

BALLARD BRIDGE PLANNING STUDY

DROP-IN SESSIONS & ONLINE OPEN HOUSE OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2019

SUMMARY REPORT



EVENT OVERVIEW

We hosted 2 drop-in sessions for the Ballard Bridge Planning Study to share project updates and gather community feedback on the alternatives. Both drop-in sessions were from 6-7:30 PM. Attendees could drop by anytime and the same content was provided at both sessions. The drop-in sessions were shared on the project webpage, SDOT's social media pages, the project listserv, and through Peddler Brewing's own social media accounts. A-Frame signs were also placed at the on and off ramps to the Ballard Bridge. Additionally, a mobile display was posted at the Queen Anne, Magnolia, and Ballard libraries to provide an overview of the project and share event details. These notifications can be found in Appendix D. The event details for each drop-in session are below:

October 24, 2019 Peddler Brewing Company 1514 NW Leary Way, Seattle, WA 98107 6 PM – 7:30 PM

October 29, 2019 Fishermen's Terminal – Seattle Fishermen's Plaza 3919 18th Ave W, Seattle, WA 98119 6 PM – 7:30 PM

At both drop-in sessions there were 3 Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) staff members and 5 SDOT consultants in attendance.

EVENT LAYOUT

Both drop-in sessions were set up with multiple stations:

- SDOT sign-in table
 - o Project factsheet
 - o Comment cards
 - o Green and red sticky dots
- 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. Ballard Bridge Considerations board
- SDOT Alternatives Analysis board set
 - 5. Ballard Bridge Options board
 - 6. Low Level Moveable Bridge Rehabilitation board (x2)
 - 7. Mid-Level Moveable Bridge Replacement board (x2)
 - 8. High Level Fixed Bridge Replacement board (x2)
 - 9. Alternatives Analysis Ranking board

Feedback board set
 10. Attendee Ranking board

ATTENDANCE

Anecdotally, approximately 60 people attended the October 24 session at Peddler Brewing Company in Ballard; 43 people signed in. Approximately 20 people attended the October 29 session at Fishermen's Terminal in Interbay; 8 people signed in. The layout of the events did not require all attendees to visit the sign-in table. The photos below show the events and how people interacted with the different stations and staff.



October 24, 2019 - Peddler Brewing Company

Figure 1: Attendees at the sign in table.



Figure 2: Attendees reading the Ballard Bridge Planning Study board set.



Figure 3: Attendees interacting with the Alternatives Analysis board set.

October 29, 2019 – Fishermens Terminal



Figure 4: Attendees speaking with SDOT staff.



Figure 5: Attendees speaking with project staff at different stations.

ONLINE OPEN HOUSE

In addition to the 2 in-person events the same content was shared via an online open house. The online open house was hosted at BallardBridgeOpenHouse.com. The open house included a page for each display board from the drop-in sessions, as well as additional written descriptions of the key features for each alternative.

The online open house included a survey modeled after the in-person dot ranking exercise (described in more detail below in the 'What We Heard' Section). The survey was available from Friday, November 1, 2019 through Friday, November 15, 2019.



Figure 6: Online Open House Home page



Figure 7: Online Open House contents page



WHAT WE HEARD

At the drop-in sessions we were looking for feedback on the alternatives being considered and the priority of certain considerations. We gathered feedback through an interactive sticky dot exercise. Attendees were given 1 green sticky dot and 1 red sticky dot to place on a ranking board. The board listed the 3 alternatives being considered. Attendees were asked to mark their most preferred alternative with the green dot and their least preferred with the red dot. Between both drop-in sessions approximately 56 people participated in the sticky dot ranking exercise. The project team also received feedback via comment cards and verbal comments.

We also received feedback through the online open house. The online open house included a survey that asked participants to choose their most and least preferred alternatives and rank their 3 most important and 3 least important considerations There was also an open-ended question for participants to share additional feedback. 91 people participated in the online open house survey.

From the combined ranking results, the most preferred alternative was the Low Level Movable Bridge (35%). The least preferred alternative was the High Level Fixed Bridge (38%). Below is a table of the combined preference rankings from the online open house survey and in-person dot ranking exercises.

	High Level Fixed Bridge	Mid Level Moveable Bridge	Low Level Moveable Bridge
Most Preferred	12	37	98
Least preferred	107	13	14

Dot Ranking Exercise

The most preferred alternative from the drop-in session dot ranking exercises was the Low Level Moveable Bridge (73%). The least preferred alternative was the High Level Fixed Bridge (85%). See a summary of the results in the table and pictures below.

