The Alaskan Way Viaduct & Seawall Replacement Program

Project Update

Seattle Design Commission

March 20, 2008

U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway Administration

Washington State
Department of Transportation

King County

City of Seattle

2007 Activities

- March 13: City of Seattle advisory vote
- March 14: Governor, King County Executive, Mayor announce moving forward projects and collaborative process for central waterfront

The Alaskan Way Viaduct & Seawall Replacement Program

Moving Forward Projects

1. Viaduct Safety Repair Project between Yesler and Columbia
2. Electrical Line Relocation Project
3. Battery Street Tunnel Fire and Life Safety Upgrade Project

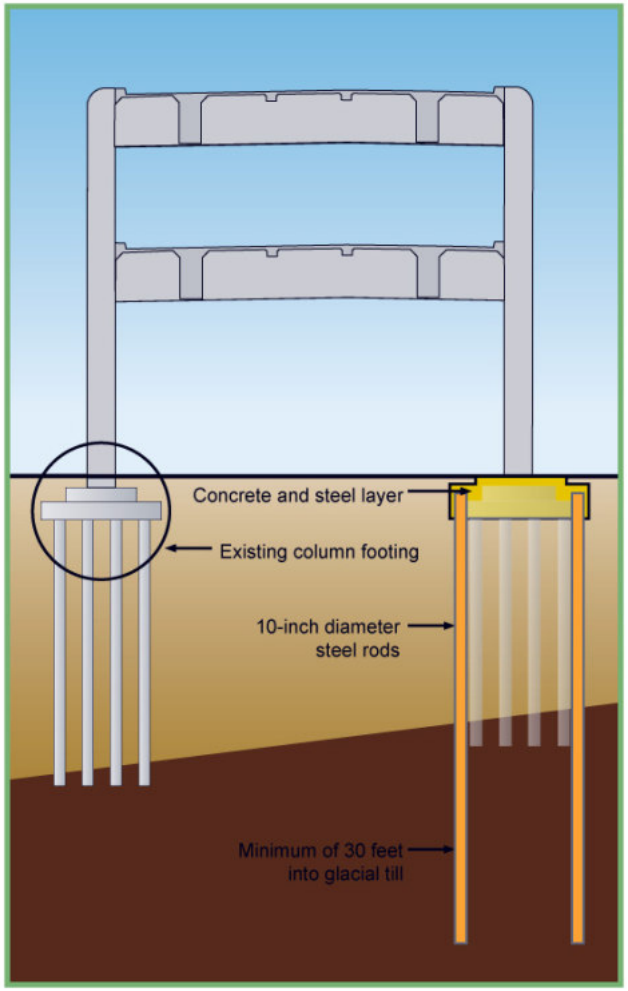
4. Earthquake Upgrade Project from Lenora to Battery Street Tunnel
5. Viaduct Removal from Holgate to King Street Project
6. Initial Transit Enhancements and Other Improvements

#1 - Repair Viaduct Between Columbia and Yesler

- Construction started in October to stabilize four footings
- Work includes:
  - Drilling a series of steel rods into stable soil
  - Adding a reinforcing layer of steel and concrete around existing footings
- All lanes are open on viaduct and Alaskan Way

Construction: Oct. 2007 – Spring 2008

Status: In construction



#2 - Relocate Electrical Lines

Phase 1:

- South Massachusetts to South King Streets

Construction: 2008-2009

Status: In design

Phase 2:

- Some lines from South King to Union streets
- Others from South King Street to electrical vaults on South Washington Street and Yesler Way

#3 - Upgrade Battery Street Tunnel

- Install new sprinkler pipes, fire alarm system, ventilation fan controls and lighting
- Reinforce roof beams and add second emergency exit stairwell
- Close short on- and off-ramps just south of tunnel

