

## Appendix R: Public Outreach Summary

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To ensure meaningful engagement with the public and its understanding of the potential effects of the project and the decision making process, WSDOT has been engaged in a very aggressive public information and outreach campaign since May 2010. WSDOT conducted targeted outreach, updating local elected officials, businesses, community groups, and residents along the corridor on the progress of its environmental studies and corresponding milestones. The following is a detailed summary of outreach between spring 2010 and summer 2012.

## BRIEFINGS WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS

Date	Audience	Attendees	Topic	Notes
08-06-2012	Joint Transportation Committee and Caucus Staff	7 comm. and caucus staff	Updated the staffers on the current progress of the EA and showed them different locations along the bypass.	Questions and comments: feedback and dialogue between WSDOT and the local jurisdiction staff; questions about progress of the EA and publishing dates; concerns heard from the public; potential scheduling conflicts with Sounder commuter rail service;
09-20-2011	Tacoma City Council	7 member council, plus general audience	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda. WSDOT updated the council on the status of the PDB EA. Informed the council about the elimination of the shoreline and green field routes from consideration.	Council had questions as to whether there would be any additional work in the corridor already completed by Sound Transit
08-23-2011	DuPont City Council	7 member council, plus general audience	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda WSDOT updated the council on the status of the PDB EA. Informed the council about the elimination of the shoreline and green field routes from consideration.	Questions and concerns about congestion at the 41 <sup>st</sup> Division freeway interchange
08-16-2011	Pierce County Council	7 member council, plus general audience	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda WSDOT updated the council on the status of the PDB EA. Informed the council about the elimination of the shoreline and green field routes from consideration.	Questions about decision process and how the local jurisdictions would figure into the discussion. What would be local recourse?
08-15-2011	Lakewood City Council	7 member council, plus general audience	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda WSDOT updated the council on the status of the PDB EA. Informed the council about the elimination of the shoreline and green field routes from consideration.	Questions about what we're doing to address children walking on the tracks. Questions and concerns about noise and vibration, as well as the impact of the trains on property values in the Nyanza neighborhood. Concerns about traffic congestion at Berkeley and Union Avenue

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Date	Audience	Attendees	Topic	Notes
				intersection.
03-01-2011	Steilacoom Town Council	5 member council	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda WSDOT provided an introduction to council of our team and project.	Questions about speeds and whether there would be any future work done by WSDOT now that we are leaving that right-of-way
02-09-2011	Debra Entenman, Rep. Adam Smith's office	1 person	Program Overview and PDB - familiarized her with the project as an overview	Questions about process and wanted to know about timing of milestones and decisions.
01-04-2011	Tacoma City Council	7 member council, plus general audience	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda. Presentation to the council about our traffic and transportation studies and how the information will be used in the Environmental Assessment.	Comments about traffic study methodology and questions about milestone timing.
11-17-2010	Lakewood Planning Committee	10+ members	PDB - Updated the committee on the status of our project and specifics about the work that the technical and executive advisory groups are doing to help in the EA.	Planning committee suggested more interaction between project team and Tillicum Action Committee. WSDOT already having regular contact.
10-26-2010	DuPont City Council	7 member council, plus general audience	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda Updated the council on the status of our project and specifics about the work that the technical and executive advisory groups are doing to help in the EA.	Council requested that DuPont staff be compensated for involvement in the project. WSDOT committed to respond in writing to the council's request.
09-30-2010	Rep. Tami Greene	1 person	PDB – familiarized her with the project as an overview	She asked questions about how we would address traffic congestion that is already an issue at the Berkeley Street interchange. We highlighted improvements to signals and crossings.
09-20-2010	Lakewood City Council	7 member council, plus general audience	PDB was one of several items on the council agenda Updated the council on the status of our project and specifics about the work that the technical and executive advisory groups are doing to help in the EA.	Questions from member Whalen and the mayor about Lakewood's ability to approve or decline the project moving forward. The city has no decision making role in this project or the EA.
08-19-2010	Sen. Mike Carrell	2 people	HSR/Program overview, PDB specifics including outreach strategies to Tillicum area.	Would like to be advised if communities are not participating in Pt. Defiance EA process. 11-29-10 wrote letter opposing project.
08-18-2010	Camp Murray,	5 to 7 people	PDB EA and the Camp Murray Gate relocation	Met with Duane Coffey, Minh Vo, Gary

