



**Eastrail Regional Advisory Council
October 17, 2024 2:00PM – 4:00PM**

- 2:00 PM – 2:05 PM **Introductions and Agenda Review**
- RAC Co-Chair Kirkland Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold
- 2:05 PM – 2:15 PM **Public Comment**
- RAC Co-Chair Kirkland Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold
- 2:15 PM – 2:20 PM **Approval of July 18, 2024 RAC Meeting Summary**
- RAC Co-Chair Kirkland Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold
- 2:20 PM - 2:30 PM **Confirming RAC Co-Chairs for 2024-2026 Terms (Decision Item)**
- RAC Co-Chair Kirkland Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold
- 2:30 PM – 2:55 PM **Eastrail Leadership Assembly Planning (Information and Discussion Item)**
- Curt Warber, King County DNRP
- 2:55 PM – 3:25 PM **“Code of Conduct” Concept Development (Information and Direction Item)**
- David St. John, King County DNRP
 - Joe Inslee. King County Parks
- 3:25 PM – 3:45 PM **Status Update on 2025-2026 RAC/Eastrail Partners Interlocal Agreement (Information and Consensus Item)**
- Katherine Hollis, Eastrail Partners
 - David St. John, King County DNRP
- 3:45 PM – 4:00 PM **Progress and Success Updates (Information Item)**
- RAC members
 - Katherine Hollis, Eastrail Partners
- 4:00 PM **Adjourn**



EASTRAIL REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

July 18, 2024 | 3 – 5 PM

Zoom Meeting

Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Members Present: Jay Arnold, Kirkland Deputy Mayor (Co-Chair); John Stokes, Bellevue Councilmember; Jessica Forsythe, Redmond Council Vice President; Ryan McIrvine, Renton Councilmember; Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember; Warren Jimenez (alternate for King County Dept. of Natural Resources and Parks Director John Taylor); Michelle Evans, Woodinville Councilmember; Emily Griffith (alternate for Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Director Tom Teigen); Matt Larsen, Puget Sound Energy; Ariel Taylor, Sound Transit.

Welcome and Introductions

Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm, welcomed all in attendance to the third RAC meeting of 2024, and reviewed the agenda.

Public Comment

Member of the public asked when the RCC section south of 124th will be open. Council Vice President Forsythe responded that it would be open in late spring or summer of 2025.

Eastrail Partners Proposal for Next Service Agreement (Information/Discussion Item)

Katherine Hollis of Eastrail Partners provided an update on their 2025-2026 service agreement proposal, as well as a request to develop a more streamlined and longer-term framework for future service agreements. Slides were included in the meeting packet.

- \$200,000 service agreement proposal for the 2025-2026 Biennium will support community co-creation, shared communications, coalition building and private sector support and engagement.
- Previous service agreements were executed and implemented differently, and all were labor intensive and time consuming.
- Eastrail Partners would like RAC input and support to shape a new overarching structure for service agreements. Requests for this structure include:
 - Instrument that could be in place for a 6–10-year timeframe
 - More timely delivery of funds
 - Potential for RAC entities to revisit funding allocation formula
 - Revisiting scope and funding amounts for each biennium

Discussion & Next Steps

- Members agreed that Eastrail Partners has delivered a huge amount of value through previous service agreements and that revisiting and revising service agreement structure made sense.
- Members were interested in seeing funding contributions for each entity as well as the funding allocation formula. Staff will provide these to RAC members for review, begin working on instrument development, and share an update at the October RAC meeting.
- Members were interested in timelines for this request as they go into budgeting season. October would be ideal, though that might not be feasible. Having requests for each entity will be necessary to reserve funds in members' budget. Some entities may want to have presentations on the requests as well.

Approval of April 17, 2024 RAC meeting summary

Councilmember Forsythe moved to approve the April 17 meeting summary and Councilmember Stokes seconded. **Members unanimously voted to approve the April 17 meeting summary.**

RAC Co-Chair Positions for 2024-2026 Term (Information Item)

David St. John of King County Parks reviewed the role and eligibility for RAC co-chair positions as the current co-chair terms will end in October and new co-chairs for 2024-2026 terms must be chosen. Current co-chairs Deputy Mayor Arnold and Councilmember Sarah Perry will not be seeking reelection.

