC Trail Master Plan
• ERC Regional Advisory Council (RAC)
• Coordination on Bellevue segment of ERC
  – Early implementation of interim trail
  – NE 8th Street crossing
  – Coordination with WSDOT re gap over I-405, future widening for Bellevue-Renton project
• Next steps
2015-2021 CIP includes $1m for ERC.

Specific use to be determined by the City Council, could involve purchase, conceptual design, implementation of gravel path...

Future decision by Council
Eastside Rail Corridor Overview

- Extends from City of Snohomish to Renton

- Two owners in Bellevue segment:
  - King County (mostly)
  - Sound Transit (SR 520 to NE 6th Street).

- ERC encumbered by easements for
  - Trail (King County)
  - Utility (PSE)
  - Utility (King County sewer)
  - High Capacity Transit (ST)

- Corridor is Rail-Banked (Woodinville-Renton), could revert to freight rail.
King County Trail Master Plan

WHERE ARE WE NOW?
INVESTIGATION
CORRIDOR INVENTORY
CORRIDOR ANALYSIS
TRAIL CONNECTIVITY
MAJOR GAPS & CROSSINGS
PUBLIC EDUCATION

WHERE DO WE WANT TO BE?
VISIONING
GOALS & OBJECTIVES
NEEDS ASSESSMENT
- Trail Connections
- Corridor Gaps
ENVIRONMENTAL STRATEGY
TRAIL DESIGN GUIDELINES
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

HOW DO WE GET THERE?
ANALYSIS
TRAIL ALTERNATIVES IDENTIFICATION
TRAIL ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION
SELECT PREFERRED
ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
PRIORITIZATION
IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

REFINEMENT & ADOPTION
DELIVERABLES
TRAIL MASTER PLAN
ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

EASTSIDE RAIL CORRIDOR
REGIONAL TRAIL MASTER PLAN PROJECT
Regional Advisory Council

• RAC includes ERC owners:
  o King County, Sound Transit, City of Redmond, City of Kirkland, Puget Sound Energy
  o *Bellevue is an “Associate”, not a voting member of the Regional Advisory Council.*

• Charged to collaboratively create a trail, transit and utility asset for the region while maintaining opportunity for future freight rail reactivation

• Current focus is building a regional coalition to support and facilitate development of a trail, including a planned stakeholder Summit in early January.
City and County staff working collaboratively to:

- Develop strategy to extend *interim* trail from 108th Ave NE to Northup Way / SR 520 Trail.

Per Amended East Link MOU, Sound Transit to implement:

- Interim trail on ERC from SR 520 to Wilburton station
- Trail connections to 120th Ave NE, 116th Ave NE.

City, County and Sound Transit discussing implementation, including timing as part of OMSF construction.
City, County and Sound Transit in discussions to:

• Determine technical needs
• Develop conceptual design
• Identify property needs
• Seek funding opportunities
I-405 Wilburton Crossing “gap”

- Wilburton Tunnel removed in 2008
- 2008 agreement with WSDOT provides $5m for restoration of connection
- King County sought additional funding in 2015 State legislative session
- Meeting of City, County and Legislators next month to further discuss the crossing and examine funding available.
Next Steps

- **Ongoing** – Bellevue staff and officials working with King County and Sound Transit on key issues:
  - Extension of ERC interim trail from Kirkland to Wilburton station
  - Plans for trail crossing at NE 8th Street

- **November** *(date TBD)* – Bellevue officials to meet with King County Councilmembers and State Legislators to discuss strategy to reconnect the ERC across the I-405 Wilburton Gap.

- **January** *(date TBD)* – Eastside Rail Corridor Summit, focused on building a regional coalition to implement a trail across the entire corridor.
Eastside Rail Corridor