

After thirteen meetings over a period of more than three years and considering over a dozen project options, Seattle Public Utilities' North Transfer Station Stakeholders Group has made a unanimous recommendation to me to pursue what has been called Option C for the reconstruction of the North Transfer Station in Wallingford (see attached diagram of Option C). The Stakeholder Group has done a superb job of studying the alternatives, asking for data, listening to each other, and creatively establishing a win-win solution that optimizes community and environmental protection with solid waste and recycling function.

I am pleased to announce that SPU has accepted the Stakeholder Group's recommendations on the station configuration and community amenities and will proceed to implement them.

This concept includes:

- extensive setbacks and about an acre of landscaped and publically-accessible open space
- preservation of priority views
- reduced noise, dust, odors from current levels
- a great reduction of customer vehicle backups onto the public street
- increased traffic safety inside the station
- expanded recycling
- more flexibility to address an evolving solid waste future
- a facility that will meet the LEED Gold standard
- additional public benefits such as crosswalk improvements, pedestrian amenities, and an educational viewing room
- high quality architectural design

Moving forward, SPU will:

- continue to work closely with community groups and local neighbors to refine the programming for the public open space
- incorporate the Stakeholder Group's project parameters into the documents for selecting and contracting with a project designer/constructor
- work with our sister city departments and the City Council to address zoning issues and the vacation of a block of Carr Place North

I want to recognize again the hard work and civic mindedness of the North Transfer Station Stakeholders Group in developing their excellent recommendation. Necessary utility infrastructure projects are not always easy to deal with; finding the solution that works well for both the local community as well as all of our customers is a great achievement.

Between the new South Transfer Station, now well under construction in South Park, and the future North Transfer Station, Seattle customers will have a solid waste system that will serve them well, through the middle of this century.

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