

Seattle Department of Transportation

Burke-Gilman Trail Missing Link

7/13 Public Event Overview
July 2017

Last updated: August 24, 2017



PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Burke-Gilman Trail is one of the most heavily-used walking and bicycling facilities in Seattle. It is a vibrant, 20-mile trail connecting multiple neighborhoods and other City and regional trails. It serves as a major transportation corridor for people riding to work or running errands, as well as providing a space for recreation.

The purpose of the Burke-Gilman Trail Missing Link project is to complete the Burke-Gilman Trail through the Ballard industrial and urban hub neighborhoods to improve safety for all, to support a variety of transportation and recreational uses for people of all ages and abilities, and to preserve freight mobility and access to adjacent properties.

The project has been in development since 2001 following the Seattle City Council's direction to evaluate completing the missing portion of the Burke-Gilman Trail. After many years of planning, stakeholder conversations, and environmental review, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) published a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) in May 2017 which identified a preferred route for the trail. The Missing Link is now moving forward, and the project is currently in the design phase.

To engage stakeholders and community members from the Ballard area, SDOT held an in-person public event to provide opportunity for the public to express their concerns and provide insight on key design features.



Figure 1: Preferred alignment of the Missing Link

IN-PERSON PUBLIC EVENT OVERVIEW

Meeting format

The meeting was an informal and interactive event to allow attendees to:

- View informational boards and maps about the project and early design
- Receive a brief presentation by SDOT staff (two presentation times were offered)
- Ask questions and provide feedback to SDOT and SPU staff and project DAC members
- Provide written comments to SDOT via roll-plot notes, comment cards, and flipcharts

Information presented

- The Missing Link project team is designing a multimodal corridor along SDOT's preferred alignment that is safe for all users and retains access and use for adjacent properties and businesses
- SDOT is in the early design phase and is interested in learning more about local perceptions of route conditions and potential design suggestions from members of the Ballard community as well trail users

Event overview

When	Thursday July 13, 2017, 5 – 8 PM
Where	Ballard VFW: 2812 NW Market St, Seattle, WA, 98107
Attendance	77 total attendees (62 signed in)
Comments	87 unique comments received

Audience

Public event attendees were primarily:

- Employees and owners of adjacent businesses
- Individuals of bicycle, pedestrian, and transportation advocacy groups
- Residents of the Ballard neighborhood

Notifications

The public was directed to the public event in the following ways:

- **Link posted on project webpage** on July 5, 2017
- **Postcard** to 15,259 recipients (in mailboxes by July 7, 2017)
- **SDOT social media post** (Facebook, 4,276 followers) on July 12, 2017
- **Email update** to 171 listserv subscribers on June 23 and July 6, 2017
- **Push signs** at 10 locations along the existing and proposed Burke-Gilman Trail
- **Handouts** to approximately 150 attendees at Ballard SeafoodFest on July 8-9, 2017

Missing Link Design Advisory Committee members

- Warren Aakervik, Freight interests
- Tom Friedman, Pedestrians
- Davidya Kasperzyk, Trail users
- Jennifer Macuiba, Trail users (alternate)



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- Graham Pruss, Community representative for the unhoused community
- Blake Trask, Bicycle riders
- Eugene Wasserman, Industrial interests

Staff

- Maribel Cruz, SDOT
- Louisa Galassini, SDOT
- Jill Macik, SDOT
- Mark Mazzola, SDOT
- Peter Trinh, SDOT
- Lorelei Williams, SDOT
- Roque Deherrera, OED
- Hermanus Steyn, Kittelson & Associates
- Richard Fernandez, SPU
- Dylan Menes, SPU
- Marieke Rack, SPU
- Andrew Royer, SPU
- Joelle Torre, SPU
- Susan Hayman, EnviroIssues
- Chris Themelis, EnviroIssues
- Brett Watson, EnviroIssues
- Nathan Yale, EnviroIssues