

Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Open House

June 3, 2014

Event Summary







Prepared by:



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OVERVIEW

Background

The Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge across Interstate 5 (I-5) in Seattle's Northgate neighborhood will provide area residents and visitors with easier access to the businesses, transit facilities, schools, and community amenities on both sides of the freeway.

Currently, I-5 stands as a barrier separating communities on its east and west sides. The proposed bridge will be built in the vicinity of NE 100th and NE 103rd streets, will be up to 2,200 feet in length, and has been long desired by the Maple Leaf, Licton Springs and Bitter Lake communities as well as by nearby businesses and North Seattle College. This area is rapidly changing into a walk, bike and transit community as the city, King County, and Sound Transit make investments there.

Prior to final decisions on design, SDOT hosted an open house on June 3, 2014, for the public to learn about the project, meet the project team, ask questions, and provide comments.

Objectives

Objectives of the open house were to:

- Raise public understanding about the project's purpose, need, and benefits
- Provide an update on the program's elements and schedule
- Introduce the project team
- Emphasize commitment to working with stakeholders and the broader community
- Provide opportunities for the public to comment on possible routes and bridge types and to get questions answered

EVENT INFORMATION

Event: Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Open House

Host: Seattle Department of Transportation

Date & Time: Tuesday, June 3, 2014

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Presentation: 6:00 pm

Location: Olympic View Elementary School

Auditorium

504 NE 95th Street Seattle, WA 98115

EVENT NOTIFICATION

SDOT conducted outreach in the weeks leading up to the open house to notify stakeholders and the general public of the open house. The table below provides a summary:

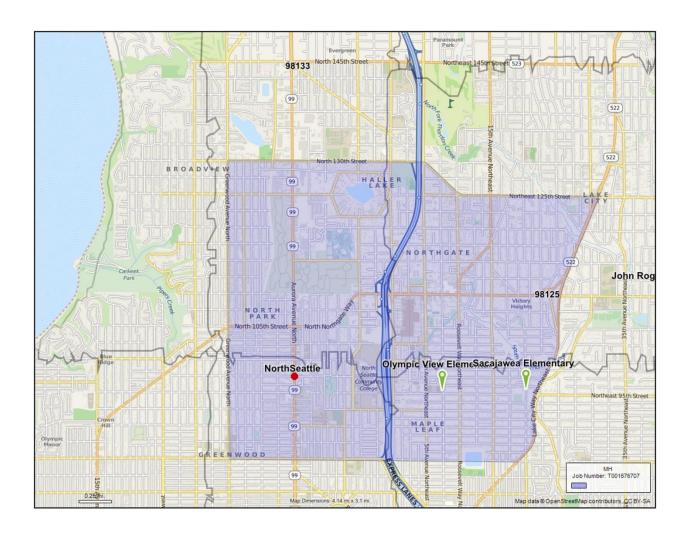
Outreach Tool	Recipients
Mailer	Over 23,000
Email notification	26 individually sent stakeholder emails
Project website	
Community calendars	Posted on 10 online calendars

These outreach efforts are discussed in greater detail on the following pages.



MAILER

The mailer publicizing the open house was an $8.5'' \times 5.5''$ postcard. It was sent to 23,690 residences and businesses in the area bounded by N 130^{th} Street/NE 125^{th} Street on the north, N/NE 85^{th} Street on the south, Greenwood Avenue N on the west and Lake City Way NE on the east:



EMAIL NOTIFICATION

An announcement of the open house was emailed to nearby organizations and stakeholders. Recipients included community councils, social service and other non-profit organizations, schools, churches, and businesses. Bicycling and pedestrian advocacy organizations were also included in the notification.

WEBSITE

The project website (http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/northgatepedbridge.htm) went live in February 2014. Leading up to the open house, it included background materials such as a King County feasibility study and a Seattle Department of Planning and Development report on focus group findings, a project area map, project presentations to the Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board and the Seattle Bike Advisory Board, a project fact sheet, bridge proposals, a timeline, an open house invitation, and contact information. Following the open house, the website was updated with the open house presentation and all supporting materials (i.e., display boards and project folio).

