Welcome to the I-5 Marvin Rd. to Mounts Rd. Technical Advisory Group Mtg.

We'll start soon. This meeting will be recorded.

While you're waiting...

- Make sure your audio is working. If your computer doesn't have a mic, you can call in on your phone.
- Find the chat box! If you want to write instead of talk, that's the way to do it.
- Find Raise Hand under reactions
- Change your Participant Name
 - Option #1: Hover over your video and click on ellipses and "Rename"
 - Option #2: Hover over your name under Participant List and click on ellipses and "Rename"





I-5 Marvin Rd. to Mounts Rd. Planning & Environmental Linkages Study **Technical Advisory Group Meeting #3** March 14, 2023

Ashley Carle George Mazur John Perlic Kirk Wilcox WSDOT Olympic Region Multimodal Development Manager WSDOT Olympic Region Multimodal Planning Manager Consultant Team Project Manager—Parametrix Consultant Team—Parametrix

Agenda

- 1:00 Welcome and Introductions
- 1:15 Meeting Goals and Outcomes
- 1:25 Review Public Comment Initial Range of Alternatives
- 1:35 Review Initial Alternatives Evaluation Criteria and Results
- 2:25 Review Detailed Alternatives Evaluation Criteria
- 2:40 Next Steps
- 2:45 Adjourn



Welcome and Thank You

WSDOT is engaging project area jurisdictions, including tribes, counties, cities, and national and local resource agencies

Introductions

- We will call your organization name please respond with your name
- To change your Participant Name in Zoom
 - Hover over your video and click on ellipses and "Rename"
 - Hover over your name under Participant List and click on ellipses "Rename"



TAG Participants

Invited to participate

- Alliance for a Healthy South Sound Executive Committee
- Billy Frank Jr Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge
- Black Hills Audubon Society
- BNSF
- City of DuPont
- City of Lacey
- City of Lakewood
- City of Olympia
- City of Tumwater
- City of Yelm
- Cowlitz Indian Tribe
- Ducks Unlimited

- Federal Highway Administration
- Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition
- ForeverGreen Trails
- Friends of Nisqually NWRC
- Intercity Transit
- Joint Base Lewis-McChord
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
- Nisqually Indian Tribe
- Nisqually Land Trust
- Nisqually River Council
- Pierce County
- Pierce Transit
- Port of Olympia



TAG Participants

Invited to participate

- Port of Tacoma
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- Sound Transit
- South Sound Military & Communities Partnership
- Squaxin Island Tribe of Indians
- Tahoma Audubon Society
- Thurston County
- Thurston Regional Planning Council
- Town of Steilacoom
- Transportation Choices Coalition
- Washington Environmental Council
- Washington Farm Labor Association
- Washington State Patrol
- Yakama Indian Nation



Meeting Participation

Virtual Participation

- Mute yourself when you're not speaking
- "Raise your hand" or use chat box for questions or comments
- Say your name before speaking
- If calling in from your phone:
 - Dial *6 to mute/unmute
 - Dial *9 to raise your hand

Input Opportunities

- Chat box and polls throughout the meeting
- Discussion opportunities at the end of each topic



Meeting Goals and Outcomes

Meeting Goals

- Input and active participation
- Understanding of the process

Outcomes

- Confirm Level 1 Alternatives Evaluation Criteria
- Input on Level 1 Alternatives Evaluation Results
- Input on Level 2 Alternatives Evaluation Criteria



Advisory Group Responsibilities

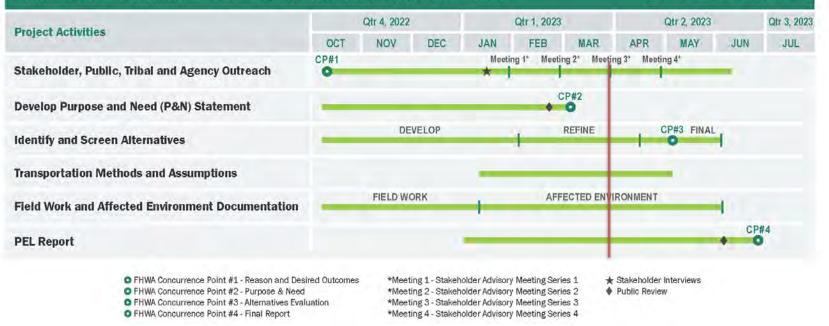
- Represent agencies and communities in the study area
- Provide data and input on direction of study
- Advise on range of alternatives and alternatives evaluation criteria
- Help build consensus and support for alternative(s) selection
- Brief EAG members in advance of the EAG Meeting on March 21



