

VandenBerghe, Alissa (Consultant)

From: Gricar, Lara (Consultant)
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2009 3:59 PM
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Subject: January Community Briefing, Festival and Public Event Summaries
Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Program Team,

During the month of January we conducted 9 community briefings; 8 elected and/or agency briefings; and attended 1 festival.

The **community briefings** included:

- UW Urban Transportation Planning Class, 1/13
- Cascade Bicycle Club, 1/13
- Seattle Design Commission, 1/15
- Allied Arts, 1/21
- Duwamish Transportation Management Association, 1/21
- Washington Society of Professional Engineers, 1/22
- Manufacturing Industrial Council Executive Committee, 1/27
- North Seattle Industrial Association, 1/27
- International District Rotary Club, 1/28

The **elected and/or agency briefings** included:

- Senator Mary Margaret Haugen, 1/6
- Senator Chris Marr, 1/20
- Representative Ruth Kagi, 1/20
- King County Council, 1/21
- Representative Mary Lou Dickerson, 1/23
- Representative Zachary Hudgins, 1/23
- Senate Transportation Committee, 1/26
- House Transportation Committee, 1/28

The **fairs, festivals and farmers markets** included:

- Tet Festival, 1/24 - 1/25

In addition to these activities we also held a press conference on Jan. 13 where the Governor, King County Executive, and Seattle Mayor announced their recommendation for replacing the Alaskan Way Viaduct.

If you are interested in the general types of questions the public is asking or the comments they are providing I've highlighted a number of key points:*

- Concerns about overall safety and egress in the bored tunnel in the event of an earthquake or fire.
- Questions about how transit improvements will impact surrounding communities.
- Questions about the cost of the project.
- Questions about the plan's ability to address future growth.
- Concerns from groups in north Seattle over movement on 15th Ave. and Mercer St.
- Concerns that the proposed project timeline is not realistic.
- Questions about general mobility in and around the bored tunnel.
- Questions about how the Alaskan Way Bored Tunnel differs from Boston's Big Dig.
- Questions about the type of soil where the tunnel will be constructed and tunneling technology in general.
- Questions about what will happen to the Battery Street Tunnel.
- Interest in the future design of Alaskan Way.

Other general topics of interest:

- Motor Vehicle Excise Tax (MVET)
- Utilities
- Parking
- Ferry queuing
- First Ave. streetcar

**Please note that questions, comments, and opinions have varied based on location and other factors, but in general responses from the public have been mostly positive.*

If you would like to review a specific summary please let me know and I'll e-mail it your way. Thanks to everyone who participated in these events.

Regards,
Lara

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For current project information, visit www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct/.