Discussion & Next Steps

- Members expressed appreciation for Councilmember Perry and Deputy Mayor Arnold's leadership in this most recent team.
- Councilmember Balducci and Council Vice President Forsythe are interested in the co-chair positions. Members will select new co-chairs in October.

Update on 2024 RAC Activities Implementation (Information and Discussion Item)

Colin Petkus of Eastrail Partners and Shannon Arms of King County Parks provided updates on 2024 RAC activities, including videos, tours, public celebrations and activations, and the leadership assembly.

- **Video:** videographer is currently capturing footage and will have a final product in early September. Will have several videos to communicate about Eastrail and plan to unveil one at the leadership assembly.
- **Leadership assembly:** half or ¾ day event in early November (tentatively November 14) at GIX in Bellevue. King County is funding consultant expenses for event planning and RAC entities will support other funding needs. Next steps are to execute contract with planning consultant, finalize date, venue, and invite list, and develop draft program agenda and keynote speaker. Agenda will include celebrating successes, breakouts for engagement and future planning, and a reception. Anticipate needing RAC member engagement and participation.
- **Tours:** not doing many tours currently given the number of celebration events.
- **Public celebrations and activations:** aligning with Eastrail Partners service agreement task, events at Feriton Spur Park in Kirkland have been the focus lately.

Next Steps on Key Cross-cutting Trail Corridor Management Issues (Information/Decision Item)

David St. John facilitated a discussion of desired outcomes, priorities, recommendations, and next steps on key cross-cutting trail corridor management issues. He also shared draft guidance for coordinated management for RAC input and discussion. Slides were included in the meeting packet.

- The list of cross-cutting issues includes: micromobility devices, hours of operation, lighting, trail etiquette/Eastrail "code of conduct," trail user education, regulation and enforcement, local bike/ped facilities and networks connections, accessibility, and neighboring parcel access points.
- Staff requested formation of a group with necessary expertise (including owners/developers/operators and Eastrail Partners) to meet regularly in 2025 and review RAC guidance on guiding principles for coordinated trail management as well as guidance on cross-cutting issues. This group would provide recommendations for the substance and implementation plan for coordinated trail corridor management that meets the RAC's guiding principles, implement the work plan, and report back to the RAC on progress and results.

Discussion & Next Steps

- Members were generally in support of an Eastrail code of conduct and want policies to be adopted across the entire Eastrail.

- King County has just finished title 7 code updates and noted that there seems to be significant alignment within existing codes of conduct.
- Members agreed that micromobility and regulation and enforcement were higher priority issues. Connections and access points may require larger capital investments for individual jurisdictions.
- Members were generally supportive of the request to form a working group. Woodinville would like a presentation to their City Council about the principles discussed.

Climate Commitment Act Update (Information Item)

Deputy Mayor Arnold provided updates on the Climate Commitment Act (CCA, the state's cap and invest system), which included \$1.3B for transportation in the last budget. There is an initiative on the November ballot to repeal the CCA. The following Eastrail projects have received CCA funding:

- \$5M for the SR-202 trestle in Woodinville
- \$18M for the I-90 Steel Bridge and Wilburton Trestle (also part of match for a \$25M RAISE grant)
- \$6M for property acquisition along Eastrail Corridor South in Renton

Progress and Success Updates (Information Item)

Bellevue – NE 8th Street Bridge opening on June 23 had a great turnout.

Sound Transit – Lynwood Link will open August 30 and include celebrations for station openings. There will be additional Eastside Link stations opening in 2025.

Redmond – RCCIII plans were approved by WSDOT, anticipated completion in late spring or summer 2025. Downtown Art Walk is September 19, and Rockin' on the River summer concert series will be going on Wednesdays from July 31 to August 21 on the East Lake Sammamish Trail.

Renton – Renton River Days festival will be July 26-28 and include a drone show at Coulon Park on July 26 at 9:30pm.

King County – awarded \$25M RAISE grant which will leverage additional state funding, appreciate federal delegation leadership and partners' letters of support. I-90 steel bridge construction is moving forward and they are close to initiating design work. Had groundbreaking at Wilburton Trestle (anticipated opening in 2026). Just completed title code updates, e-bikes are now officially allowed on King County regional trails. They are conducting additional analysis across the trails system to see where expanded hours might be possible.

Woodinville – received \$5M RAISE grant, appreciate partners' letters of support.