Schedule

WSDOT I-5 Marvin Road to Mounts Road Planning & Environmental Linkage (PEL) Study Project Schedule

Washington State Department of Transportation





2023 PEL Advisory Group Meetings

Meeting 1

January:

- Project Background & desired outcomes
- Study Area & Logical Termini
- Stakeholder Review of Conceptual Purpose & Need
- Stakeholder Review of Conceptual Alternatives
- Introduce Alternatives Evaluation Process
- Request for data

Meeting 2

February:

- Review Meeting #1
- Review new information from Meeting #1 questions
- Consensus discussion on Final Purpose and Need
- Stakeholder Review of Level 1 Alternatives Evaluation Criteria

Meeting 3

March:

- Review Meeting #2
- Review new information from Meeting #2 questions
- Stakeholder Review of Level 1 Alternatives Evaluation Results
- Stakeholder Review of Level 2 Alternatives Evaluation Criteria

Meeting 4

April:

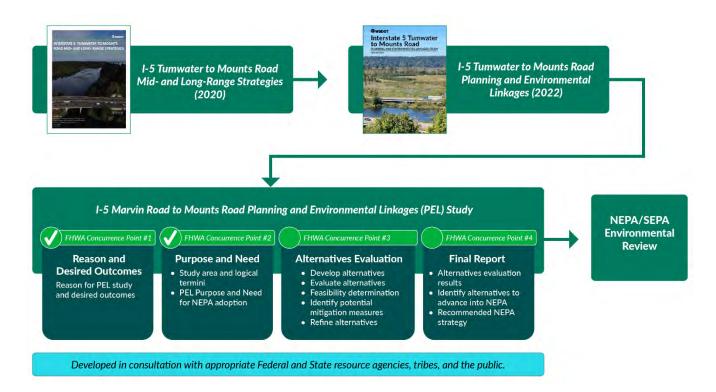
- Review Meeting #3
- Review new information from Meeting #3 questions
- Stakeholder Review of Level 2 Alternatives Evaluation Results
- Consensus discussion on Evaluation Results and Alternatives to Advance into NEPA

*Agendas may change slightly as the project progresses.

TAG meetings will precede EAG meetings so that TAG members can brief their EAG members before the EAG meeting.



PEL Process





Public Comment on Alternatives



1

Public Comment on Alternatives

The project team received approximately **250 comments** between Feb. 15 and March 1 through the following engagement tools:

- WSDOT project site (Engage.wa.gov)
- Project email
- WSDOT blog
- Social media (Facebook and Reddit)
- Community briefings and interviews





What We Heard

- Environmental effects of the project
- High-Capacity Transit (HCT) compatibility, including rail
- Need for a separated shared-use path
- Induced demand from additional capacity
- Need to keep I-5 open during construction
- Improved/new alternate routes around I-5
- Importance of the Nisqually interchange/exit 114
- Freight-only lane



Updates to Alternatives Evaluation Criteria



Alternatives Evaluation Criteria Changes

- Congestion relief criteria separated into two criteria
 - General Purpose vehicles and trucks
 - Transit and High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV)
- Bridge strike risk criteria was removed—all alternatives include replacement of the Nisqually River truss bridges
- Emergency response
- Multimodal access to opportunities