COMMUNITY CALENDARS

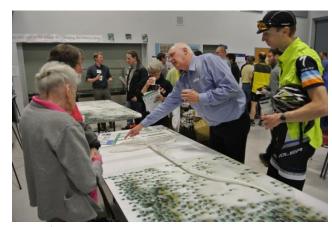
Notice of the open house was posted in 10 online event calendars leading up to the event, reaching the audiences of a variety of neighborhood blogs and interest groups:

Name	Туре	URL
Haller Lake Community Club	Neighborhood Newsletter	www.hallerlake.info/community/community-happenings/
Licton Springs Community Council	Newsletter	www.lictonsprings.org/council/currents_n ewsletter/currents_jun_2014.pdf
Pinehurst	Community Newsletter	www.pinehurstseattle.org/category/northgate/northgate-pedestrian-bridge
Thornton Creek Alliance	Community Calendar	www.thornton-creek- alliance.org/?page_id=4
Northgate Community Center	Facebook post	www.facebook.com/63872737623/photos /a.385271412623.170342.63872737623/1 0152053625222624/?type=1&theater
Feet First	Website Calendar	www.feetfirst.org/events/northgate- pedestrian-bridge-open-house
Seattle Bike Blog	Interest Group Blog	www.seattlebikeblog.com/ai1ec_event/no rthgate-pedestrian-bridge-meeting/
Seattle Neighborhood Greenways	Events Calendar	seattlegreenways.org/events/calendar/
Maple Leaf Community Council	Facebook post	www.facebook.com/MapleLeafCC
Greenwood Community Council	Newsletter	www.greenwoodcommunitycouncil.org/

OPEN HOUSE

The open house drew more than 70 area residents and business people, as well as representatives of neighborhood organizations and bike and pedestrian advocacy groups.

Fourteen display boards arranged around the perimeter of the room welcomed attendees to the event, surveyed where people lived in relation to the project area, and provided information about pedestrian bridge options, selection criteria, the project timeline, and how to contact the project with questions and



comments. A presentation was given, followed by a brief question and answer period.

The presentation began with an overview by Barbara Lee, SDOT's Project Manager, of SDOT's goals, missions and values, and previewed the purpose and need for the project. Next, Stephen Van Dyck, an architect on the project, reviewed the various walk times, bridge types and approaches that are under consideration. David McMullen, an engineer on the project, presented how the various approaches and spans would be analyzed and screened. Finally, Art Brochet reviewed the outreach process to date and next steps. Art opened the floor to questions and there were questions on a wide range of topics, but many focused on pedestrian and bicycle connections off the bridge and safety concerns.

Comment forms, and a box for collecting them, were set up at the sign-in table. A project brochure was also available. In addition, three models of the potential bridge design offered attendees an exciting opportunity to engage with the project.

PROJECT REPRESENTATIVES

- Art Brochet, Seattle Department of Transportation
- Carl Gao, Seattle Department of Transportation
- Sandy Gurkewitz, Seattle Department of Transportation
- Michael James, Seattle Department of Transportation
- Barbara Lee, Seattle Department of Transportation
- Nick Shrope, Seattle Department of Transportation
- Fred Young, ALTA
- Sharese Graham, ESA
- Jason Lee, KPFF
- David McMullen, KPFF
- Scott Crawford, LMN Architects
- Brianna Holman, LMN Architects
- Stephen Van Dyck, LMN Architects
- Bob Derry, Stepherson & Associates
- Emily Mannetti, Stepherson & Associates
- Lauren Wheeler, Stepherson & Associates

MATERIALS

Attendees were handed the project brochure and a survey/comment form as they signed in for the open house.

Following the open house, the display boards, presentation and project brochure were posted on the project website alongside previous outreach materials and resources.

COMMENT FORMS

Open house attendees received a printed survey/comment form upon check-in. Twenty-five forms were completed and returned at the event.

Comment form:

	Comment Form Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge (Comments may also sent by email to art.brochet@seattle.gov)	SDOT Scuttle Department of Transportation
1.	Do you have comments on the project screening criteria? Are there criteria we may have	missed?
2.	Do you have any other comments about the project?	