Construction: 2009-2010

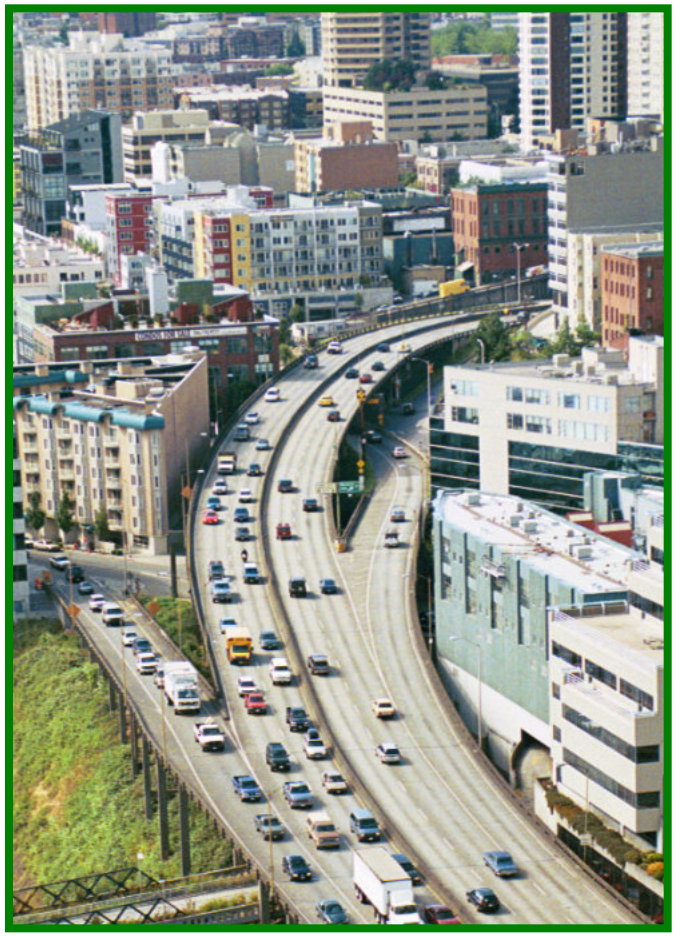
Status: In design

#4 - Stabilize Viaduct from Lenora to Battery Street Tunnel

- On hold until more is known about central waterfront

Construction: TBD

Status: On hold



#5 - Replace Viaduct from South Holgate to South King

- Remove viaduct between South Holgate and South King streets
- Build new section of SR 99
- This work will:
  - Improve local mobility for pedestrians, vehicles and freight
  - Improve access to downtown Seattle

Construction: 4th Qt 2009-2012

Status: In design

#6 – Transit Enhancements and Other Improvements

WSDOT, King County and the City of Seattle have developed strategies to keep people and goods moving before and after south end construction. These plans include:

- I-5 active travel management
- SR 519 freight connections
- S. Spokane St. improvements
- Increased bus service
- Traffic signal upgrades
- Commuter incentives

Construction: 2008-2012

Status: In design

The Path Forward: Central Waterfront Partnership

2007

Winter: Began central waterfront planning

2008

December: Recommendation made on final alternative for central waterfront

2009

Begin design on central waterfront alternative

2012

Remaining viaduct begins to come down

Public Input

Public Input

The Path Forward: Central Waterfront Partnership

- Old project area addressed only the SR 99 corridor
- New project area includes the regional transportation network from Elliott Bay to I-5, and the surrounding city street grid