	Alternatives	0	ernative peration proveme	ns	Wide		itive 2 – r HOV L	anes	Wic		itive 3 – or GP La		Convert	Iternative 4 1-5 Lanes 0 HOV Lane	from GP
	Design Options	А	В	С	А	В	С	D	А	В	С	D	А	В	С
	Accommodates active transportation and transit modes														
	Provides congestion relief for general purpose (GP) vehicles/trucks														
Enhance mobility and connectivity on I-5 for all	Provides congestion relief for transit and high occupancy vehicles (HOV)														
modes and providing support for increased person and	Effects on adjacent roadways														
freight throughput	Increases person throughput														
	Complementary to local planning														
	Reduces the risk of infrastructure failures														
mprove local and mainline I-5 F system resiliency s	Reduces the risk of infrastructure failures due to seismic activity														
	Reduces the risk of large vehicle collisions with the Nisqually Bridge														
Enable environmental restoration and ecosystem	Incorporates environmental restoration														
resiliency at the I-5 crossing of the Nisqually River Delta area	Promotes ecosystem resiliency											- •			
Support economic vitality through reliable freight	Freight reliability								(Ra	ting	Scale	9	
movement, access to major	Multimodal access to opportunities									Lowe				Higher Performin	
employers, and sustainable tribal commercial fishing activity	River navigability									Perforn	ning			Performin	^g
	Minimizes property acquisitions requiring business or residential relocations								De	esign O	ption	Bridge	Lengths	6	
Support equitable outcomes	Emergency response								•		n Optic				
	Minimizes the flood risk potential for EJ populations										gn Optic gn Optic				
Relative cost of alternatives	Planning-level cost comparison										n Optic				



Comments and Questions





Poll 1: Do you support the Updated Initial Alternatives Evaluation Criteria?

- Yes
- No



Initial Alternatives Evaluation Results



Alternative Descriptions and Common Features

					Alte	rnatives	(1-4) and	l Bridge (Options (A-D)				
	C	ernative Operatio provem	ns	Wic	Alterna len I-5 fo	tive 2 – or HOV La	anes	Wi		tive 3 – or GP Lar	nes	Conv	ernative ert I-5 L rom GP HOV La	anes
Feature	Α	В	С	Α	В	С	D	Α	В	С	D	Α	В	С
I-5 Widening														
HOV/Lane Management														
Bridge Replacement														
Fill Removal														
Shared-use Path														
New/Changed Nisqually Interchange							*				*			
McAllister Creek Realignment														
I-5 Alignment Shift														

Note: Bridge Option lengths: Option A=3000', Option B=6000', Option C=12,000', Option D=14,000' Hi-Span *Nisqually interchange closed with Option D

Draft Initial Alternatives Evaluation

Project Purpose	Rating Scale	Alternatives	Ó	ernative peration proveme	s	Wid	Alterna en I-5 fo	tive 2 – r HOV La	anes	Wi		itive 3 – or GP Lai	nes	Conver	ernative 1-5 Lane 0 HOV La	es from
Categories	Performing Performing	Design Options	А	В	С	А	В	С	D	А	В	С	D	А	В	С
	Accommodates Active Transportation and Transit M	odes														
Enhance mobility and	Provides Congestion Relief for General Purpose (GF	P) Vehicles/Trucks														
connectivity on I-5 for all modes and providing support for	Provides Congestion Relief for Transit/High Occupar	ncy Vehicles (HOV)														
increased person and	Effects on Adjacent Roadways															
freight throughput	Increases Person and Freight Throughput															
	Complementary to Local Planning															
Improve local and mainline I-5	Reduces the Risk of Infrastructure Failures															
system resiliency	Reduces the Risk of Infrastructure Failures due to Se	eismic Activity														
Enable environmental restoration and ecosystem	Enables Environmental Restoration															
resiliency at the I-5 crossing of the Nisqually River Delta area	Enables Ecosystem Resiliency															
Support economic vitality through reliable freight	Freight Reliability															
movement, access to major	Multimodal Access to Opportunities (Jobs, Recreation	on, and Services)														
employers, and sustainable tribal commercial fishing activity	River Navigability															
	Minimizes property acquisitions															
Support equitable outcomes	Emergency Response															
	Minimizes the Flood Risk Potential for EJ Population	IS														
Relative cost of alternatives	Planning-level Cost Comparison															

Note: Bridge Option lengths: Option A=3000', Option B=6000', Option C=12,000', Option D=14,000' Hi-Span



Enhance Mobility and Connectivity

Evaluation Summary

- Alternatives 2 and 3 provide added capacity for HOV/transit and GP/trucks and rated highmoderate compared to Alternative 1 (rated low) and Alternative 4 (rated low-moderate)
- Alternative 2 rates slightly higher than Alternative 3 (4 high ratings compared to 3 high ratings)