Snohomish County – Transportation Safety Board has ruled in their favor on adverse abandonment proceedings, still in final stages of rail banking but hoping to share good news at leadership assembly.

The meeting recording is available here: [2024 Meetings - King County](#). Interested parties should send comments to eastrail@kingcounty.gov. Joe Inslee will compile any additional comments received.

Next Steps and Adjournment

The next RAC meeting will be October 17. Staff will send out the schedule for 2024 quarterly meetings soon, as well as meeting registration information in advance. The meeting adjourned at 4:57 pm.



Let's Connect

Regional Advisory Council Co-Chair Positions

**Material Shared During the Briefing on Transition to 2024-2026 Terms at
the July 18, 2024 RAC Meeting**

October 17, 2024

RAC Co-Chair Position Briefing on Transition to 24-26 Terms

Today's Focus:

- Review purpose and roles of the RAC
- Review guidance on RAC leadership and eligibility to hold Co-Chair positions
- Look ahead to the anticipated Co-Chair actions for the upcoming terms
- RAC discussion and Q&A



RAC Co-Chair Position Briefing on Transition to 24-26 Terms

Purpose and Membership of the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council:

- The RAC was created in December 2012 by King County Council Motion 13801 to coordinate corridor planning and development activities in the context of multiple corridor uses

The RAC will serve as a venue to jointly:

- Coordinate the planning, development, public engagement, and communications and marketing activities to the extent possible to ensure effective use of the railbanked portion of the corridor.
- Coordinate the partner planning process for the trail, high-capacity transit, and utility uses in the Eastrail.
- Coordinate with affected cities around local planning and development.
- Address both near-term and long-term recommendations.
- Recommend any needed changes to the county's countywide planning policies relative to the corridor.
- Coordinate on funding capital projects and potentially operations.
- Develop legislative agendas and lobbying as it pertains to Eastrail projects and issues.
- Weigh in on Sound Transit and Metro Long Range Plans as related to the Eastrail.
- Approve a work plan and corresponding budget that sets out the work for the RAC for the year. Members will assign staff to participate in coordination and collaboration efforts.

RAC Co-Chair Position Briefing on Transition to 24-26 Terms

Purpose and Membership of the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council:

- The RAC was created in December 2012 by King County Council Motion 13801 to coordinate corridor planning and development activities in the context of multiple corridor uses
- RAC membership:
 - At initiation:
 - King County
 - City of Kirkland
 - City of Redmond
 - Sound Transit
 - Puget Sound Energy
 - Membership additions by 2017 RAC Memorandum of Understanding (KCC Motion 14922):
 - Snohomish County
 - City of Bellevue
 - City of Renton
 - City of Woodinville
 - Eastside Greenway Alliance

RAC Co-Chair Position Briefing on Transition to 24-26 Terms

RAC Leadership and Co-Chair Eligibility:

- The RAC revised its leadership structure in 2022 by Memorandum of Understanding (KCC Motion 16154)
- Transitioned from a Chair/Vice Chair structure to a Co-Chair structure:

SECTION 3. RAC Leadership:

The RAC will have two co-Chairs. One co-Chair will be an elected official from the King County RAC membership, and the other co-Chair will be an elected official from another Eastrail owner jurisdiction. The co-Chair positions will be selected every two (2) years by the ownership jurisdiction members of the RAC. The RAC will operate under a consensus model and will not take votes approving or disapproving any particular item before the RAC. The RAC may establish subcommittees of members and staff as needed to address special and or specific issues related to the work of the RAC.

- Initial Co-Chair terms officially began at the October 2022 RAC quarterly meeting

RAC Co-Chair Position Briefing on Transition to 24-26 Terms

Look Ahead to RAC Co-Chair Actions for the 24-26 Term:

- Facilitate the timely development of RAC consensus or shared perspective on coordinated trail management (e.g., open hours, lighting, micro-mobility, trail etiquette and user education, etc.)
- Coordinate RAC advocacy for high priority corridor development projects
- Celebrate the completion of major projects to achieve the RAC vision for the corridor, e.g.,
 - Opening of the Wilburton Trestle and I-405 bridges and connected trail segment to NE 4th
 - Opening of Redmond Central Connector Phase 3
 - Completion of the ST Downtown Redmond Link Extension (2 Line), with new Eastrail/RCC connection to East Lake Sammamish Trail and stations in Marymoor Village and downtown Redmond
- Further cultivate the public-private partnership essential to achieving our vision for the corridor
- Prepare and sign RAC member joint statements to external parties on the RAC's behalf
- Represent the RAC at Eastrail events as necessary/appropriate
- Guide development and implementation of the annual RAC/PST Work Plan
- Plan and facilitate quarterly RAC meetings
- Provide guidance and direction to the Principals' Staff Team as needed

Questions?