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	WSDOT		discussion	Wells and Mark McElroy. Kevin Dayton participated. Discussed that the PDB EA is completely separate from the Gate Move EA.
08-17-2010	Claudia Thomas – Lakewood City Councilmember	1 person	PDB – Meeting to overview how the local communities would be engaged in the project. Use of the Advisory teams	Would like to set up monthly updates. Thomas contact number: 253-732-7771 Thomas suggested that Camp Murray use the N. Fort gate instead.
08-03-2010	Sen. Murray's staff	1 person	PDB	Followed up on PDB discussion about Tillicum neighborhood and local opposition to project.
07-09-2010	Sen. Murray's staff	1 person	HSR Program Overview	Discussed controversial areas like PDB. Murray's staff would like to be kept in the loop on the status of the project.
06-22-2010	Rep. Dicks' staff	1 person	Update on HSR and Pt. Defiance Project	Notified Dicks of potential controversial projects like PDB.
05-21-2010	Rep. Smith's staff	1 person	Update on HSR and Pt. Defiance Project	Notified Dicks of potential controversial projects like PDB.
5-11-2010	JTC Rail Tour	45 people	HSR Program and introduction to the Point Defiance EA process. WSDOT provided a hosted bus tour of the parallel street route. Included members of the senate and house transportation committee	Provided information about our plans to convene Advisory Groups to help the communities better engage in the EA process.
04-28-2010	Port of Tacoma	15 panel members	Panel of transportation and industry leaders discuss how they are handling supply chain challenges	Specific praise for taking passenger rail off the busy mainline around Point Defiance to make room for freight traffic to the port.
04-15-2010	Gov. Gregoire's communications staff	2 people	PDB	Questions about how the funding works and what steps we need to take to obligate the funding. Had questions about decision making capability of the local jurisdictions in relation to the PDB project.

## PUBLIC OUTREACH

Date	Audience	Attendees	Topic/Message	Notes/Comments
07-18-2012	S. Tacoma Neighborhood Council	40 people	Discussion about the Point Defiance Bypass environmental studies and upcoming milestones and public review opportunities	Comments from the public were mostly about traffic concerns and potential safety issues with people walking to the nearby community center at 66 <sup>th</sup> Street
03-21-2012	S. Tacoma Neighborhood Council	50 people	PDB general overview and status report. Partner presentation about highway and rail projects affecting S. Tacoma.	Comments from neighborhood representatives included concerns about traffic congestion as a result of trains passing through several at grade crossings in their area. Also had concerns about noise from train horns.
11-29-2011	Gyro Club of Tacoma – community group	35 people	PDB - general overview and status report. 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting with this group	Comments were about potential decrease in property values for those who live near the tracks. Questions primarily about traffic signal coordination and anticipated congestion.
09-22-2011	Broadway Tacoma Farmers Market	Conversations with approx. 35 to 40 individuals	PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Very little awareness about the project, but favorable response to our information.
09-11-2011	S. Tacoma Farmers Market	Conversations with approx. 20 to 25 individuals	PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Questions primarily about anticipated timing of the start of service in 2017 and potential increases in traffic congestion as a result of our trains and Sounder trains.
09-01-2011	Broadway Tacoma Farmers Market	Conversations with approx. 35 to 40 individuals	PDB – general information. Maps, boards and handouts	People generally supportive of the expansion of the service, but very little awareness of the project.
08-31-2011	Alternatives Open House	45 people	PDB: preferred route milestone and current progress. Requested by FRA.	Most of the attendees were repeat guests from other events. Most people were opposed to the project. Comments were that the train service running through their community would reduce property values, pose a threat to children near the tracks and be a noise issue for those living near

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Date	Audience	Attendees	Topic/Message	Notes/Comments
				the rail line.
08-25-2011	Broadway Tacoma Farmers Market	Conversations with approx. 25 people	PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Mostly questions about when the trains would start running. Very little awareness of the project.
08-21-2011	S. Tacoma Farmers Market	Conversations with approx. 15 people	PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Numerous comments about the congestion at 56 <sup>th</sup> and 74 <sup>th</sup> Streets, very congested arterials. Negative attitude about WSDOT's empathy for their traffic issues.
08-14-2011	S. Tacoma Farmers Market	Conversations with approx. 20 people	PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Questions about signals at 56 <sup>th</sup> and 74 <sup>th</sup> and whether the timing would be changed. Concerns expressed about
03-29-2011	Lakewood Pacific Neighborhood	20 people	PDB – progress of the studies and overview of project	Comments about timing of improvements and impacts to neighborhoods. Questions about safety improvements and details.
03-02-2011	Pierce County Building & Construction Trades Council	25 people	PDB – types of work that will be available to contractors	Questions mostly surrounding improvements to signals and potential contracting opportunities.
02-02-2011	RAMP	20 people	PDB – How this project will impact surrounding businesses	Questions about timing of improvements and start of service
01-14-2011	Coffee with the Mayor	30 people	PDB – status update about our studies and the progress of the EA	Questions about what we're doing to prevent fatalities along the tracks by walking pedestrians. Comments from audience were negative about noise, vibration and safety.
01-06-2011	Tillicum/Woodbrook Neighborhood Assoc.	100+ residents from 3 different HOAs	PDB – PowerPoint about the overall project and the progress of our traffic and transportation studies	More than 100 attendees, coverage from KOMO TV. Complaints about traffic congestion, noise and vibration, impacts on property values, potential safety risks to children using tracks as a pedestrian path.
11-15-2010	Tillicum Community	60 attendees	PDB – Open House featuring status update on the EA, traffic studies and next steps.	Open House – approx. 60 attendees. Heard comments and concerns about safety, traffic congestion, noise and quality of life issues