Initial Evaluation Results: Enhance mobility and connectivity on

I-5 for all modes and providing support for increased person and freight throughput



		ative 1 - Ope mprovement			Alternative 2 for HO	2 - Widen I-5 / Lanes	i		Alternative 3 for GP		i		e 4 - Conver GP to HOV I	
Design Options	А	В	С	A	В	С	D	A	В	С	D	А	В	С
Accommodates active transportation and transit modes														
Provides congestion relief for general purpose (GP) vehicles and trucks														
Provides congestion relief for transit and high occupancy vehicles (HOV)														
Improves mobility on arterial roadways														
Increases person and freight throughput														
Complements local and tribal planning efforts														
Contraction .											Lower		Higher	



Rating Scale

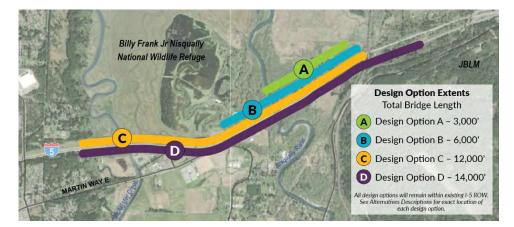
Performing

Performing 24

System Resiliency

Evaluation Summary

- Design Options with longer bridges (C and D) remove risk of erosion and channel migration from the entire Nisqually River Delta area compared to only a portion of the area with shorter bridges (A and B)
- · All new structures will be built to current seismic code



Initial Evaluation Results: Improve local and mainline I-5 system resiliency

		ative 1 - Ope mprovement				2 - Widen I-5 V Lanes			Alternative 3 for GP		i		e 4 - Conver GP to HOV	
Design Options	А	A B C			В	С	D	А	В	С	D	A	В	с
Reduces the risk of infrastructure failures by addressing erosion and channel migration														
Reduces the risk of infrastructure failures due to seismic activity														



Lower

Performing

Performing 25

Higher

Environmental Restoration and Ecosystem Resiliency

Evaluation Summary

- Design Options with longer bridges (Options C and D) would provide environmental restoration of the entire Nisqually River Delta area, compared to only a portion of the area with shorter bridges (Options A and B).
- Design Options B, C, and D would address impacts associated with flood events in all overflow channels, while Design Option A would address impacts associated with flood events in some overflow channels.



Initial Evaluation Results: Enable *environmental restoration* and *ecosystem resiliency* at the I-5 crossing of the Nisqually River Delta area

		ative 1 - Ope mprovement			Alternative 2 for HO	2 - Widen I-5 / Lanes			Alternative 3 for GP		5		e 4 - Conver GP to HOV	
Design Options	А	B C			В	С	D	А	В	С	D	А	В	С
Restores environmental systems by improving fish passage, building and maintaining habitat, reducing impacts to wetlands, river hydraulics and geomorphology, etc.														
Increases resiliency against the impacts of climate change														

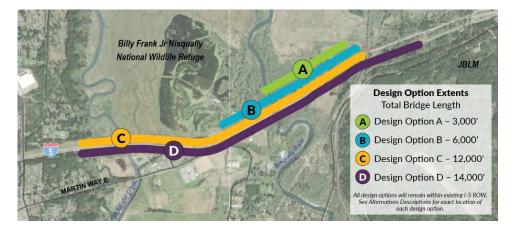


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Economic Vitality

Evaluation Summary

- · Freight reliability and delay is lowest with Alternative 3
- · Alternatives 2 and 3 would improve access to jobs and recreation opportunities for active transportation users, HOV, transit, and GP traffic.
- · Design Option D removes the Nisgually interchange, which removes direct I-5 access to adjacent businesses
- · All Alternatives would improve navigability for all users, including the Nisqually Indian Tribe



Initial Evaluation Results: Support economic vitality

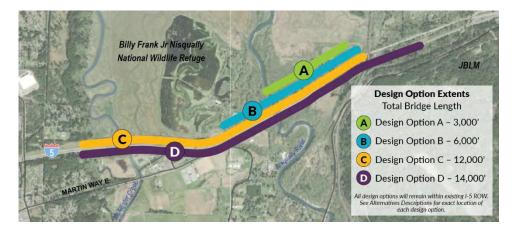
through reliable freight movement, access to major employers, and sustainable tribal commercial fishing activity

		ative 1 - Ope mprovement			Alternative 2 for HO	2 - Widen I-5 V Lanes	5		Alternative 3 for GP	3 - Widen I- ' Lanes	5		e 4 - Convert GP to HOV L	
Design Options	А	В	С	A	В	С	D	А	В	С	D	A	В	С
Improves freight reliability and reduces economic impacts of freight delay														
Improves access to opportunities (jobs, recreation, and services)														
Promotes equitable access and navigability of the Nisqually River for all users, including the Nisqually Indian Tribe														
wsdot			Rating	s Scale	Lower Performing		Higher Performing	¹⁸ 2 ⁻						