	High Level Fixed Bridge	Mid Level Moveable Bridge	Low Level Moveable Bridge
Green – Most Preferred	3	12	41
Red – least preferred	45	4	4



Figure 8: Ranking board from October 24



Figure 9: Ranking board from October 29

Online Open House Ranking Survey

The most preferred alternative from the online open house was the Low Level Moveable Bridge (33%). The least preferred alternative was the High Level fixed Bridge (36%). The majority of respondents ranked "Improved pedestrian and bicycle facilities" as the most important consideration. See a summary of the results in the tables below.

	High Level Fixed Bridge	Mid Level Moveable Bridge	Low Level Moveable Bridge
Most Preferred	9	25	57
Least Preferred	62	9	10

Most Important Considerations from Online Open House Survey

Improved pedestrian and bicycle facilities	72%	
Access to Burke Gilman and Ship Canal/Interbay Trail	48%	
Sound Transit coordination	36%	
Cost and design of construction	25%	

Access to Leary Way NW	18%	
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Least Important Considerations from Online Open House Survey

Traffic and congestion	42%
Visual impacts and bridge aesthetics	42%
Marine navigation	35%
Bascule opening delays	34%
Level of construction impact	29%

Comment Cards and Survey Feedback

We received 15 comment cards, which identified the following considerations:

- Coordinate with Sound Transit Light Rail alignments
- Provide a Bus-only lane
- Provide a dedicated/protected bike-lane
- Widen the existing path and prioritize people walking and biking; enhance accessibility
- Improve existing connections (e.g., 15th Ave NW, Pier 91/Interbay trail)
- Reduce bridge openings
- Choose the bridge alternative that will address climate change and long-term use over short-term effects
- Ballard Bridge horn is loud, looking for ways to reduce the noise and improve overall quality
- Add water fountains at the ends of the bridge and benches along the bridge (such as SR 520) to make it more accessible for people walking and biking, should they need to rest (bathroom would be great as well)

The 57 open-ended comments, we received through the online open house, identified similar themes:

- Concerns about the Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI)
 - A handful of comments expressed a dislike for the SPUI design
 - Many comments expressed concern for the mobility of people who walk and bike on the SPUI
 - o Many comments expressed a dislike for the "freeway" like design
 - Some comments expressed concern for how transit access would function on the SPUI
 - Some comments expressed frustration that the SPUI appeared to prioritized vehicle traffic
- Priority for people who walk and bike
 - Many comments like the 14' wide mixed-use path design
 - o Some comments expressed a desire for a 14' mixed-use path on both sides

- Some comments asked that immediate action be taken to improve safety for people who walk and bike across the bridge
- Some comments expressed a desire for improved east-west crossings for people who walk and bike
- Some comments expressed concern for the walkability and bikability of the high level alternative
- Local Connections
 - Many comments expressed a desire to improve bike connections to the Burke Gilman and Ship Canal Trail
 - Some people expressed a preference for the low level alternative because it maintained connections on the north end
- Many comments expressed a desire for coordination with Sound Transit and the future Link Light Rail
- Some comments expressed a desire for bus only lanes
- Some comments expressed a concern for the impacts of climate change
- Some comments expressed a concern for the visual impact of the high level alternative
- One comment expressed concern for the negative impact that the high level alternative could have on ship canal commerce



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Ballard Bridge Planning Study is evaluating how to bring the bridge up to current transportation, functional, and structural standards including improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities and keeping buses and freight moving. While we perform regular maintenance and frequent inspections on the bridge to ensure it's operational and safe for road and marine traffic, due to the age of the structure, more significant rehabbilitation may be needed. Since the bridge is in good condition today, we have an opportunity to plan.

The Ballard Bridge Planning Study, funded the Levy to Move Seattle, explores feasible rehabilitation and replacement options for the long-term future of the bridge. Learn more about the levy at: w/LevytoMoveSeattle.

The planning study aims to compare a range of feasible rehabilitation and replacement options The provincing arms y times is compare a range or relative relativistic relativistic representation updates and will identify the associated cost, risks, benefits, and tradé-coffs of occh option. Through the end of the year, we're working with our agency partners, advisory boards, and community members to identify the needs and values and develop policions that work to meet them.

