

Q1 2024 EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT REPORT

January/February/March 2024



Activities snapshot



20 comments and questions from inbox and voicemail



30 community briefings and property owner meetings



Two festivals engaging 2,351 community members



Two public events with 150 attendees



Six email updates engaging 12,000+ subscribers



Ongoing fieldwork activities¹ throughout the project corridor



The Ballard Link Extension will (BLE) provide fast, reliable light rail connections to dense residential and job centers in the Chinatown-International District (CID), Downtown, Interbay, and Ballard neighborhoods.

¹ Sound Transit is in the planning phase for the Ballard Link Extension project. As part of this phase, Sound Transit is coordinating with property owners throughout the corridor to collect and analyze information necessary to plan and design potential light rail alignments to be studied in the environmental review process.

Ballard Link Extension (BLE)

Stations: Chinatown-International District, Midtown, Westlake, Denny, South Lake Union, Seattle Center, Smith Cove, Interbay, and Ballard



Fairs and festivals

In the BLE project corridor, we attended two events to share about the project with the community:

- Tet in Seattle Center
 - Date: February 3 & 4, 2024 | Visitors: 1,701
- Lunar New Year Celebration
 - Date: February 24, 2024 | Visitors: 650



Public meetings



We hosted the South Downtown Hub Workshop #1 on February 28, 2024 focused on developing overall concepts for improvements to streets and public spaces in South Downtown. More than 100 attendees participated in the workshop.

We also hosted a CID Community Info Session about Equity on March 28, 2024. This was the first of two information sessions exploring topics and questions expressed by the community over the course of the environmental review process. This session shared how equity analysis, engagement tools, and community feedback inform project development and decision milestones. Approximately 50 attendees came to the event.



Email updates

During the reporting period, the project team sent six email updates to a public listserv with more than 12,000 subscribers. These updates highlighted the information on an engagement summary of 2023, the South Downtown Hub Workshop #1, information about the SLU Feasibility Study survey and webinars, and an invitation to the CID Info Session.





Common guestions and comments

The following is a summary of questions and comments obtained through property owner meetings, community briefings, emails, and voicemails to the project inbox.

- Questions and feedback about the CID Station, including location and access.
- Questions about upcoming fieldwork.
- Question about the Seattle Center Station.
- Questions from potentially affected property owners about the timeline and status for property acquisition and relocation.
- Question about accessibility considerations for station locations in Downtown.
- Questions about the Interbay Station location.
- Questions about business acquisition resources and process.
- Questions about the South Lake Union feasibility study and implications.
- Question about public comment opportunities at Sound Transit Board meetings.