Equitable Outcomes

Evaluation Summary

- All alternatives would have minimal displacements or impacts, since footprint expected to be within the existing WSDOT ROW
- Design Option D may require business displacements in the Nisqually interchange area
- Alternatives 2 and 3 would decrease emergency response times due to reduced congestion
- Option D closes the Nisqually Interchange, resulting in increased emergency response times to and from this area
- All alternatives address the impacts associated with extreme river flood events, minimizing impacts to EJ populations



Initial Evaluation Results: Support equitable outcomes

		ative 1 - Ope mprovement			Alternative : for HO	2 - Widen I-{ / Lanes	5		Alternative for GP	3 - Widen I-{ Lanes	5		e 4 - Conver GP to HOV	
Design Options	A	В	С	A	В	С	D	А	В	С	D	A	В	С
Minimizes property acquisitions requiring business or residential relocations														
Emergency response														
Minimizes the flood risk potential for EJ populations														



Lower

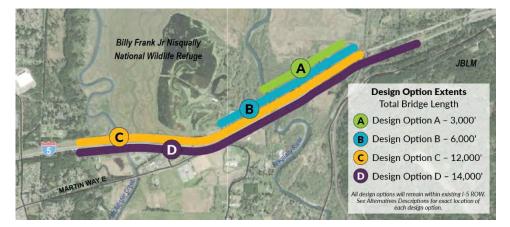
Performing

28

Relative Cost

Evaluation Summary

• Design Option A has the shortest elevated structure and lowest cost compared to Design Option D with the longest elevated structure and the highest cost



Initial Evaluation Results: Relative cost of alternatives

		ative 1 - Ope mprovement			Alternative 2 for HO		i		Alternative for GP	3 - Widen I-5 ' Lanes	5		e 4 - Conver GP to HOV I	
Design Options	A	В	С	A	В	С	D	A	В	С	D	A	В	С
Planning-level cost comparison														



29

Draft Initial Alternatives Evaluation

Project Purpose	Rating Scale	Alternatives	0	ernative peration proveme	s	Wid	Alterna en I-5 fo	tive 2 – r HOV La	ines	Wi		itive 3 – or GP Lar	nes	Convert	ernative I-5 Lane HOV La	es from
Categories	Performing	Design Options	А	В	С	А	В	С	D	А	В	С	D	А	В	С
	Accommodates Active Transportation and Transit M	lodes														
Enhance mobility and	Provides Congestion Relief for General Purpose (G	P) Vehicles/Trucks														
connectivity on I-5 for all modes and providing support for	Provides Congestion Relief for Transit/High Occupa	ancy Vehicles (HOV)														
increased person and	Effects on Adjacent Roadways															
freight throughput	Increases Person and Freight Throughput															
	Complementary to Local Planning															
Improve local and mainline I-5	Reduces the Risk of Infrastructure Failures															
system resiliency	Reduces the Risk of Infrastructure Failures due to S	Seismic Activity														
Enable environmental restoration and ecosystem	Enables Environmental Restoration															
resiliency at the I-5 crossing of the Nisqually River Delta area	Enables Ecosystem Resiliency															
Support economic vitality through reliable freight	Freight Reliability															
movement, access to major employers, and sustainable	Multimodal Access to Opportunities (Jobs and Rec	reation)														
tribal commercial fishing activity	River Navigability															
	Minimizes Property Acquisitions															
Support equitable outcomes	Emergency Response															
	Minimizes the Flood Risk Potential for EJ Populatio	ns														
Relative cost of alternatives	Planning-level Cost Comparison															

Note: Bridge Option lengths: Option A=3000', Option B=6000', Option C=12,000', Option D=14,000' Hi-Span



Initial Evaluation: Summary

- Alternatives 2 and 3 rate highest overall with more high ratings than Alternatives 1 and 4
- Alternatives 1 and 4 rate lowest overall with Alternative 1 rated slightly lower than Alternative 4
- Options B and C rate higher overall than Option D
- Option A rates relatively high, similar to Options B and C except for lower ratings in the Environmental Restoration and Ecosystem Resiliency category
- Option D rates low in the Support Equitable Outcomes and Relative Cost of Alternatives categories.