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

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PLANNING STUDY **TIMELINE & FUNDING**

PLANNING STUDY PROCESS 98 🔔 Stakeholder Meetings: with agancy and community partner relating Sound Transit, Fort of Sectio, BLSF, and adjacen BINMIC and community organized and Advisory Board: to involve and sock assistance from Pacestrian Transit, and Freight advisory assess c arvey to introduce the project scope and schedule tter understand denexions for users of the Datiend 6 6 7 and to b scribe the ass, present Drop-in Sessions & Community Events: .c d Datand Dridga History, review scalar, ion pre-analyses and collect community inpa. 2. °8 🝰 Community Councils & Other Community Broup Briefings. e inferm the public of the study purpose and progress, and o provide nerve opports mised or community community and 12 ର୍ 🧉 Finalize Alterna S1001 directors, Mected officials was Analysis and Shara Results: with the Mayor, and our local, or unit, and state Gesta sea starae 😵 Terror of Screening is decorporation apendations 😫 Advisery Deard Drivings 🛛 📴 Mail te Generg 🔓 Etando-cer Mesi -ga 😔 Aur alise-impi-Tonmunty tacke 🤞 5 an marca The State has marked \$700K in the 2019-2021 budget to investigate the Ballard-Interbay Regional Transportation System and provide recommendations to our elected officials on maintaining and improving capacity to move people and goods along this important corridor. The study is expected to launch later this year. This planning study is funded by the Levy to Move Scattle, approved by voters in 2015. The 9-year, \$930 million Levy to Move Seattle provides funding to improve safety for all travelers, maintain our streets and bridges, and invest in reliable, affordable travel options for a growing city. Learn more about the levy at v/LevyToMr Seattle Department of MOVE SEATTLE

HISTORY OF THE BALLARD BRIDGE

1917 - The Ballard Bridge Opens Work on the Bellard Bridge began in 1915 in conjunction with construction of the Lake Weshington ship canal. The bridge opened to traffic an December 15, 1917.

1933 – Deck Replacement The original creassied wood deck was replaced with an open-mesh steel deck. A 1942 census counted 12,679 vehicles crossing the bridge over a 15-hour period.

1940 – New Approaches The original wooden approaches were replaced with approaches made of steel and contrortet. The bridge was closed for a year and a hall during construction. A parade was held to celebrate the re-apening of the Ballard Bridge.

1969 – Consolidated Control Tower The four original control towers we replaced with a single control tower on the Eastern side of the Southern bascule pier.

2005 - Bailard Osteway Eight statues depicting Ballard's Native American and Scandinawan heritage were erected on the bridge's north approach. These sculptures, Ither Mar Tablard Schway, "were created by Washington artists Tom Askman and Lea Anne Lake.

2014 - Seismic Retrofits Fundel by the 2006 "Bridging the Gap" transportation levy, SDD1 made necessary seismic improvements to 7 bridges, including the Ballard Bridge. The bridge received seismic retrofits to strengthen existing columns.

2014 - Bridge Sidewalk Widening Study We conducted the Ballard Bridge Sidewalk Widening Study to evaluate alternatives to make travel across the Balland Bridge more comfortable for petiedarians and people on bcycles. This study informs our rehabilitation concept.

2019- Bellard Bridge Planning Study We've launched the Bellard Bridge Planning Study to evaluate how to bring the bridge up to current transportation, functional, and structural standards including improved licycle and pedestrian facilities and keeping busce and freight moving. The study, funded by the Levy to Move Sestlia, will explore feasible reliabilitation and replacement options for the long-term future of the bridge.

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BALLARD BRIDGE CONSIDERATIONS