Let's Connect

“Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

October 17, 2024

Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

Today’s Focus:

- Why are we talking about this now?
- What would a “Code of Conduct” do? How would having one help?
- How could we develop and implement it?
- RAC discussion and Q&A
- Next Steps



Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

Why are we talking about this now?

- Continued growth in trail connection/miles and increased use
- Long standing desire to implement a welcoming trail environment
- RAC “cross-cutting issues” discussion has evolved to encompass interest in the “Code of Conduct” concept
- The RAC anticipates moving on to other high priority cross-cutting issues (e.g., open hours, lighting, etc.) after this work is complete

Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

A few considerations:

- We are in the formative steps of this work, input and perspective from RAC members is critical
- This will likely be a communications-focused product (rather than regulatory)
 - Build upon the Eastrail brand to encourage positive behavior
 - Promote a positive user experience AND promote community and/or pride
- We may end up with a product that isn’t called a “Code of Conduct”
- Use of the term does not imply producing “code” or regulation that needs to be formally adopted by any RAC entity
- Will need to consider how to address the transition area between Eastrail and connected bike/ped facilities and networks

Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

What would a “Code of Conduct” do? How would having one help us?

- Support the goal of welcoming a diverse community of users to enjoy the trail and corridor
- Help set expectations of how trail users should interact with the space and other trail users
- Build a sense of ownership and participation among users for helping create an enjoyable and welcoming space
- Help set realistic expectations about the use of regulations and enforcement to manage trail use behavior

Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

How could we develop and implement a “Code of Conduct”?

Task a project team to address questions like these:

- What are our expected outcomes for the development and implementation of a “Code of Conduct” for Eastrail?
- Regionally what are our best practices that could/should inform our work and products?
- What can we learn from comparable trail systems from around the country? (e.g., Highline, Belt Line, 606, etc.)
- What content is most important to the Eastrail stakeholders?
- What is the concise set of guidance that would best steward trail use to meet our needs?
- What needs to be communicated to trail users, and what are the most effective ways to communicate with them?
- How will we know if a “Code of Conduct” is effectively and positively contributing to a good user experience?

Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

Potential products:

- Summary of existing “Code of Conduct” examples from RAC entities
- Summary report on effective trail use management best practices and lessons learned from relevant local and national examples
- Outreach to stakeholder community to inform product development
- Concise trail use guidance
- Eastrail-branded trail user orientation and education campaign/messaging plan that strategically incorporates engagement and outreach tools, e.g., on-the-ground interactions, social media, signage, events, etc.
- Monitoring plan to periodically assess the effectiveness of the Code of Conduct and make advisable adjustments over time

Eastrail "Code of Conduct" Concept Development Update

Food for thought:



Rails to Trails



Seattle Farmers Markets



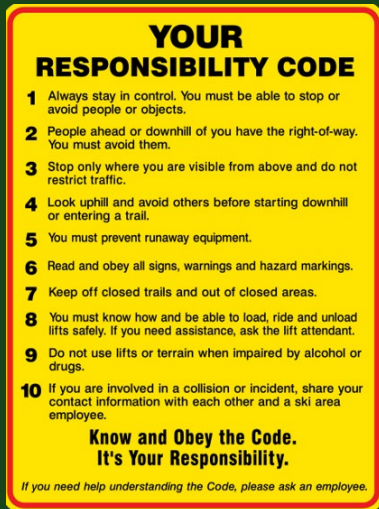
BC Marine Trails



Recreate Responsibly



Market in London



Skier Responsibility Code

HIGH ← ————— Regulatory Emphasis ————— → LOW

Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

How could we develop and implement a “Code of Conduct”?