ONLINE MEDIA COVERAGE

Coverage regarding the open house appeared in local online newspapers and blogs in the days leading up to and following the event:

Date	Publication	URL
5/29/14	SDOT Blog	www.sdotblog.seattle.gov/2014/05/29/june-3rd-open-
		house-for-the-northgate-pedestrian-and-bicycle-bridge
6/2/14	Seattle Bike Blog	www.seattlebikeblog.com/2014/06/02/support-the-
		northgate-bikewalk-bridge-at-tuesday-open-house-a-look-
		at-the-updated-concept
6/4/14	The Urbanist	www.theurbanist.org/2014/06/04/northgate-pedestrian-
		bridge-open-house
6/5/14	Seattle Transit Blog	www.seattletransitblog.com/2014/06/05/54624
6/6/14	Seattle Bike Blog	www.seattlebikeblog.com/2014/06/06/the-northgate-
		bikewalk-bridge-designs-are-stunning-could-be-a-
		neighborhood-icon
6/9/14	Curbed	seattle.curbed.com/archives/2014/06/iconic-bikewalk-
		bridge-designs-could-remake-northgate.php

WHAT WE HEARD

In total, 25 comment forms were received at the open house, and 13 emails were received after the meeting with comments pertaining to the project. There was generally very positive support of the project, with some concerns and questions among the comments received. Key themes included:

- Safety for bridge users
 - Many comments were received pertaining to lighting, suicide prevention, and deterring homeless encampments.
 - Additionally many comments were received indicating a need for clear separation of bicyclists and pedestrians for safety and comfort of use for all.
- Bridge type and connection preferences
 - Support for the various bridge types was varied among responders, but the tube/truss and cable stay bridge types seemed to garner the most interest
 - Connection location and preferences were fairly mixed, with good connectivity to North
 Seattle College and Sound Transit light rail station cited as the most important.
 - To those who commented on bridge type, it was important to make an iconic or aesthetically interesting bridge was important.
- Interest in bicycle amenities and connections off the bridge
 - The Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge is one of many bicycle and pedestrian improvement projects in the area. Attendees were very excited about the other projects, and had some questions about connections from those amenities to the bridge.
- Funding for the bridge
 - As previously stated, many in attendance were in strong favor of building the bridge and want to ensure it gets built. There were some comments encouraging support of using Sound Transit or other agency money to support the construction of the bridge.

OPEN HOUSE MATERIALS

Project Brochure

Northgate Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridge PROJECT SCHEDULE 2015 2016 2017 2018



PROJECT FUNDING

Early estimates for the project cost are about \$25 million. At this time, SDOT and Sound Transit have each committed to provide \$5 million if all required funding is secured by July 31, 2015. If the required funding is secured by that time, the Sound Transit portion will be used for other pedestrian and bicycle improvements in the area.

In April, the City of Seattle, along with its partners at in Apri, the City or seattle, along with its partners at King County Metro, Sound Transit, WSDOT and North Seattle College, requested a US DOT TIGER grant in the amount of \$15 million to fund construction of the Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge as part of a complete package of improvements around the Northgate Transit Center and light rail station.

NEXT STEPS

STAY IN TOUCH!

If you have specific questions or concerns, please contact: art.brochet@seattle.gov • (206) 615-0786

Northgate Pedestrian Bicycle Bridge JUNE 2014

PROJECT OVERVIEW

the communities, neighborhoods, businesses and schools in the Northgate area. The bridge will be in the vicinity of NE 100th and NE 103rd streets and willy we between 1,800 and 2,200 feet long. Possible alignments, bridge types and connection points to other assets are being evaluated by the project team with the goal of selecting a preferred option by fall of 2014. likely be between 1.800 and 2.200 feet long. Possible

PROJECT LOCATION



PROJECT NEED

The Northgate area is one of the Puget Sound region's major residential and employment centers. The Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge will enable more people to access transit, and create easier movements for residents on both sides of I-5. It is anticipated that more than 7,000 people would use the bridge daily. The existing transit center currently serves over 6,000 passengers a day, and the future light rail station is expected to serve over

PROJECT BENEFITS

The Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge project benefits the area by:

- . Increasing ridership at the Transit Center and future Light Rail station.
- Creating an easier connection for students to and from North Seattle College by shortening the walk distance from the Transit Center by almost a mile.
- · Providing important access for bicyclists and pedestrians to other improvements coming to the Northgate area.