Ballard Bridge Planning Study: Drop-in Summary Report | 13

Relatively Relatively				
Worse Better	Low Level	Mid Level	High Level	
 Evaluation In Progress 	Moveable Bridge			We need your input! Please rank the alternatives as most preferred or least preferred green and red dots. Use green for the most preferred alternative and red for the least
Mobility and Connectivity	↓ 5	cale Relative to Ex	sting 👃	
Bascule Opening Delays	0	•	•	Atternative 1 - High-Level Fixed Bridge Atternative 2 - Mid-Level Moveable Bridge Atternative 3 - Low-Level
Through Traffic on 15th Ave NW Corridor	•		•	
Connectivity				
Bike Connection to Burke-Gilman Trail	0	•	0	
Bike Connection Ship Canal/Interbay Trait	Ð	•	9	
Vehicular/Truck Access to NW Leary	٠	٠		
Vehicular/Truck Access to Emerson/Nickerson	•	•	•	
Local Connectivity				
Mobility				
Marine Navigation	0	9	•	
Freight	Ð	۰	٠	
Bicycle	•	•	0	
Pedestrian	٠	•	0	
Transit	0	e	0	
Environmental & Permitting Considerations	👃 Scale	Relative Among Al	ternatives 👃	
Impacts to Adjacent Land Use	•	•	•	
In-Water Work Requirements	•	•		
Sensitive Areas	•	•	•	
Visual Impacts	•	٠	0	
Urban Design	•	•	•	
Historic Preservation	٠	•	•	
Implementation Characteristics				
Maintenance of Traffic During Construction		•		
Need for Detour Route	Na	Yes	Na	
Construction Duration	٠	•	•	
Further Sound Transit Coordination Required	•	e	0	
Community Input				
Public Input	٠	٠	•	
Business/Agency Input	•	•	•	
Cost Considerations				
Design and Construction	•	0	0	
Maintenance & Operations	0	e	•	
ROW	٠	•	•	



APPENDIX B: FACTSHEET



BALLARD BRIDGE PLANNING STUDY Investing in the future of our bridges

FACT SHEET October 2019

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Ballard Bridge Planning Study explores feasible rehabilitation and replacement options for the long-term future of the bridge by identifying associated costs, risks, benefits, and trade-offs of each option. It is the second of 10 studies to help us assess and manage roadway structure maintenance needs and maximize future investments. While we perform regular maintenance and frequent inspections on the bridge to ensure it's 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 good condition today, we have an opportunity to plan.

PLANNING STUDY PROCESS	2019
Stakeholder Meetings: with agency and community partners including Sound Transit, Port of Seattle, BNSF, and adjacent BINMIC and community organizations	Spring/ Fall
Advisory Board: to involve and seek assistance from Bike, Pedestrian, Transit, and Freight advisory boards	Spring/ Summer
Online Survey: to introduce the project scope and schedule and to better understand behaviors for users of the Ballard Bridge	Spring
Drop-in Sessions & Community Events: to describe the Ballard Bridge history, review evaluation process, present analyses, and collect community input	Summer/ Fall
Community Councils & Other Community Group Briefings: to inform the public of the study purpose and progress, and to provide more opportunities for community comments and questions	Spring/ Fall
Finalize Alternatives Analysis and Share Results: with SDOT directors, the Mayor, and our local, county, and state elected officials	Fall/ Winter

FUNDING

This planning study is funded by the Levy to Move Seattle, approved by voters in 2015. The 9-year, \$930 million Levy to Move Seattle provides funding to improve safety for all travelers, maintain our streets and bridges, and invest in reliable, affordable travel options for a growing city. Learn more about the levy at www.seattle.gov/LevyToMoveSeattle

PROJECT UPDATE

In the early stages of the project we conducted an online survey asking the community to share how they use and value the bridge. Key findings showed:

- 83% currently travel the bridge by car with the majority of travel taking place on weekends
- The majority of respondents prioritized improvements for people biking (60%) and people walking (52%)

For more information, checkout the online survey summary on our webpage.

Through the end of the year, we will continue refining cost estimates, feasibility, traffic analyses, and constructability for the 3 alternatives. We expect to present a comparison of the alternatives in a final report this winter.

For translation and interpretation, please call 206-775-8894

如果您需要把下列資訊翻譯成中文,請致電 206-775-8894.

Si usted necesita esta información traducida al español por favor llame al 206-775-8894.

Nếu quý vị cần thông tin này chuyển ngữ sang tiếng Việt, xin gọi số 206-775-8894.

Kung kailangan ninyong isalin sa Tagalog ang impormasyong ito, paki-tawag lang sa 206-775-8894.

요청하시면 번역이나 통역을 제공해드립니다 206-775- 8894.

PROJECT INFORMATION & CONTACT www.seattle.gov/transportation/BallardBridge (206) 775-8894 | BallardBridge@seattle.gov



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APPENDIX C: ONLINE OPEN HOUSE SURVEY

Ballard Bridge Planning Study Online Open House Survey

* 1. Please select your most preferred alternative.