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11-04-2010	Tacoma Univ. District	Conversations with approx. 25 people	D to M Construction Open House. WSDOT hosted a table about PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Sound Transit hosted. WSDOT engaged audience on our trains joining Sounder on the tracks through S. Tacoma in 2017. People commented on traffic congestion concerns.
10-28-2010	Lakewood United	55 to 60 attendees	PDB - PowerPoint about the overall project and the progress of our traffic and transportation studies	Comments questioned the need to move the service off the existing route. People questioned the wisdom of spending millions for such few riders. WSDOT provided annual ridership numbers to address that comment.
10-18-2010	Tillicum Citizens Advisory Committee	12 attendees	PDB – Orientation meeting to talk about our EA and the role of the Advisory Teams. Provided info on how to engage with their local community reps.	The Action Team wanted to know how they could stay engaged and how they can get a “seat at the table” in the decision making process. Committed to meeting in a workshop format during the month of November
09-16-2010	Broadway Tacoma Farmers Market	Conversations with approx. 12 people	PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Engaged several people. Some were against it and some are in favor.
09-08-2010	KOMO Radio listeners		HSR Overview and BNSF Agreement	Radio host was interested in ridership numbers and projected growth. Commented that taking the train service off the Tacoma waterfront, would decrease riders.
08-18-2010	South Tacoma Neighborhood Council	30+ people	Point Defiance project – information about our scoping process and the extent of work on the studies	Project team received many comments about potential traffic issues when the trains start running
08-03-2010	National Night Out	Conversations with approx. 10 people	PDB - PDB - general information. Maps, boards and handouts	Provided information materials to neighborhood residents and answered questions. Most people were not aware of the project or its issues.

## Bypass of Point Defiance TECHNICAL ADVISORY TEAM

Date	Location	Time	Notes/Topic(s)
03-29-2012	WSDOT HQ Commission Board Room	10 to noon	Overview of FRA's NEPA process and results of environmental studies
01-19-2012	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room		Review of Discipline Report comments
11-15-2011	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	9 - noon	Facilitated Review of Noise and Socio-Econ Reports
10-18-2011	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	9 to noon	Facilitated Review of Transportation Report
06-16-2011	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Present findings from traffic study; next steps in EA process
05-19-2011	WSDOT HQ – Commission Boardroom	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Colleen Vaughn visit; Shoreline & greenfield memo highlights; upcoming outreach & TAG mtg schedule; “mitigation by design” discussed.
03-17-2011	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	EA schedule update; Traffic study update; present findings of greenfield technical memo
01-20-2011	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	EA schedule and risks; Traffic study baseline numbers & assumptions; Greenfield memo update
10-21-2010	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Sign team charter; identify potential greenfield routes; present findings of shoreline memo
09-23-2010	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Review team charter; final mitigation idea brainstorming
08-26-2010	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Continuation of weighting workshop
08-12-2010	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	9 – 11 a.m.	Mitigation Measures Weighting Workshop: Performance objectives; Big/Little “M” mitigation
07-29-2010	DuPont City Hall	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Team charter/“charge”; Lakewood present pedestrian overpass concept; Mitigation brainstorm
07-15-2010	Lakewood City Hall	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Project history; EA process; alternatives analysis/tech memos (shoreline (existing), greenfield routes)
06-29-2010	WSDOT HQ	3 – 5 p.m.	Kick-off Meeting

## Bypass of Point Defiance EXECUTIVE ADVISORY TEAM

Date	Location	Time	Notes
01-09-2012	DuPont City Hall	10 – 11 a.m.	Summary of the comments in the discipline reports. Requested a joint TAG meeting
12-01-2011	Lakewood City Hall	10 – 11 a.m.	Summary of 11-15 TAG meeting and next steps
07-07-2011	DuPont City Hall	1 – 2 p.m.	Summary of 6-16 TAG meeting and what's next
06-02-2011	DuPont City Hall	1 – 2 p.m.	Summary of 5-19 TAG meeting and what's next
04-07-2011	Lakewood City Hall	1 – 2 p.m.	Summary of 3-17 TAG meeting and what's next
02-03-2011	Lakewood City Hall	1 – 2 p.m.	Summary of 1-20 TAG meeting and what's next
11-04-2010	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 – 11 a.m.	Summary of 10-21 TAG meeting and what's next
10-07-2010	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 – 11 a.m.	Summary of 9-23 TAG meeting and what's next
09-09-2010	Pierce Transit – Rainier Conf. Room	10 – 11 a.m.	Summary of 8-12 & 8-26 TAG meetings and what's next
08-05-2010	Lakewood City Hall	10 – 11 a.m.	Summary of 7-15 TAG meeting and what's next
06-29-2010	WSDOT HQ	3 – 5 p.m.	Kick-off Meeting