Potential project team make-up:

- **Project manager:**

Time commitment: Up to 1-2 days per week on average over the life of the project (can be more based on interest and availability)

- **Team members:**

- A Parks and/or Transportation staffer from each trail owning entity and neighboring jurisdiction
- Communications and community engagement subject matter experts – 2-3, with affiliation TBD
- Additional staff with specific expertise on an as-needed basis

Time commitment: Up to 1-3 days per month on average over the life of the project (can be more based on interest and availability)

Eastrail “Code of Conduct” Concept Development Update

How could we develop and implement a “Code of Conduct”?

Illustrative schedule (would be adjusted based on final scope/work plan):

- Get RAC guidance, finalize work plan and staff commitments – October through January 2025
- Implement work plan - February through October 2025
- Check-in with RAC – April, July, and October 2025
- Community engagement for input on development of products – April through August 2025
- Presentation of final products – at the October 2025 quarterly RAC meeting
- Implementation of trail user orientation and education campaign/messaging – October 2025 and forward

RAC Discussion and Q&A

- Is the “Code of Conduct” concept and its value for trail development and use clear?
- Do the scope and products of the work make sense?
- Are RAC entities able to commit staff time to support the work effort needed?
- Should staff move ahead with developing a proposed work plan for RAC discussion and approval in January?

Next Steps



Let's Connect

**Consensus Item: 2025-2026 Eastrail Partners Funding and Scope of
Work**

Status Update on the RAC/Eastrail Partners Interlocal Agreement

October 17, 2024

Status Update on the RAC/EP Interlocal Agreement

Today's Focus:

- Affirm the RAC consensus on 2025-2026 scope and funding for Eastrail Partners
- Check on the status of County and City budget development to secure funds
- Review the foundational elements of the ILA
- Identify next steps



Status Update on the RAC/EP Interlocal Agreement

RAC Consensus for Affirmation (based on RAC discussion in April and July):

- Scope of services for 2025-2026 includes:
 - Continued shared communications and community collaborations (50%)
 - Coalition building and advocacy for trail funding and construction needs (50%)
- Funding amounts as shown in this table:

PROPOSED 2025-2026 Funding Allocations for Eastrail Partners' Service Agreement					
					\$ 200,000.00
	Total fee owned corridor miles	Jurisdiction stakeholder miles	Easement Miles	Shares/percentage	EP Funding (derived by formula)
Fee Interests					
Kirkland	5.75			9.82	\$ 19,640.68
Redmond	3.9			6.66	\$ 13,321.50
Woodinville	2.6			4.44	\$ 8,881.00
King County	15.8			26.98	\$ 53,969.16
Snohomish County	12			20.49	\$ 40,989.24
Sound Transit - fee	1.1			1.88	\$ 3,757.35
	41.15			70.28	
Easement Interests					
PSE			29.15	10.00	\$ 20,000.00
Sound Transit - easement			25.25	10.00	\$ 20,000.00
				20.00	
Stakeholder Jurisdiction Interests					
Bellevue		7.5		7.29	\$ 14,580.80
Renton		2.5		2.43	\$ 4,860.27
		10		9.72	\$ 200,000.00
				100.00	

- Funding commitments and Eastrail Partners scope of services are only for calendar years 2025 and 2026 (i.e., the next biennium for the majority of the local governments providing funding)

Status Update on the RAC/EP Interlocal Agreement

Foundational elements of the ILA:

- Parties to the ILA are the RAC member counties, cities, and Eastrail Partners – PSE and Sound Transit will have separate agreements with Eastrail Partners
- Suggested Term of the ILA is 10 years – 2025 through 2034
- Funding commitments outlined in the ILA are only for calendar years 2025 and 2026 (i.e., the next biennium for the majority of the local governments providing funding).
- ILA provides 78% of the funding, PSE and ST agreements 22% in total
- Funding commitments are subject to appropriation
- Commitment to evaluate ILA effectiveness every two years (starting in January 2026) and consider subsequent new funding allocations to EP
- New commitments would be secured by amending the ILA bi-annually
- Current content addressing these elements is subject to further drafting and vetting, so will change

Status Update on the RAC/EP Interlocal Agreement

Funding commitments and budgeting status:

- ILA funding framework timeline tracks most directly with biennium budgeting for most local government parties
- King County biennial budgets will be out of synch so KC will need to manage budgeting differently
- Funding for the 2025-2026 scope of work to be provided to Eastrail Partners as quickly as possible in 2025 and no later than December 31, 2025
- Budgeting status update



Q&A and RAC Discussion