- Low Level Moveable Bridge (rehabilitation)
- Mid Level Moveable Bridge (replacement)
- High Level Fixed Bridge (replacement)

* 2. Please select your 3 most important considerations

	1 - Most Important	2 - Second Most Important	3 - Third Most Important
Access to Burke Gilman & Ship Canal/Interbay Trail	0	0	0
Access to Leary Way NW	0	0	0
Access to W Emerson St & W Nickerson St	0	0	0
Bascule opening delays	0	0	0
Cost of design and construction	0	0	0
Cost of maintenance and operations	0	0	0
Impacts to Adjacent Land Use	0	0	0
Improved Pedestrian and Bicycle facilities	0	0	0
Level of construction impact	0	0	0
Local connections	0	0	0
Marine Navigation	0	0	0
Mobility and access for freight	0	0	0
Sound Transit Coordination	0	0	0
Traffic and congestion	0	0	0
Visual impacts and bridge aesthetics	0	0	0

Next

Ballard Bridge Planning Study Online Open House Survey

* 3. Please select your least preferred alternative.

- Low Level Moveable Bridge (rehabilitation)
- Mid Level Moveable Bridge (replacement)
- O High Level Fixed Bridge (replacement)

* 4. Please select your 3 least important considerations

	1 - Least Important	2 - Second Least Important	3 - Third Least Important
Access to Burke Gilman & Ship Canal/Interbay Trail	0	0	0
Access to Leary Way NW	0	0	0
Access to W Emerson St & W Nickerson St	0	0	0
Bascule opening delays	0	0	0
Cost of design and construction	0	0	0
Cost of maintenance and operations	0	0	0
Impacts to Adjacent Land Use	0	0	0
Improved Pedestrian and Bicycle facilities	0	0	0
Level of construction impact	0	0	0
Local connections	0	0	0
Marine Navigation	0	0	0
Mobility and access for freight	0	0	0
Sound Transit Coordination	0	0	0
Traffic and congestion	0	0	0
Visual impacts and bridge aesthetics	0	0	0



Ballard Bridge Planning Study Online Open House Survey

Do you have any further comments, feedback, concerns, and/or questions regarding the Ballard Bridge Planning Study?

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Prev	Next

APPENDIX D: NOTIFICATIONS

In addition to the notifications shown below, an email announcement was sent to the project listserv, an announcement posted on the webpage, and reminders were posted on the SDOT twitter and Facebook accounts.

MAILER



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Ballard Bridge Planning Study will evaluate how to bring the bridge up to current transportation, functional, and structural standards including improved bicycle and pedestrian facilities and keeping buses and freight moving. 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 good condition today, we have an opportunity to plan.

The Ballard Bridge Planning Study, funded by the Levy to Move Seattle, explores feasible rehabilitation and replacement options for the long-term future of the bridge. Learn more about the levy at: www.seattle.gov/LevytoMoveSeattle.

Through the end of the year, we're working 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 drop-in sessions at the Peddler Brewing Company and Fishermen's Terminal and invite you to join us. The drop-in sessions are a good opportunity to learn about the Ballard Bridge Planning Study, to talk to the project team about your needs and values for the bridge, and to provide feedback on possible alternatives. Along with sharing information about the possible alternatives we'll share details about constructability, feasibility, cost, and connections to nearby destinations.

You can join us for either session and drop-in any time between 6 and 7:30M. Information and materials will be the same at both sessions. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

PLANNING STUDY PROCESS

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		Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter
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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 listserv visit our webpage: www.seattle.gov/transportation/BallardBridge
- Email the study team at BallardBridge@seattle.gov
- Call the study team at (206) 775-8894

If you need this information translated, please call 206-775-8894. Servicios de traducción e interpretación disponibles bajo petición 206-775-8894. Matutulungan ka naming maintindihan kung hihingi kang tulong 206-775-8894. 요청하시면 번역이나 통역을 제공해드립니다 206-775-8894. Dịch và thông dịch viên sắn sảng nều có sự yêu cầu 206-775-8894. Haddii aad dooneyso turjubeen fadlen wac 206-775-8894.



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 October 16, 2019. All signs were double-sided to include information for each drop-in session.

Side 1. Information for Drop-In Session at Peddler Brewing

BALLARD BRIDGE
PLANNING STUDY
LEARN MORE
DROP-IN SESSION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24
6 – 7:30 pm
Peddler Brewing Company
(1514 NW Leary Way)
Contact: BallardBridge@seattle.gov (206) 775-8894 www.seattle.gov/transportation/BallardBridge
Seattle Department of Transportation