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Northgate Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridge

BRIDGE TYPES UNDER CONSIDERATION

Of the many types of bridge structures that could span I-5 at Northgate, some are considerably deeper than others, due to the span length. Bridge types with a deeper span structure – such as concrete box, steel plate and steel truss structures - would result in a higher bridge deck. plate and setter this structures—would result in a righer of ringer details.

In onger bridge approaches, and more time needed to cross. As a result, three types of structures enabling a thinner structure below the bridge deck are being considered for the main span on this project:



BRIDGE, HELIX PEDESTRIAN Washington



CABLE STAY BRIDGE, MARY AVENUE BRIDGE



TUBE/TRUSS BRIDGE, ARGANZUELA FOOTBRIDGE Madrid, Spain

BRIDGE LOCATION

In order to provide the greatest benefit for all users, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is designing the bridge to create access to area amenities such as North Seattle College, transit facilities, community services and

In developing placement options, SDOT is considering area wetlands, Thornton Creek, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) operations North Seattle College, right of way and





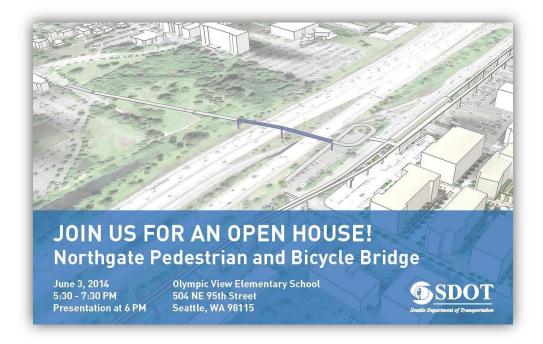
>> OTHER PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE IMPROVEMENTS

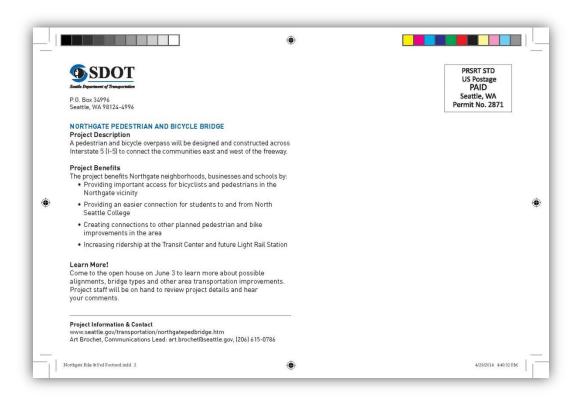


PHASE 2

Event Summary Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Open House June 3, 2014

Invitation





Event Summary Northgate Pedestrian and Bicycle Bridge Open House June 3, 2014

Display boards (1 - 6 of 14)

WELCOME!

NORTHGATE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE BRIDGE

歡迎 Kính Chào Quý Khách 환영합니다!

5:30 to 6 pm Review displays and speak with project staff

Bienvenidos

6 to 6:30 pm Presentation and Q&A 6:30 to 7:30 pm Continue reviewing displays

WHERE DO YOU LIVE?



http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/northgatepedbridge.htm

Questions?

Contact Art Brochet art.brochet@seattle.gov or 206-615-0786

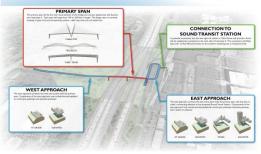
Timeline

ACCESS POINT OPTIONS

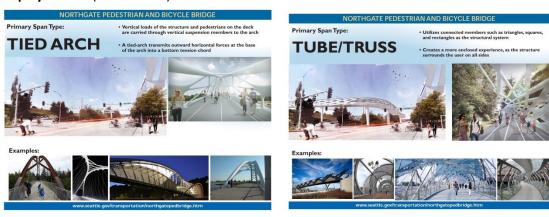


NORTHGATE PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE BRIDGE

BRIDGE COMPONENTS



Display boards (7 - 11 of 14)



Primary Span Type:

TUBE/TRUSS



Primary Span Type:

TIED ARCH



Primary Span Type:

CABLE STAY



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Display Boards (12 – 14 of 14)