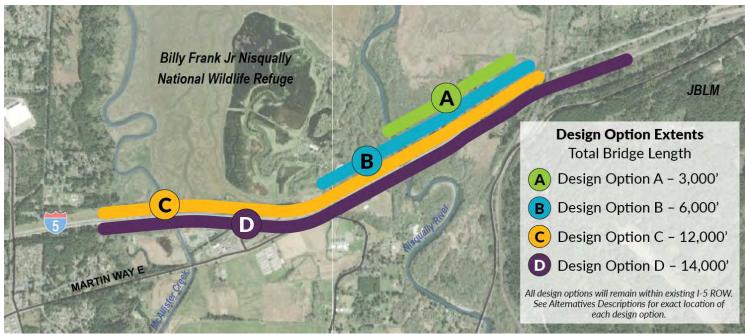
Poll 2: Which Alternative(s) do you support advancing into the next round of evaluation? (Multiple choice)

- Alternative 1 Operations
 Improvements
- Alternative 2 Widen I-5 for HOV lanes
- Alternative 3 Widen I-5 for General Purpose lanes
- Alternative 4 Convert I-5 lanes from General Purpose to HOV Lanes





Poll 3: Which bridge option(s) do you support advancing into the next round of evaluation? (Multiple choice)





Discussion





3

Detailed Alternatives Evaluation



Detailed Alternatives Evaluation: Approach

- Use same evaluation criteria with expanded rating scale from 3 to 5 colors.
- Consider adding criteria to the Detailed Evaluation based on comments and feedback on the Initial Evaluation
- Add quantitative analysis results to several evaluation criteria—traffic congestion, person throughput, environmental benefits, planning-level costs, and others
- Review of existing conditions in the corridor for all resources potentially affected, including:
 - cultural/historic
 - wetlands, Endangered Species Act listed species
 - floodways, sea level rise
 - socioeconomics/Environmental Justice
 - property acquisition (full or partial)
 - parklands/recreation



Comments and Questions





Next Steps



Next Steps

- Post meeting materials for review
- Look for a follow up poll to confirm support for advancing Alternatives into detailed evaluation
- Review and comment request on Detailed (Level 2) alternatives evaluation criteria
- Updated evaluation criteria and results will be sent before April meeting
- Let us know if you haven't received the April 18 calendar invite
- Please brief EAG members before March 21



EAG participant list

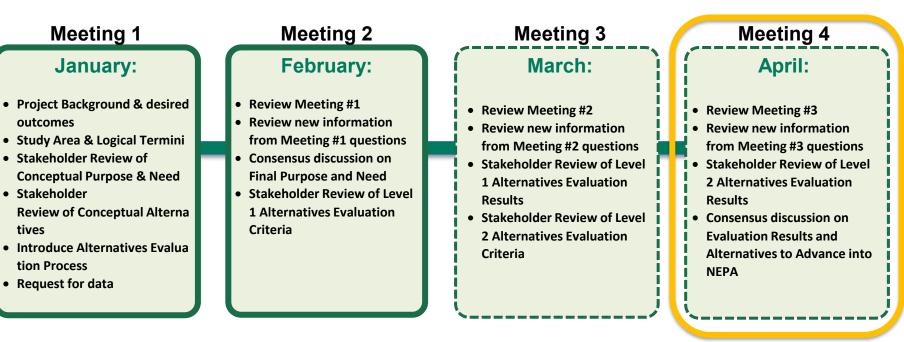
Invited to participate

- City of DuPont
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- City of Lakewood
- City of Olympia
- City of Tumwater
- City of Yelm
- Federal Highway Administration
- Intercity Transit
- Joint Base Lewis-McChord
- Nisqually Indian Tribe
- Pierce County

- Pierce Transit
- Port of Olympia
- Port of Tacoma
- Puget Sound Regional Council
- Thurston County
- Thurston Regional Planning Council
- Town of Steilacoom



Next Steps



*Agendas may change slightly as the project progresses.

TAG meetings will precede EAG meetings so that TAG members can brief their EAG members before the EAG meeting.



Final Comments and Questions





Contact

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