Stakeholder Advisory Committee

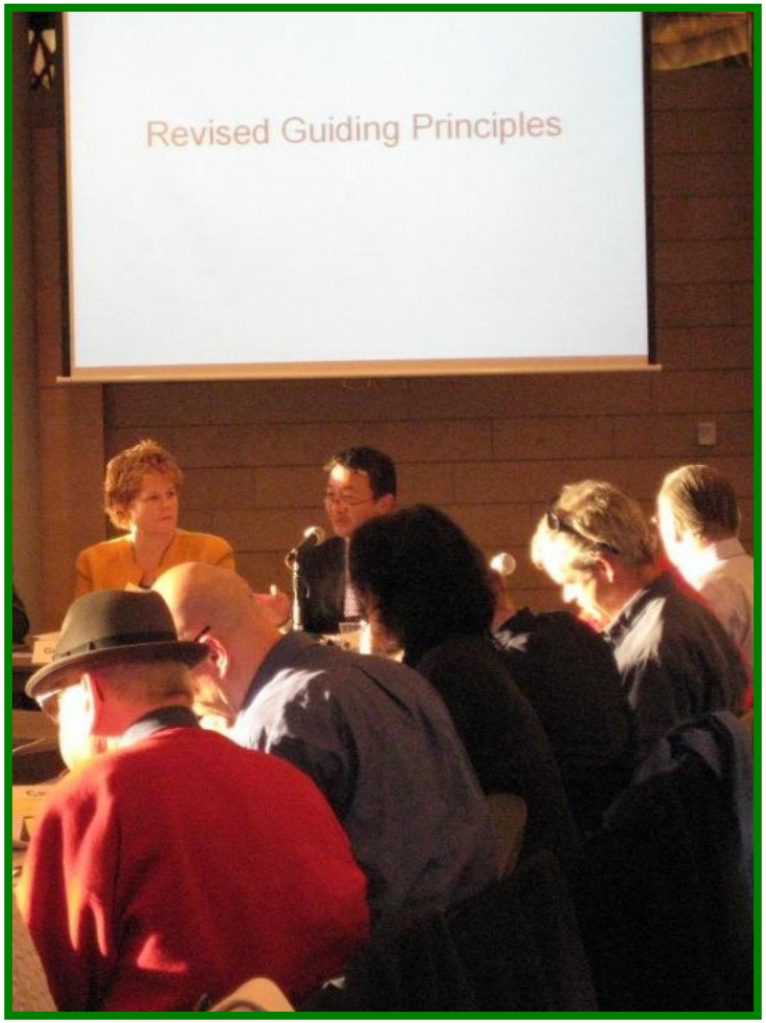
- 30 individuals representing communities, economic interests and cause-driven organizations
- Meet once a month from December 2007 to October 2008
- Review, deliberate on and provide focused comments on technical work for central waterfront replacement
- Not a decision-making body

