EVENT OVERVIEW

On July 31, 2019, we hosted a drop-in session for the Ballard Bridge Planning Study at Fisherman’s Terminal [3919 18th Ave W] in Interbay. The drop-in session was from 6 PM to 7:30 PM; attendees could come drop in anytime within that window.

There were 4 Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) staff members and 6 SDOT consultants in attendance.

EVENT LAYOUT

The room was set up with multiple stations:

- SDOT sign-in table
  - Project factsheet
- SDOT Ballard Bridge Planning Study board set
  1. Welcome and Project Overview board
  2. History of the Ballard Bridge board
  3. Timeline and Funding board
  4. Online Community Survey Results: Current Use board
  5. Online Community Survey Results: Desired Use board
- SDOT technical information board sets (x2)
  6. Ballard Bridge Considerations board
  7. Interactive Additional Considerations board
  8. Ballard Bridge Options board
- Feedback table
  - Sticky notes and pens for written feedback
  - Comment cards
ATTENDANCE

Anecdotally, approximately 50 people attended. 22 people signed in, though the layout of the event did not require all attendees to visit the sign-in table. The photos below show the plaza and how people interacted with the different stations and staff.

Figure 1: Attendees viewing display boards

Figure 2: Staff answering questions at the technical boards
WHAT WE HEARD

Throughout the drop-in session, we were looking for feedback from the community on their transportation needs and values for the bridge. We shared the initial feedback heard through the online community survey and had boards for attendees to offer considerations for the technical team. We gathered feedback using sticky notes, comment cards, and verbal comments on transportation needs in the area.

Written Feedback on Sticky notes and Comment Cards

- Bi-directional bike and pedestrian path to allow safe travel
- Lane reconfiguration to allow more efficient travel, including:
  - Bus lane only
  - Wider lanes
- On/off ramp improvements
  - Widening them
  - Rerouting vehicle traffic to I-5 so it’s more localized
  - Using a toll system for vehicles once transit is efficiently in place
  - Enhancing signage at intersections and calming traffic speeds
• Importance of freight connections to local Ballard/Interbay businesses
• Coordination with the ST3 and the future Link light rail
• Near-term improvements to address present safety and traffic concerns
• Address climate change through transportation
• Reduce the amount of bridge openings
  o Less wait time
  o Greater predictability
• Improve/prioritize the bridge for car travel
APPENDIX A: DISPLAY BOARDS

WELCOME TO THE BALLARD BRIDGE PLANNING STUDY DROP-IN SESSION

What is the Ballard Bridge Planning Study?

We've launched the Ballard Bridge Planning Study to consider how to fix the Bridge up to its current carrying capacity, function, and structural standards including improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities and changes to reduce freight-moving. While we perform regular maintenance and frequent inspections on the bridge to maintain its operational and safe service, as the bridge age, more significant rehabilitation may be needed. Once the bridge is in good condition today, we have an opportunity to plan.

We look forward to working with you and your neighbors throughout the planning study process!

HISTORY OF THE BALLARD BRIDGE

1917 - The Bridge Bridge Opens

Work on the Ballard Bridge began in 1917 as a companion to Washington's huge civil engineering project, the bridge opened to traffic on December 15, 1917.

1953 - Deck Rehabilitation

The original section of the bridge was replaced with a new section. This work was funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) through the Bridge Replacement Program.

1969 - New Approach

The original steel bridge was replaced with a new approach, made of precast and steel. The bridge was closed for a year and half during construction. It was also closed to accommodate the new opening of the Ballard Bridge.

1989 - Emancipation Street Closure

The area around the Ballard Bridge was reopened with a single control tower on the west side of the Washington Canal.

2002 - Diverter System

A system of traffic monitoring was implemented to help manage traffic on the bridge, including the Ballard Bridge. The bridge now has a new system in place for managing traffic volumes.

2014 - Bridge Sidewalk Widening Study

We evaluated the potential of creating new sidewalks, widening sidewalks, and improving safety for pedestrians along the Ballard Bridge. This bridge route was also selected for a new bridge crossing, as part of the Project.

2015 - Ballard Bridge Planning Study

We worked with the Ballard Bridge Planning Study to examine how to bring the bridge up to current carrying capacity, function, and structural standards while improving safety and access for pedestrians and cyclists. The study, funded by City of Seattle, will assist in the development of a new replacement for the bridge.

WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Online Community Survey Results

CURRENT USE

To ensure we develop bridge options that incorporate the needs and values of the community and people using the Ballard Bridge, we conducted an online survey on current and desired bridge use.

This planning study is funded by the Levy to Move Seattle, approved by voters in 2015. The 9-year, $10 billion Levy to Move Seattle provides funding for important projects like this one, to build a better city for all Seattleites. Learn more about the Levy at move.seattle.gov/levytomove.
WHAT WE’VE HEARD
Online Community Survey Results

DESIRED USE

Top priorities for improvement:
- Top priorities for improvement: [Diagram showing desired use]

- Improve reliability
- Improve safety
- Reduce congestion
- Improve access
- Improve aesthetics

WHAT ELSE SHOULD WE CONSIDER?

Write your feedback on sticky notes

BALLARD BRIDGE OPTIONS

- Modal Access Management
- Modal Access to Alaskan Way
- Modal Access to W. Emerson St & W. Northgate St
- Provide safe multimodal access
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Maintain pedestrian and bicycle access to Burke Gilman Trestle & Ship Canal Trail
- Access for heavy trucks
- Minimize property impacts
- Minimizing property impacts
- Probability of bridge open
- Probability of bridge open

BALLARD BRIDGE CONSIDERATIONS

Accessibility options for the Ballard Bridge, including structural feasibility, cost, and community transportation needs. Specific considerations include:

- Maintain multimodal access to Alaskan Way Viaduct
- Maintain multimodal access to W. Emerson St & W. Northgate St
- Provide safe multimodal access
- Improve pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- Maintain pedestrian and bicycle access to Burke Gilman Trestle & Ship Canal Trail
- Access for heavy trucks
- Minimize property impacts
- Probability of bridge openings
- Probability of bridge openings

This graphic represents the technical options being considered by the planning study. It is not proposed as a design or proposed alternative.
APPENDIX B: NOTIFICATIONS

In addition to the notifications shown below, an email announcement was sent to the project listserv and an announcement posted on the webpage.

MAILER
PROJECT OVERVIEW
We’ve launched the Ballard Bridge Planning Study. While we perform regular maintenance and frequent inspections on the bridge to ensure its operational and safe for road and marine traffic, due to the age of the structure, more significant rehabilitation may be needed. Since the bridge is in a good condition today, we have an opportunity to plan.

The Ballard Bridge Planning Study, funded by the Levy to Move Seattle, will explore feasible rehabilitation and replacement options for the long-term future of the bridge.

Through the end of the year, we will work with our agency partners, advisory boards, and community members to identify needs and values and propose options that work to meet them.

UPCOMING DROP-IN SESSION
We’re hosting a drop-in session and invite you to join us. The drop-in session is a good opportunity to learn about the Ballard Bridge Planning Study and to talk to the project team about your needs and values for the bridge. We’ll share information about the study scope, goals, and timeline, as well as a summary of the feedback we received from our online community survey.

You can drop-in any time between 6 PM—7:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

GET INVOLVED
We’re committed to keeping you informed throughout the study. If you’d like more information, please use one of the following resources:

- Learn more about the study and to sign up for the project listerv visit our webpage: www.seattle.gov/transportation/BallardBridge
- Email the study team at BallardBridge@seattle.gov
- Call the study team at (206) 684-3994

This study is funded by the 9-year Levy to Move Seattle, approved by voters in 2015. Learn more about the levy at www.seattle.gov/LevyToMoveSeattle.

PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION
206-775-8894 | BallardBridge@seattle.gov
www.seattle.gov/transportation/BallardBridge
MOBILE DISPLAY

A trifold display board was placed at Magnolia Library, Queen Anne Library, and Ballard Library approximately 2 weeks before the drop-in session.
A-FRAME SIGNS

4 A-Frame signs were placed at the on and off ramps to the Ballard Bridge on July 30, 2019.

BALLARD BRIDGE PLANNING STUDY

LEARN MORE
Drop-In Session
Wednesday, July 31
6 - 7:30 PM
Fishermen's Terminal
Dock 7
(3919 18th Ave W)

Contact:
BallardBridge@seattle.gov
(206) 775-8894
www.seattle.gov/transportation/BallardBridge

Seattle Department of Transportation

The Levy to MOVE SEATTLE