



King County

Capital Planning and Land Management Section

Parks and Recreation Division, DNRP

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE ERC DRAFT MASTER PLAN AND EIS AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Purpose of this Notice: The notice informs the public that the Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC) Regional Trail Draft Master Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being released for public review and comment. A thirty-two (32) day comment period will begin February 29, 2016 when the publication of the Notice of Availability is in the SEPA Register and will end March 31, 2016. Comments may be submitted at the public meetings, by mail, online, or via email.

Location of project: The trail would primarily follow the former railroad corridor located on the east side of Lake Washington between Renton and Woodinville, and the spur between Redmond and Woodinville. Portions of the railbanked corridor owned by the cities of Kirkland and Redmond are not included in this project.

Project Description: King County intends to develop a trail in the approximately 15.6 miles of the ERC under its ownership and the 1.1 miles of ERC owned by Sound Transit in which the County holds a trail easement. This approximately 16.7 miles of the railbanked portion of the ERC is the focus of the Draft Master Plan and Environmental Impact Statement. Sound Transit and Puget Sound Energy also own easements throughout the corridor.

This Draft Master Plan and EIS explores two alternatives for locating a trail in the ERC. These alternatives represent different approaches to placement of the trail in relation to the potential future use of the corridor for transit, power transmission, or both, in addition to a trail. For the On-Railbed Alternative, the trail is located along the existing railbed. For most of the corridor, this is the easiest location to construct a trail because it uses the nearly flat grade established for the railroad tracks. However, because the railbed is often located near the center of the ERC right-of-way, the trail may need to be relocated to accommodate other future uses, such as transit or utilities, alongside trail in the corridor in the future. For the Off-Railbed Alternative, the trail is located as close as possible to one of the edges of the ERC right-of-way. This alignment would be more challenging to locate the trail because it requires additional clearing and grading, often requires extensive use of retaining walls, and may have greater impacts to the natural environment. However, it also provides the most flexibility for accommodating future uses in the corridor.

Public Open Houses: Public open houses on the Draft Master Plan and EIS will be held:

- **Woodinville**
Thursday March 17, 2016
5pm-7pm
Woodinville City Hall
17301 133rd Avenue NE
Woodinville, WA 98072
- **Renton**
Tuesday March 22, 2016
7pm-9pm
Kennydale Elementary School
1700 NE 28th Street
Renton, WA 98056
- **Bellevue**
Thursday March 24, 2016
5pm-7pm
Bellevue City Hall
450 110th Avenue NE
Woodinville, WA 98072

Attendees can arrive at any time during the open house.

Comment deadline: The deadline for submitting comments is 5 p.m. on March 31, 2016. Comments can be submitted via email to ERCtrail@kingcounty.gov or online at www.kingcounty.gov/erc.

Written comments can also be mailed to:
King County Parks, Attn: Erica Jacobs
201 South Jackson St, M.S. KSC-NR-0700
Seattle, WA 98104

All comments received during the comment period will be reviewed and included in the formal comment record for consideration.

Availability: Documents are available to view or download on the internet at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/erc>. Printed copies are available to view at the following King County Libraries. For location information visit <http://www.kcls.org/usingthelibrary/locations/>.

Bellevue	Renton Highlands
Kingsgate	Renton
Newcastle	Woodinville
Newport Way	

Printed copies of Volume 1 – Draft Master Plan and EIS (including a disc of Volume 2 and the supporting materials) and Volume 2 – Preliminary Plans for the Build Alternatives can be purchased from ARC for the cost of reproduction. Documents can be obtained by contacting Cathy Eck at (206)-622-6000. The reproduction cost for each document is anticipated to be approximately \$100.

Please call Erica Jacobs at 206-477-5539 with questions. TTY Relay 771.