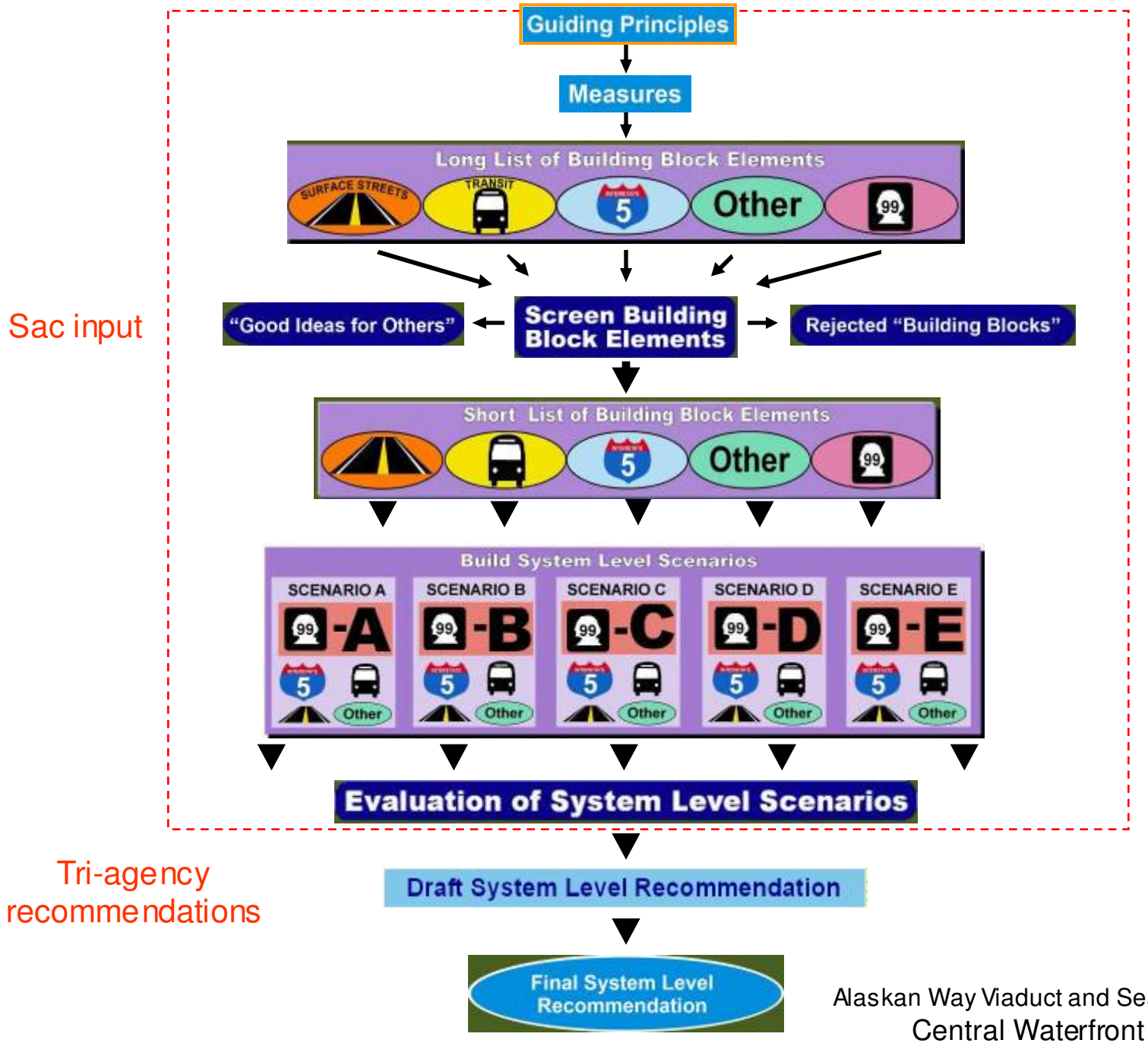
Interagency Working Group

- 14 public agencies
- Meet once a month from February 2008 to October 2008
- Provide technical input
- Not a decision-making body

Guiding Principles

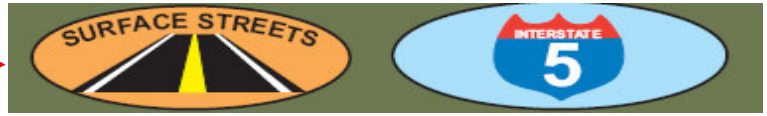
- Improve public safety
- Provide efficient movement of people and goods
- Maintain or improve downtown Seattle, regional, the port and state economies
- Enhance Seattle's waterfront, downtown and adjacent neighborhoods as a place for people
- Create solutions that are fiscally responsible.
- Improve the health of the environment

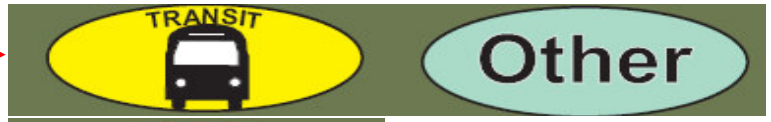




Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement
Central Waterfront Approach

January → **Systems Process** | **Guiding Principles** | **Measures**

February → 

March → 

April →

Screening Procedures

May → **Initial Screen Building Block Elements**

June → **Final Screen Building Block Elements**

July → **Initial System Scenarios**

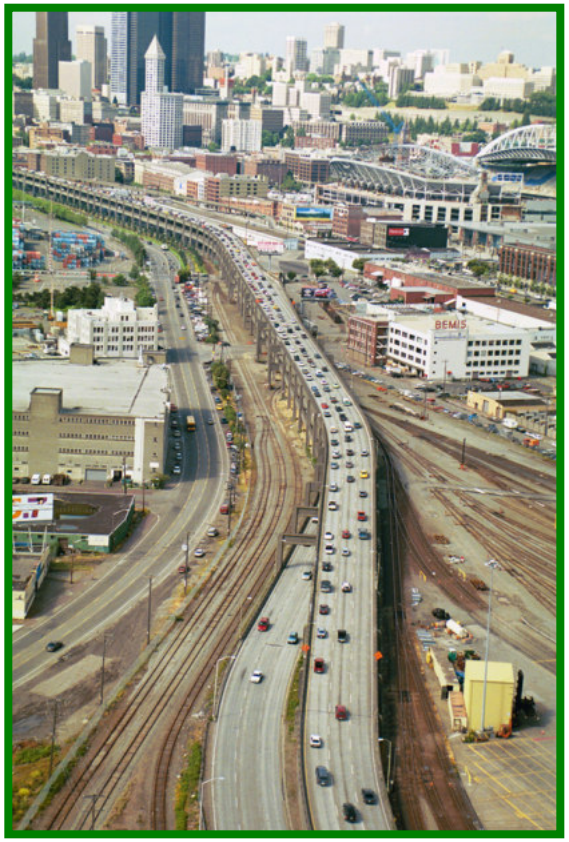
August → **Final System Scenarios**

September → **Initial System Scenario Evaluation**

October → **Final System Scenario Evaluation**

November / December → **Draft and Final System Level Recommendations**

Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Program



Follow our progress: www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct