

EASTRAIL

Eastrail Regional Advisory Council
Friday, January 24, 2025 10:00AM – 12:00PM
Remote meeting to be held on Zoom

10:00 AM – 10:05 AM Introductions and Agenda Review

- RAC Co-Chair/King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci

10:05 AM – 10:15 AM Public Comment on Items on Today's Agenda – Please note that his time is reserved for comments only. Questions? Contact Eastrail@kingcounty.gov

- RAC Co-Chair/King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci

10:15 AM – 10:20 AM Approval of October 17, 2024 RAC Meeting Summary

- RAC Co-Chair/King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci

10:20 AM – 10:50 AM 2025 Capital Project Look Ahead (Information Item)

- Joe Inslee, King County Parks and Recreation Division
- Principals' Staff Team members

10:50 AM – 11:05 AM 2025 RAC/PST Work Plan/Priorities (Discussion and Decision Item)

- David St. John, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

11:05 AM – 11:25 AM Work Plan for Developing and Implementing “Welcome to Eastrail” Community Guidelines (Discussion and Direction Item)

- Joe Inslee, King County Parks and Recreation Division
- Katherine Hollis, Eastrail Partners

11:25 AM – 11:35 AM Leadership Assembly Planning Check In (Information Item)

- Curt Warber, King County Parks and Recreation Division

11:35 AM – 11:45 AM RAC Housekeeping: New RAC/EP Agreement, Eastside Greenway Alliance, and In-Person RAC Meeting Option (Information Item)

- David St. John, King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM Progress and Success Updates (Information Item)

- RAC members
- Katherine Hollis, Eastrail Partners

12:00 PM

Adjourn



EASTRAIL REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

October 17, 2024 | 2 – 4 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; John Taylor, King County Dept. of Natural Resources and Parks Director; Michelle Evans, Woodinville Councilmember; Tom Teigen, Snohomish County Parks and Recreation Director; Matt Larsen, Puget Sound Energy; Ariel Taylor (alternate for Don Billen, Sound Transit)

Welcome and Introductions

Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm, welcomed all in attendance to the final RAC meeting of 2024, and reviewed the agenda.

Public Comment

Ali Abdulla asked if there were any specific youth-related agenda topics. There were none.

Approval of July 18, 2024 RAC meeting summary

Council Vice President Forsythe moved to approve the July 18 meeting summary and Councilmember Evans seconded. **Members unanimously voted to approve the July 18 meeting summary.**

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

David St. John from King County reviewed the responsibilities of RAC co-chairs for the upcoming 2024-2026 term. **Councilmember Balducci and Council Vice President Forsythe were nominated and unanimously confirmed as co-chairs for the term.**

Eastrail Leadership Assembly Planning (Information/Discussion Item)

Curt Warber of King County provided an update on the Eastrail Leadership Assembly planning efforts. The event will take place in January or February 2025 at the GIX or at the Meydenbauer Center. A consultant team (Jamie Strausz-Clark of 3Si with PRR and OTAK) will support planning and facilitation. Jamie Strausz-Clark led a discussion about goals and vision for the event to support planning.

- What will make RAC members feel that the event was successful?
 - Reignited feeling of inspiration and what is possible to accomplish.
 - New ideas for trail activation to invite new community groups/members that may not normally use or even know about Eastrail.
 - Celebration of real progress and tangible outcomes to date.
 - Capitalizing on and building momentum to connect with new partners, especially elected officials from Snohomish County.
 - Identifying other funding opportunities to realize the full Eastrail vision.
- What is one thought or feeling that you want every event attendee to walk away with?
 - How cool is this project?!
 - Be inspired and ready to continue working hard to realize the full Eastrail vision.
 - This event was fun.

“Code of Conduct” Concept Development (Information/Direction Item)

David St. John and Joe Inslee of King County provided an update on the development of an Eastrail “code of conduct” and requested RAC input and staff commitment to support a dedicated project team. Slides were included in the meeting packet.

- As trail connections and use increase, a code of conduct would support the goal of welcoming a diverse community of users to enjoy the corridor, set expectations of how trail users should interact with the space and other users, build a sense of ownership and participation among users for helping create an enjoyable and welcoming space, and set realistic expectations about the use of regulations and enforcement to manage trail use behavior.
- This will likely be a communications-focused (rather than regulatory) approach with a messaging campaign and materials as final products to provide guidance and promote a positive user experience.
- Project team request and timeline:
 - Anticipate project running January through October 2025, though could be expedited depending on work plan and staff availability.
 - Project manager: up to 1-2 days per week for project duration
 - Project team members: up to 1-3 days per month on average for project duration
 - Parks and/or Transportation staffer from each trail owning entity and neighboring jurisdiction
 - 2-3 communications and community engagement subject matter experts, and additional staff with specific expertise on an as-needed basis
- Staff team will finalize commitments and work plan at the January RAC meeting.

Discussion & Next Steps

- Members generally supported moving forward with concept development, however some members cautioned against a punitive tone, preferring an approach that encourages cooperation and safety without sounding overly restrictive.
- There was interest in multiple messaging channels (e.g., Trail Ambassadors) with opportunities to pilot messaging next summer.

2025/2026 RAC/Eastrail Partners Interlocal Agreement Update (Information/Consensus Item)

Katherine Hollis of Eastrail Partners and David St. John shared updates on the Eastrail Partners funding and scope of work for 2025-2026, as well as the RAC/Eastrail Partners Interlocal Agreement (ILA). Slides were included in the meeting packet.

- RAC approved a \$200,000 funding agreement and scope of work presented at the April and July meetings to support shared communications and community collaborations, as well as coalition building and advocacy for trail funding and construction needs.
- Staff are also developing an ILA; parties to the ILA would include RAC member counties, cities, and Eastrail Partners. PSE and Sound Transit will have separate agreements (though scope and funding commitments will be the same). Suggested ILA term is 2025-2034, and current funding commitments would extend through the next biennium. ILA will provide 78% of the funding and PSE/Sound Transit will provide the remaining 22%. Funding commitments will be subject to appropriation. ILA will include a commitment to evaluate its effectiveness every two years and consider subsequent new funding allocations to Eastrail Partners. New commitments would be secured by amending the ILA biannually.
- Staff will incorporate feedback into the draft ILA and circulate to each party for legal review and

continue to iterate. ILA will require City and County Council approval from RAC entities next year.

Discussion & Next Steps

- **There was consensus support for both the funding agreement and ILA with members noting the importance of responsible spending of public funds.** Snohomish County noted receiving questions from some of their elected officials about their contribution despite not yet being connected to Eastrail.

Progress and Success Updates (Information Item)

Sound Transit – planning two eastside Link light rail openings in 2025, Downtown Redmond (late spring) and I-90 Bridge (second half of the year).

Kirkland – date is being finalized for Google Lights at Feriton Spur Park.

Redmond – construction on RCCIII will begin in December with planned opening in summer 2025.

Redmond Lights runs December 7 through January 6.

Renton – staff continue to work on connecting the Renton terminus to other south King County trails.

Renton Holiday Lights opening night will be December 6 at Coulon Park.

King County – Wilburton Trestle is under construction with plans to open summer 2026. I-90 Steel Bridge design and engineering contracts are being negotiated with NTP expected in early 2025. Central Wilburton segment between NE 8th St. and the Wilburton Trestle is in design with construction expected to start summer 2025. King County is also conducting outreach and engagement related to regional trail hours as they explore potential trail hours expansion. They have already received over 1,200 public survey responses.

Snohomish County – now fully railbanked and looking forward to connecting Snohomish to Woodinville Eastrail segments.

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 sometime in January. Staff are determining the schedule for 2025 RAC meetings based on co-chair availability and will send out dates and registration information soon. The meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm.

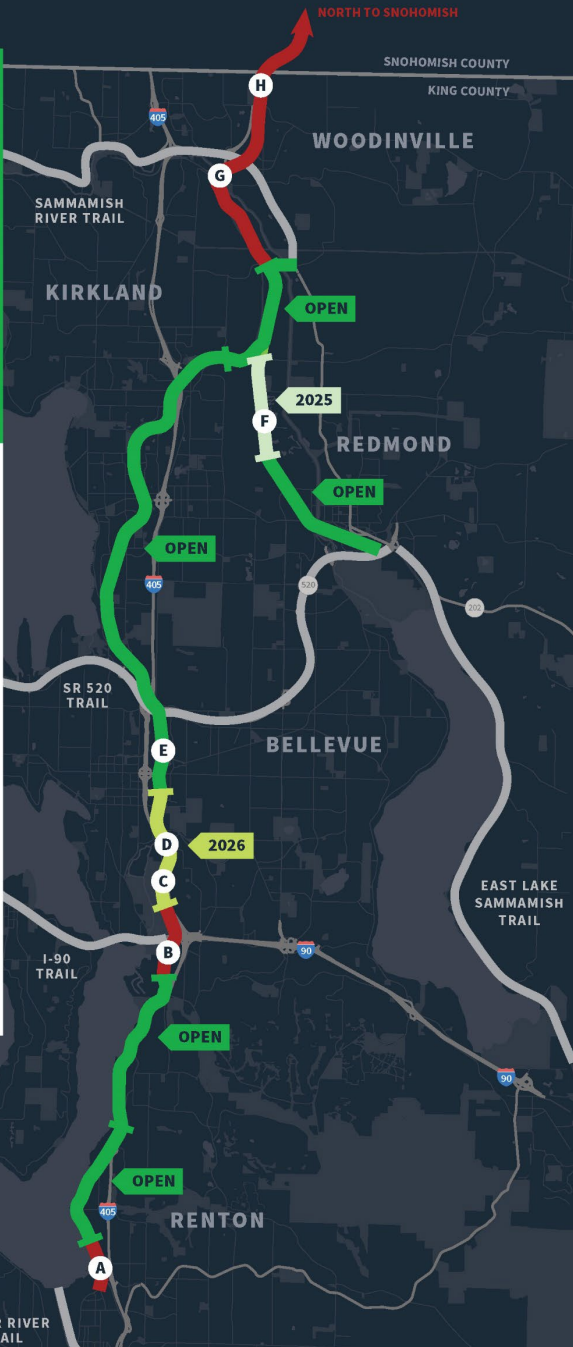
EASTRAIL

Anticipated Trail Connection Projects 2025-2026

Years shown reflect assumptions that are current as of January 2025 and are subject to change based on new information

- OPEN
- 2025
- 2026
- NOT YET FUNDED

- A Renton Southern Extension (Partially funded)
- B I-90 Crossing (Partially funded)
- C WSDOT I-405 Overpass
- D Wilburton Trestle
- E Spring Blvd Connector (2025)
- F Redmond Central Connector Phase III
- G Woodinville Eastrail Sections (Partially funded)
- H Centennial Trail South



Eastrail Capital Project Updates

Eastrail Regional Advisory Council
January 24, 2025

An Anticipated Construction Outlook

Timeline and cost information is current as of January 2025 and is based on the best available information at this time.

Estimating standards vary between agencies and based on the extent of design work completed for each project. Contact Joe Inslee, King County Parks for questions or clarification, jinslee@kingcounty.gov

2024 Accomplishments

\$30M in Federal RAISE Grants
(Woodinville and King County)



ST 2 Line Opening



NE 8th Opening



2024 Accomplishments

Snohomish County completes
Railbanking



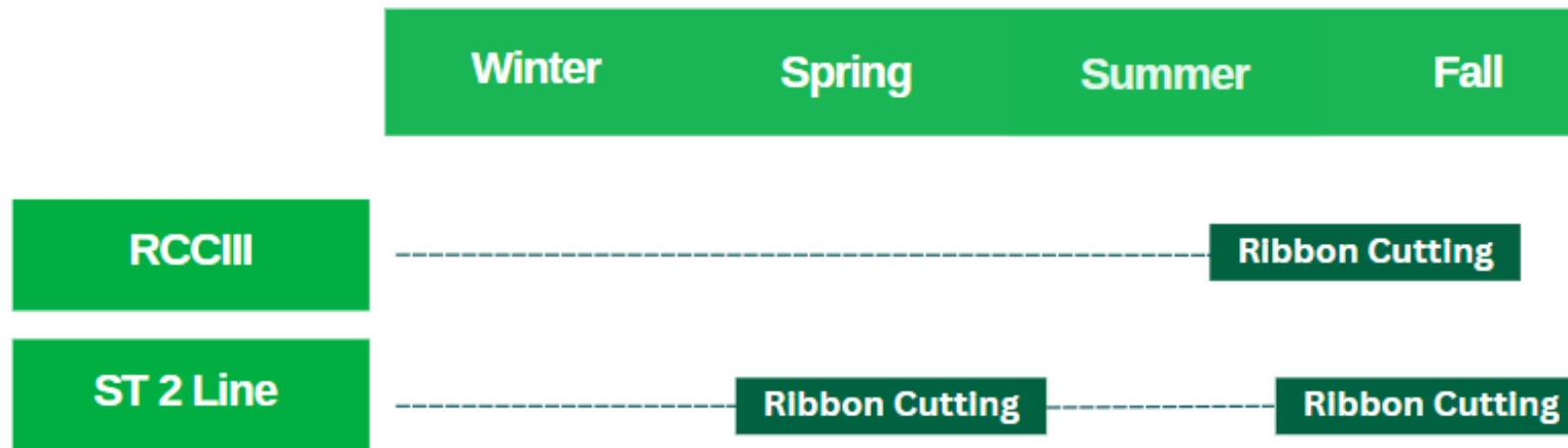
Wilburton Trestle
Groundbreaking



Eastrail Partners activation
events



2025 Eastrail Milestones



Connecting Redmond Central Connector to the East Lake Sammamish Trail

KING COUNTY/ SOUND TRANSIT

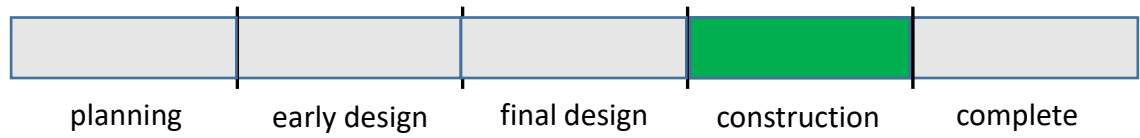


Connecting Redmond Central Connector to the East Lake Sammamish Trail

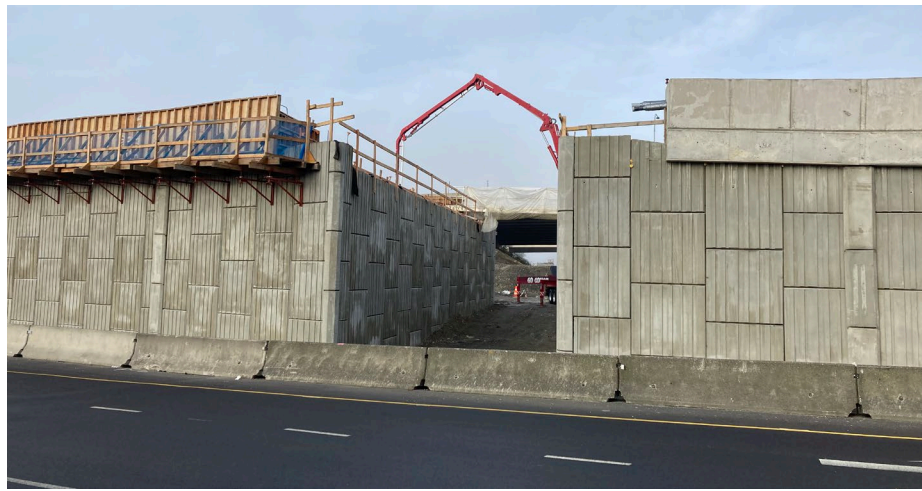
(in coordination with ST Downtown Redmond Link Extension Project)

KING COUNTY/REDMOND/SOUND TRANSIT

- The East Lake Sammamish Trail (ELST) North Extension will replace crossing 10+ lanes of traffic with a direct, off-street bike/ped connection with the Redmond Central Connector/Eastrail
- 2025 trail work includes finishing the Bear Creek bridge surfacing and trail construction along the Sound Transit Marymoor Village station area frontage and into downtown Redmond
- 2025 transit work includes opening the 2 Line to the Technology Center campus and system testing between that campus and the Marymoor Village/Downtown Redmond stations



OPENING: Spring 2025



Redmond Central Connector Phase III

CITY OF REDMOND



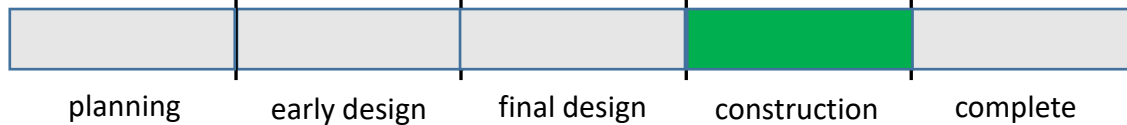
Redmond Central Connector Phase III

REDMOND

- RCC III is a 1.6-mile segment that will extend the RCC north to NE 124th street at the Kirkland border.
- The third and final phase of the Redmond Central Connector.



RCC III PHASE

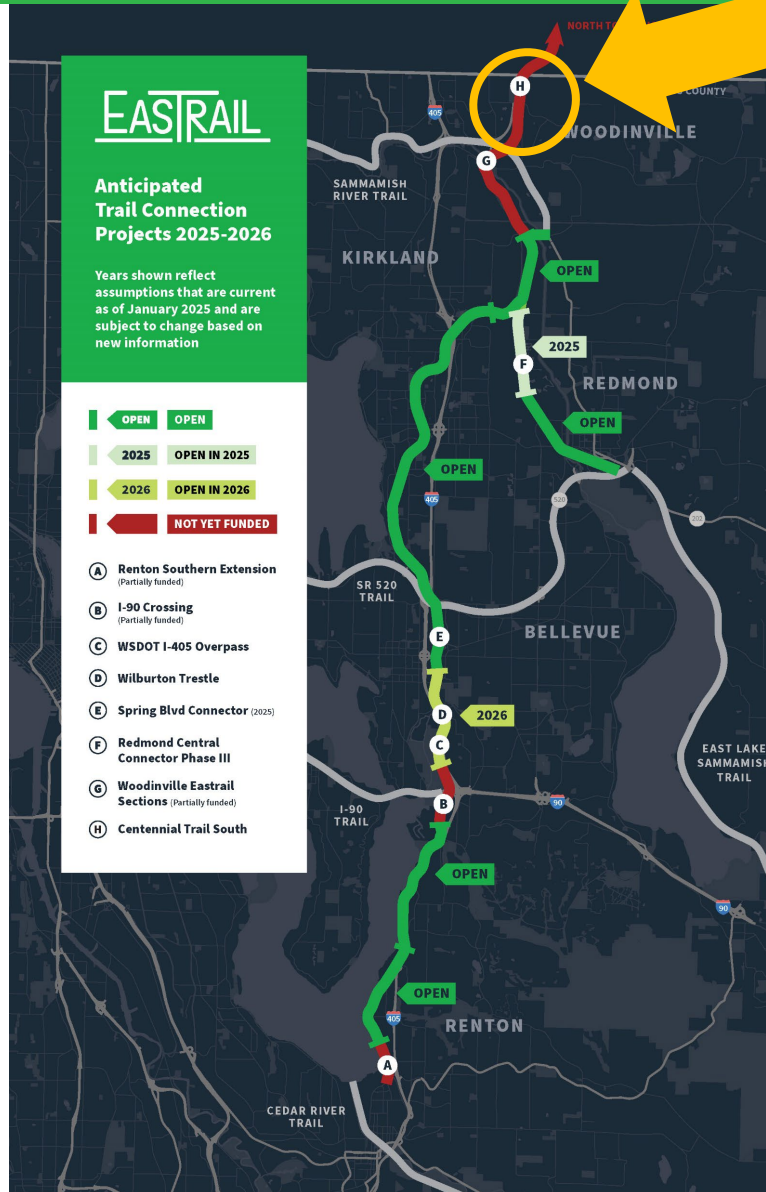


RCC III is actively under construction

- Grant funds obligated and WSDOT approved design
- Contractor commenced work December 2024
- Substantial completion anticipated June 2025

ESTIMATED TRAIL OPENING: 2025

Centennial Trail South SNOHOMISH COUNTY



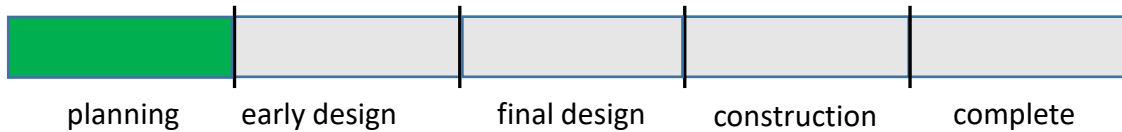
Centennial Trail (CT) South

Snohomish County

- CT South will be a 12-mile paved trail connection between the City of Snohomish and the King/Snohomish County Line
- Will link 30 miles of Centennial Trail to 30 miles of Eastrail
- Corridor will be developed in phases



PHASE



- Project kickoff for conceptual design and feasibility in 2025
- Will establish corridor alignment, phasing plan and funding plan



202 Trestle

CITY OF WOODINVILLE



Woodinville 202 Trestle

WOODINVILLE

- Improve where the Eastrail passes over State Route 202 at the entrance of downtown Woodinville.
- Implementing this project will kickstart the process towards the complete Woodinville section of Eastrail to the Snohomish County line



PHASE



- Finalizing conceptual 202 bridge design
- Construction is expected to start in Fall of 2025 and be completed in late 2026.

Secured Funding

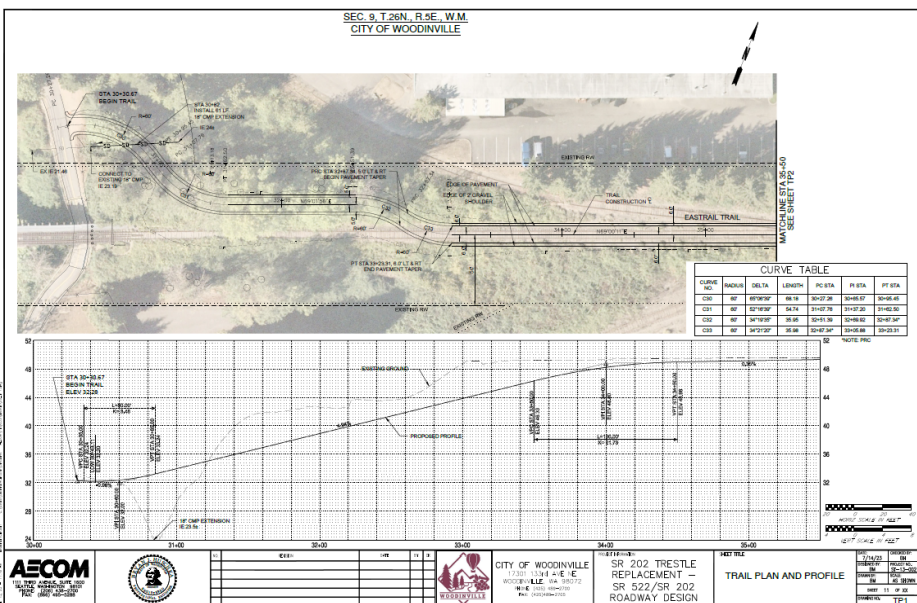
- \$2.5M Rep. DelBene Community Partnerships funds
- \$5M Move Ahead WA

SR 202 Pedestrian Bridge: Option 2

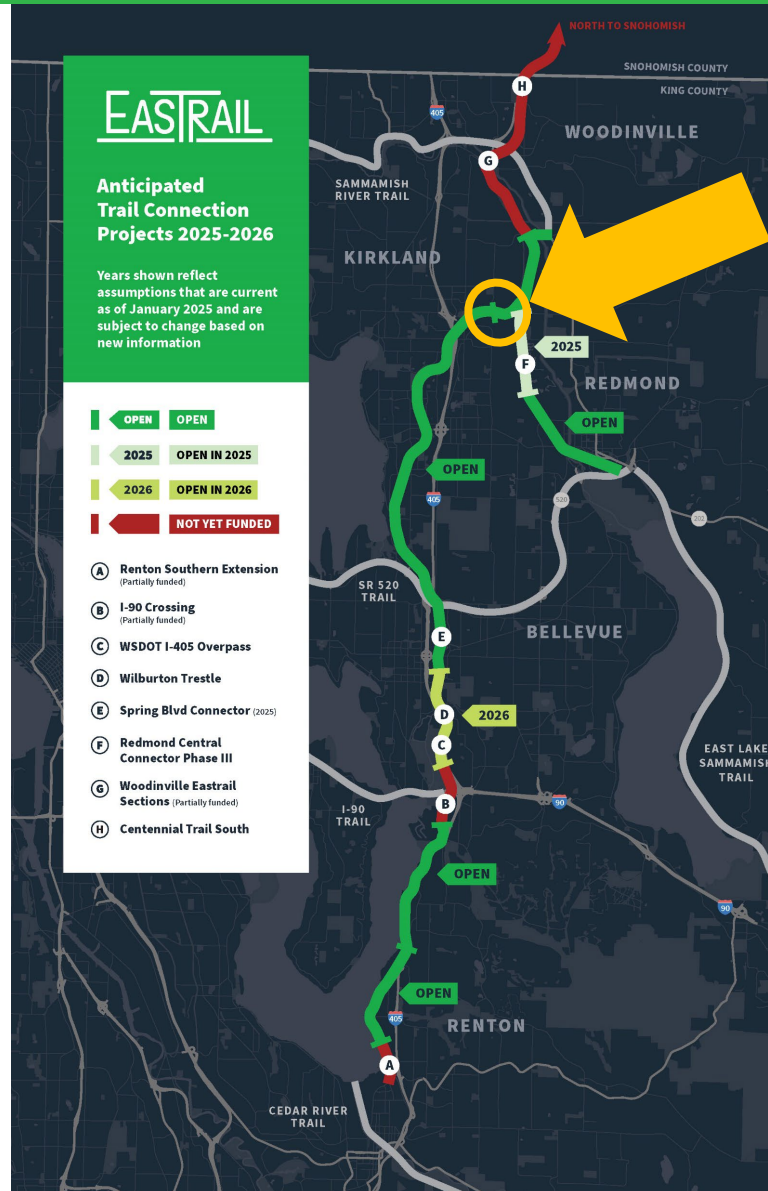


Sammamish River Trail WOODINVILLE

- Woodinville has hired AECOM to design the connector.
- AECOM / City / King County currently working on designing a safe and easy to use connection.
- Navigating restrictions with historic railroad segments and line of sight issues.



Slater/132 HAWK Crossing KIRKLAND



Slater/132 HAWK Crossing KIRKLAND

- City of Kirkland has designed and is seeking funding for a direct, safe, at grade crossing which will be constructed in 2025
- Currently trail users must use existing crosswalk at 124th



PHASE



ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION: 2025



Current conditions at 132nd

Eastrail to Spring Blvd Connector

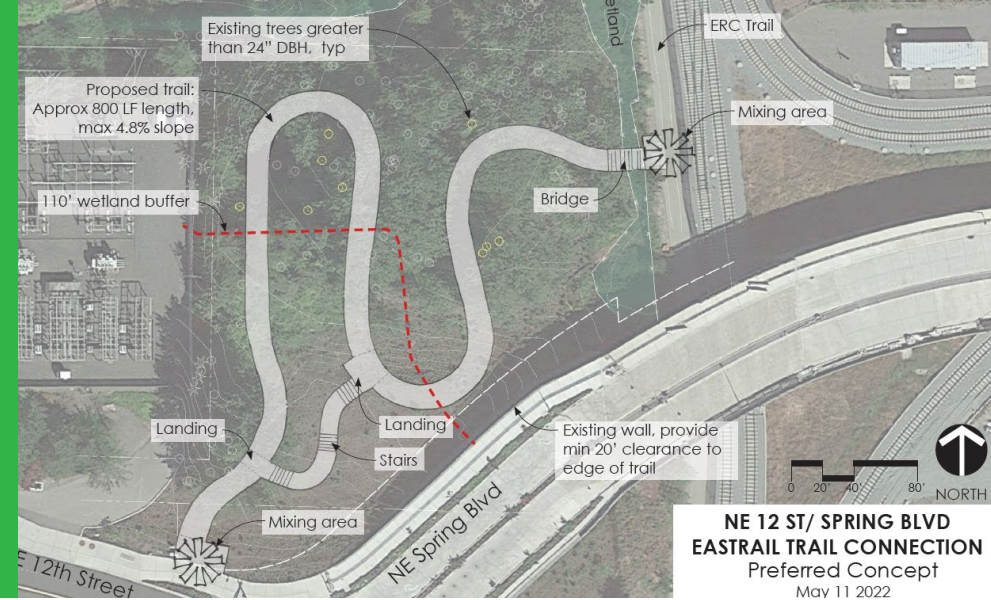
BELLEVUE



Eastrail to Spring Blvd Connector

BELLEVUE

- Connects north-south Eastrail to east-west NE 12th St/Spring Blvd path
- Provides efficient route to BelRed/Spring District (to the east) and Downtown (to the west)
- Traverses 34' grade difference

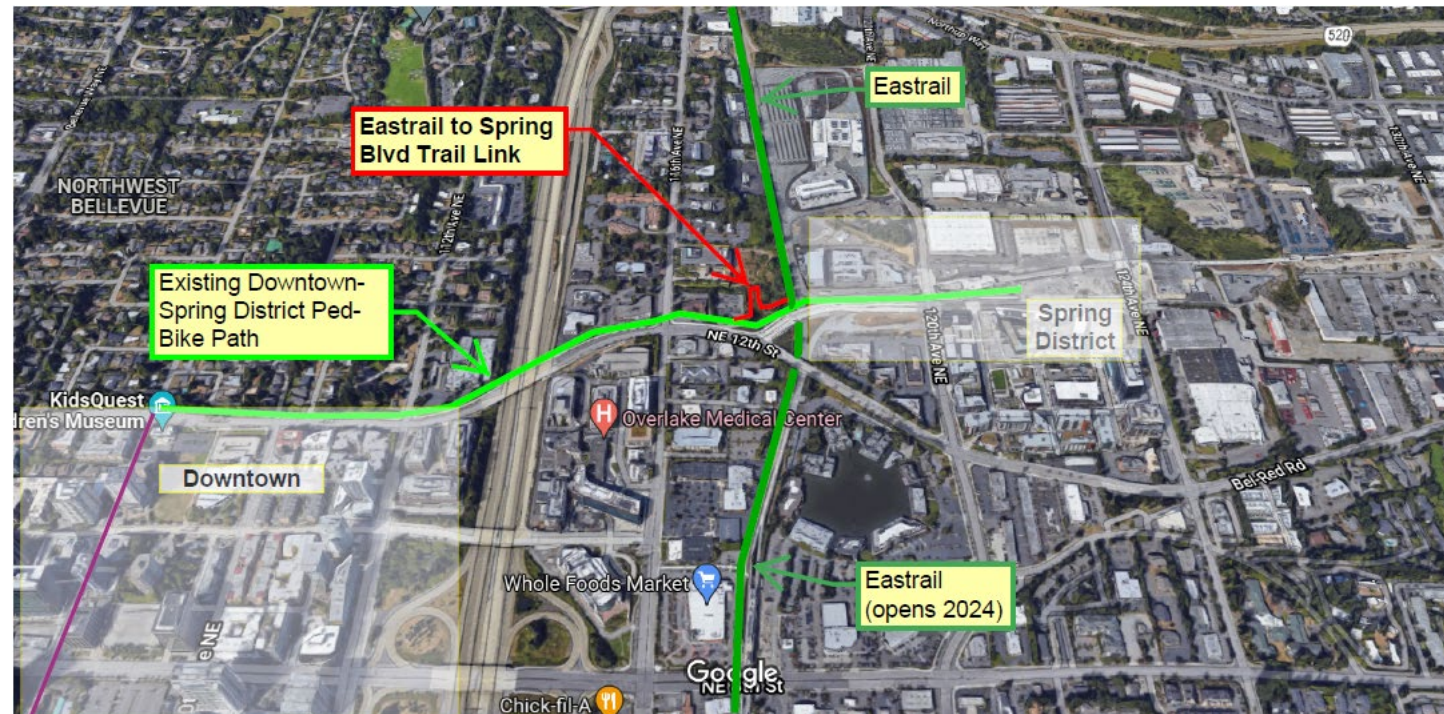


**NE 12 ST/ SPRING BLVD
EASTRAIL TRAIL CONNECTION**
Preferred Concept
May 11 2022

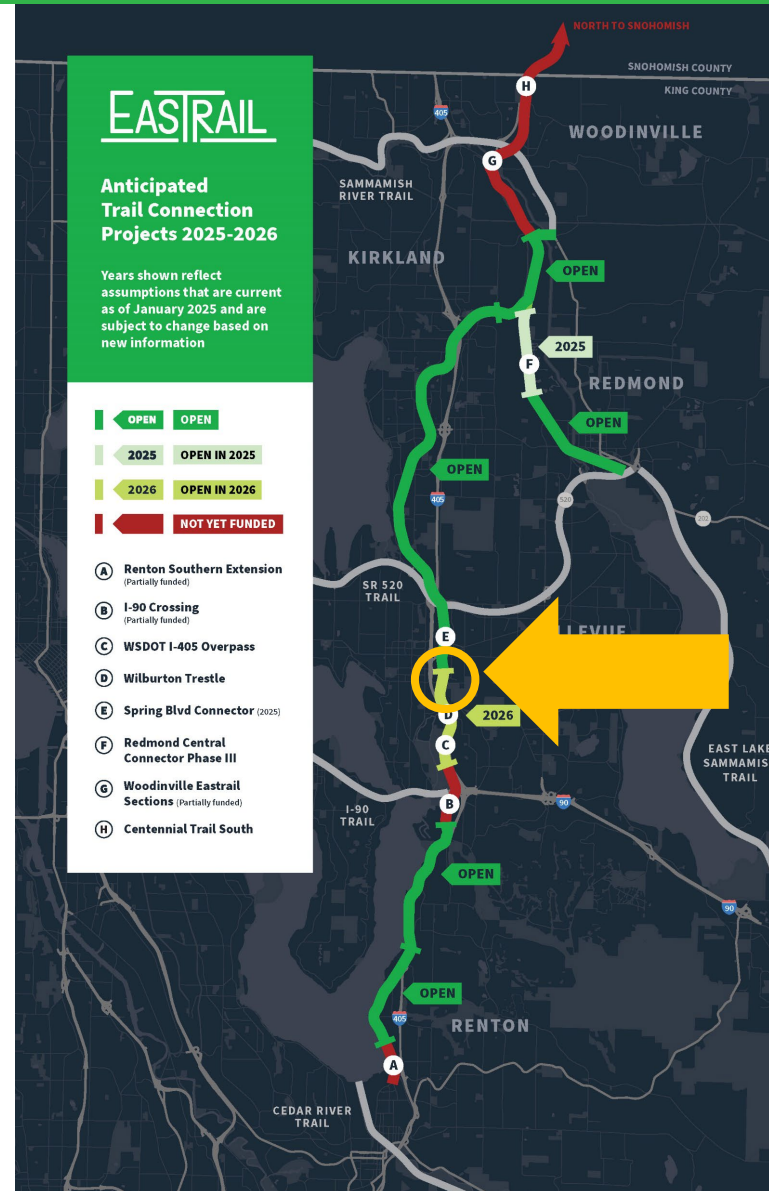
PHASE



ESTIMATED START OF CONSTRUCTION: 2025



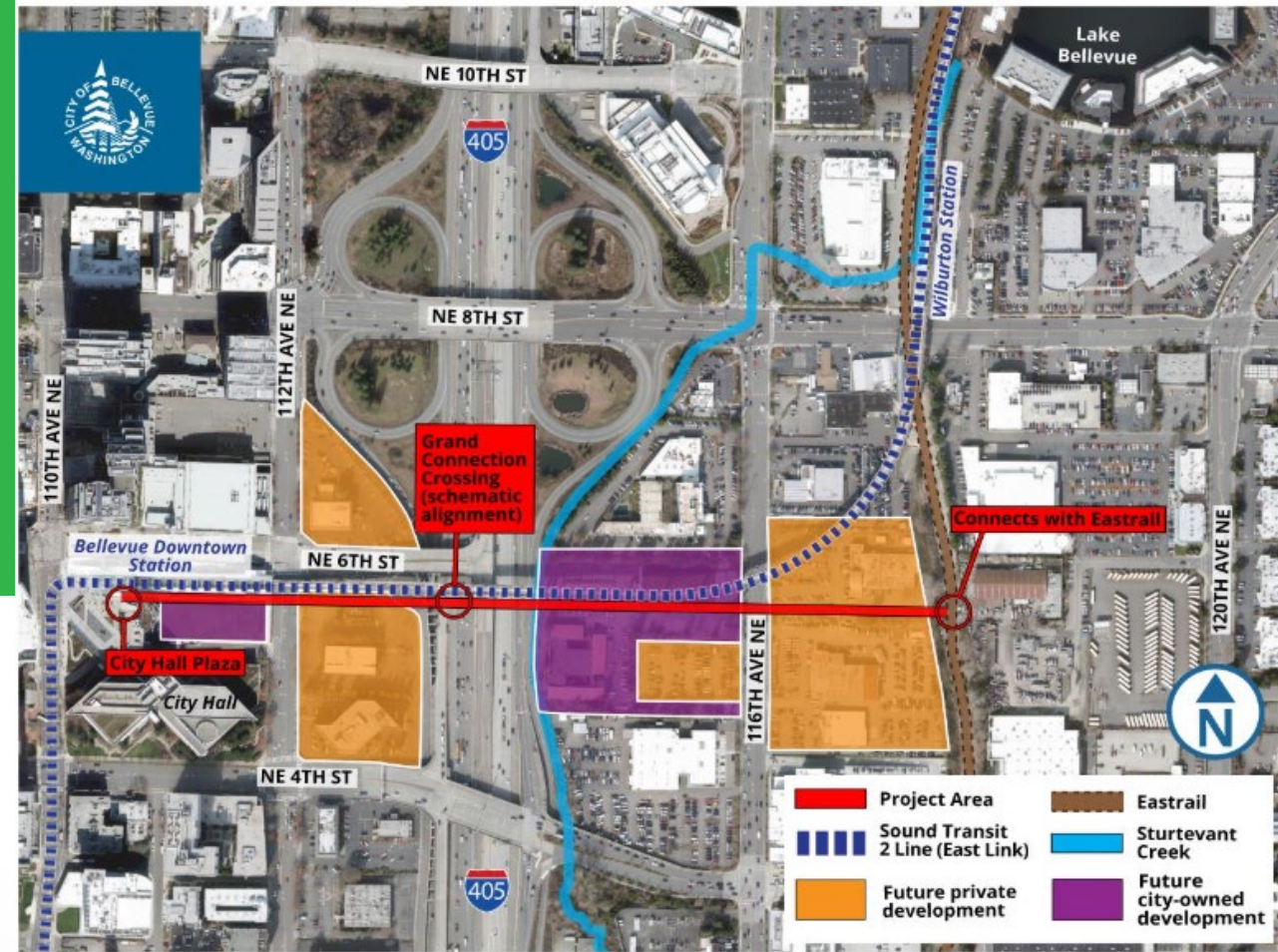
Grand Connection BELLEVUE



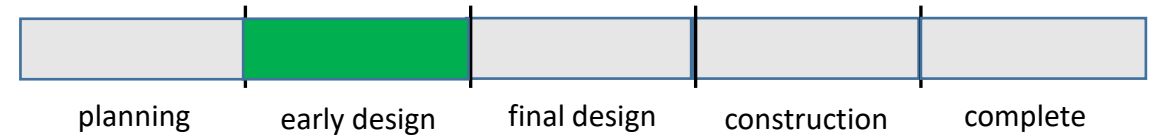
Grand Connection I-405 Crossing: City Hall Plaza to Eastrail

BELLEVUE

- Eastward extension of Grand Connection corridor, linking Meyenbauer Bay waterfront through Downtown to Eastrail
- Will serve people walking and biking
- Currently completing 30% design



PHASE



TARGET FOR OPENING: 2030

Central Wilburton Segment

KING COUNTY



Central Wilburton Segment

KING COUNTY

- ½ Mile gravel trail connecting NE 8th Bridge to Wilburton Trestle
- Includes improved crossing at SE 1st including painting and signage, and pedestrian-activated signal.
- Will allow for uninterrupted trail in Bellevue from the Mercer Slough education center to the Cross Kirkland Corridor.



Project Funders

- Amazon - \$2.5M

Project Schedule

- Final Design + City of Bellevue permitting - 2025
- Construction – Q1-Q2 2026
- Project open w/ Wilburton Trestle in summer 2026



Wilburton Trestle KING COUNTY



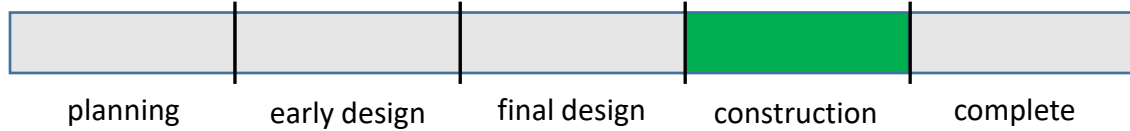
Wilburton Trestle

KING COUNTY

- Iconic landmark and critical connection
- In construction
- Distinctive railing, benches, overlooks
- Historic railroad character



PHASE



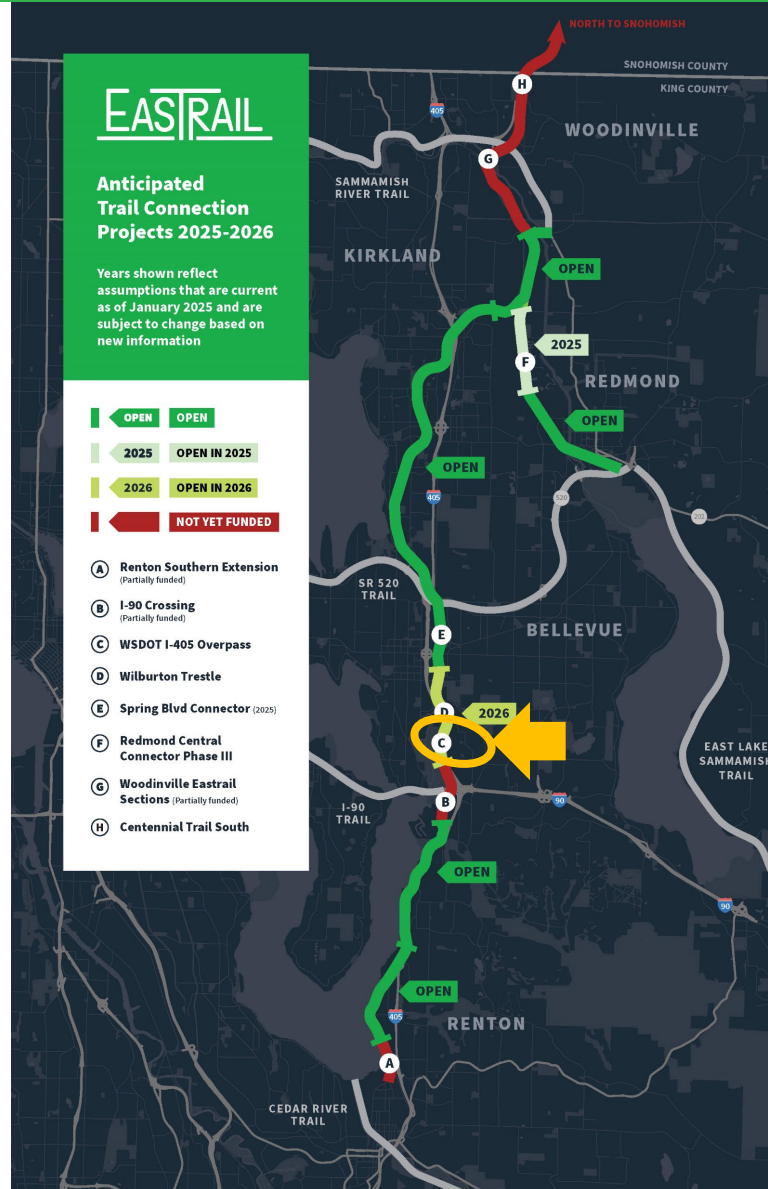
ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION: 2024 - 2026

Funding Sources

- King County -\$18M
- WA State \$9M – include \$6M from the CCA
- Amazon \$5M
- City of Bellevue \$2M
- Kaiser Permanente \$500k



I-405 Bridge KING COUNTY/WSDOT

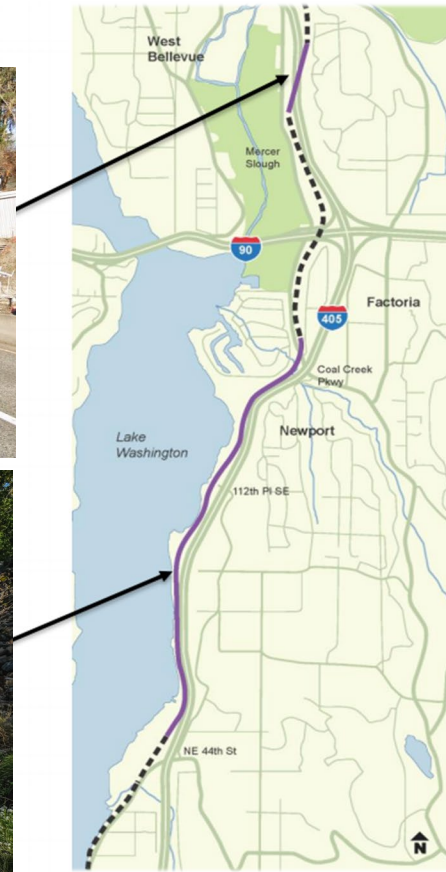
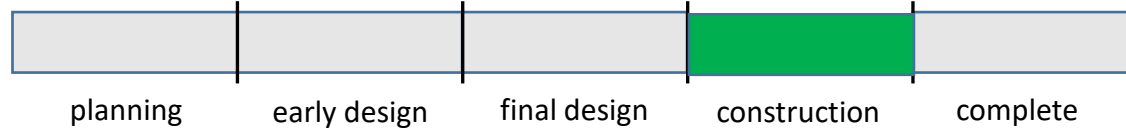


I-405 Bridge

WSDOT/KING COUNTY

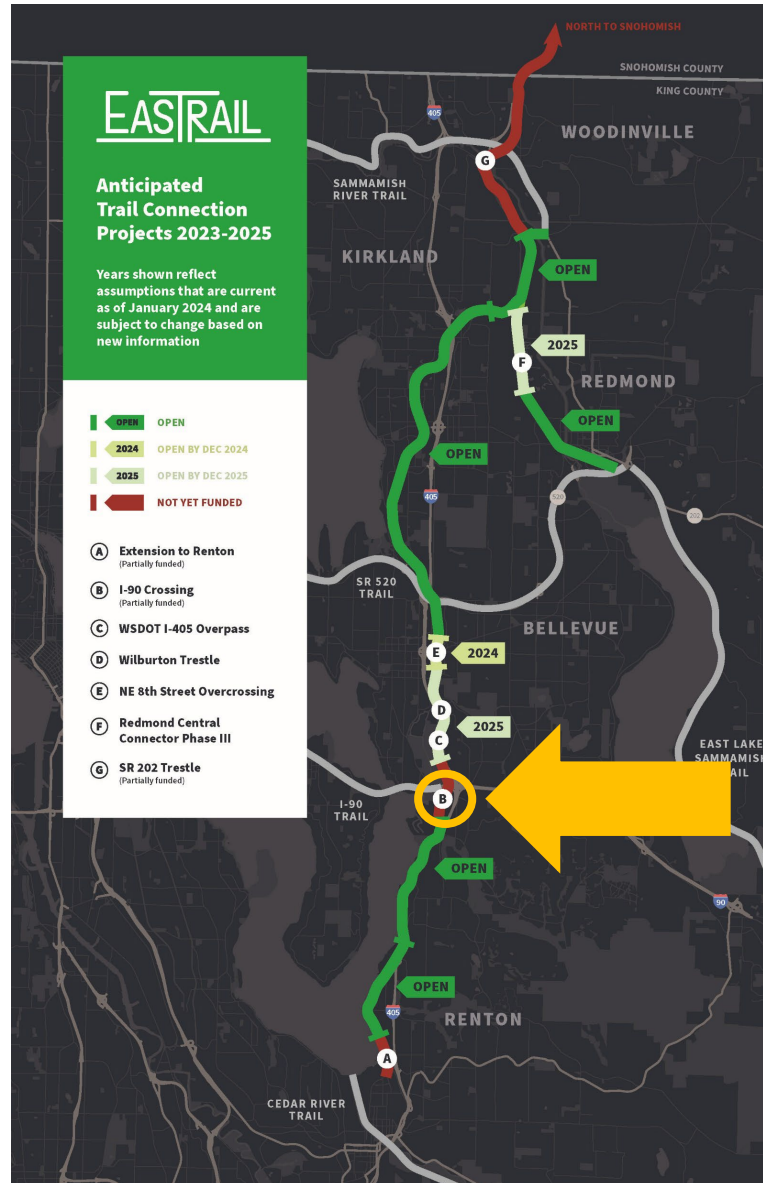
- Paved 2.5 miles of wide paved trail opened November 2021.
- New I-405 crossing segment will be complete in 2024.
- Will open the same time as the Wilburton Trestle in 2025.

PHASE



Construction of Eastrail bridge over I-405

I-90 Bridge Trail Segment KING COUNTY



I-90 Bridge Trail Segment

KING COUNTY

- 1.7 miles of new paved trail
- Retrofit steel bridge over I-90, and wooden trestle bridge at 32nd St.
- Connect Eastrail to the Mountains to Sound Greenway via City of Bellevue on street connection.

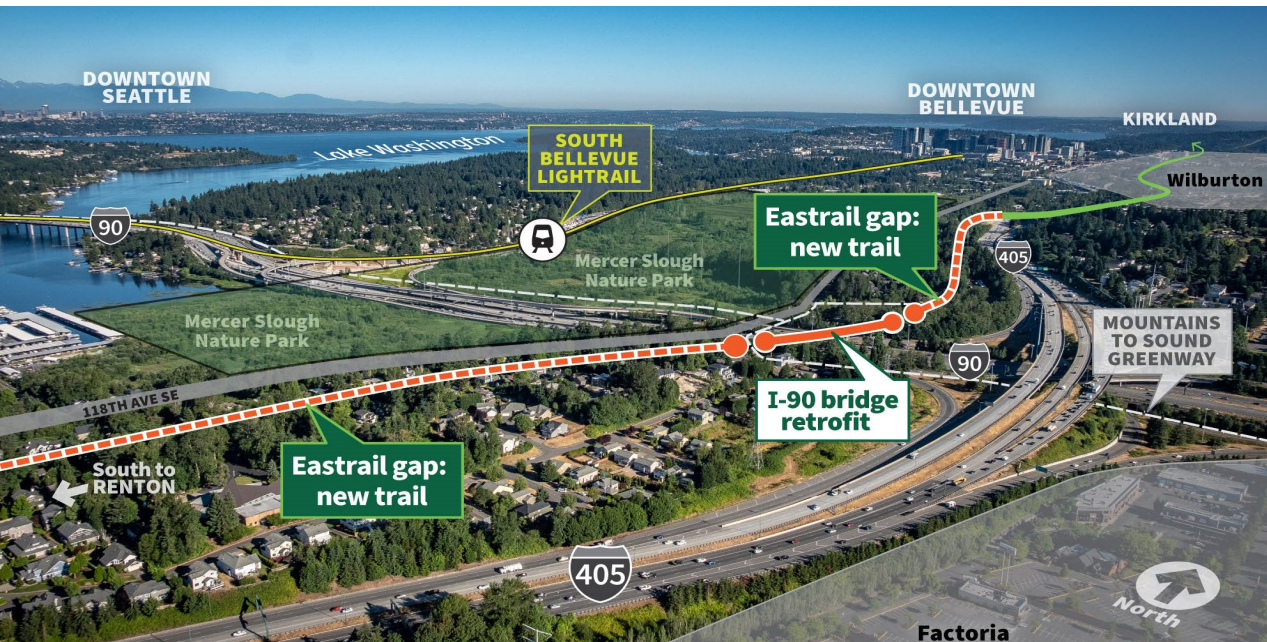
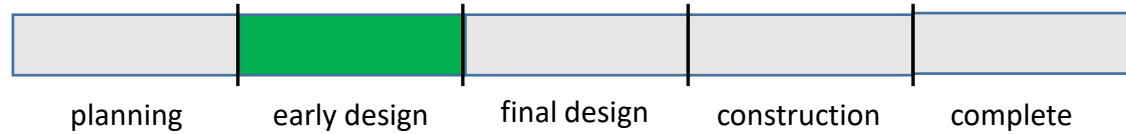
Project Funders

- Washington State - \$12 million*
- Federal RAISE Grant - \$25 million
- King County Levy - \$2 million
- Local Funds - \$1.1 million

*Washington's Climate Commitment Act

Project Schedule

- Consultant (KPFF) on board as of 2025!
- Preliminary Design - 2025
- Final Design 2026-2028
- Construction 2028 - 2030

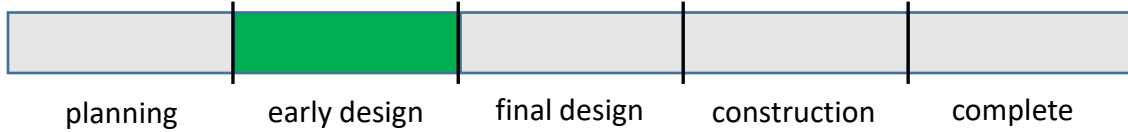


I-90 Bridge Segment – ESI8 Sewer Project

WSDOT/KING COUNTY

- Relining of existing ESI8 Sewer Line, led by King County Wastewater
- Includes temporary use of the Eastrail during relining
 - Will not delay/impact future trail construction
- Progressive design-build project delivery with Michels Construction.

PHASE



ESTIMATED CONSTRUCTION: 2026-2027

ESTIMATED PROJECT BUDGET: \$122M (\$65M for construction)

Extend lifespan of existing sewer for 50-years



Proposed Diversion Pipe



ESI (Eastside Interceptor)
Conveyance Pipe



EASTRAIL

2 Line Updates

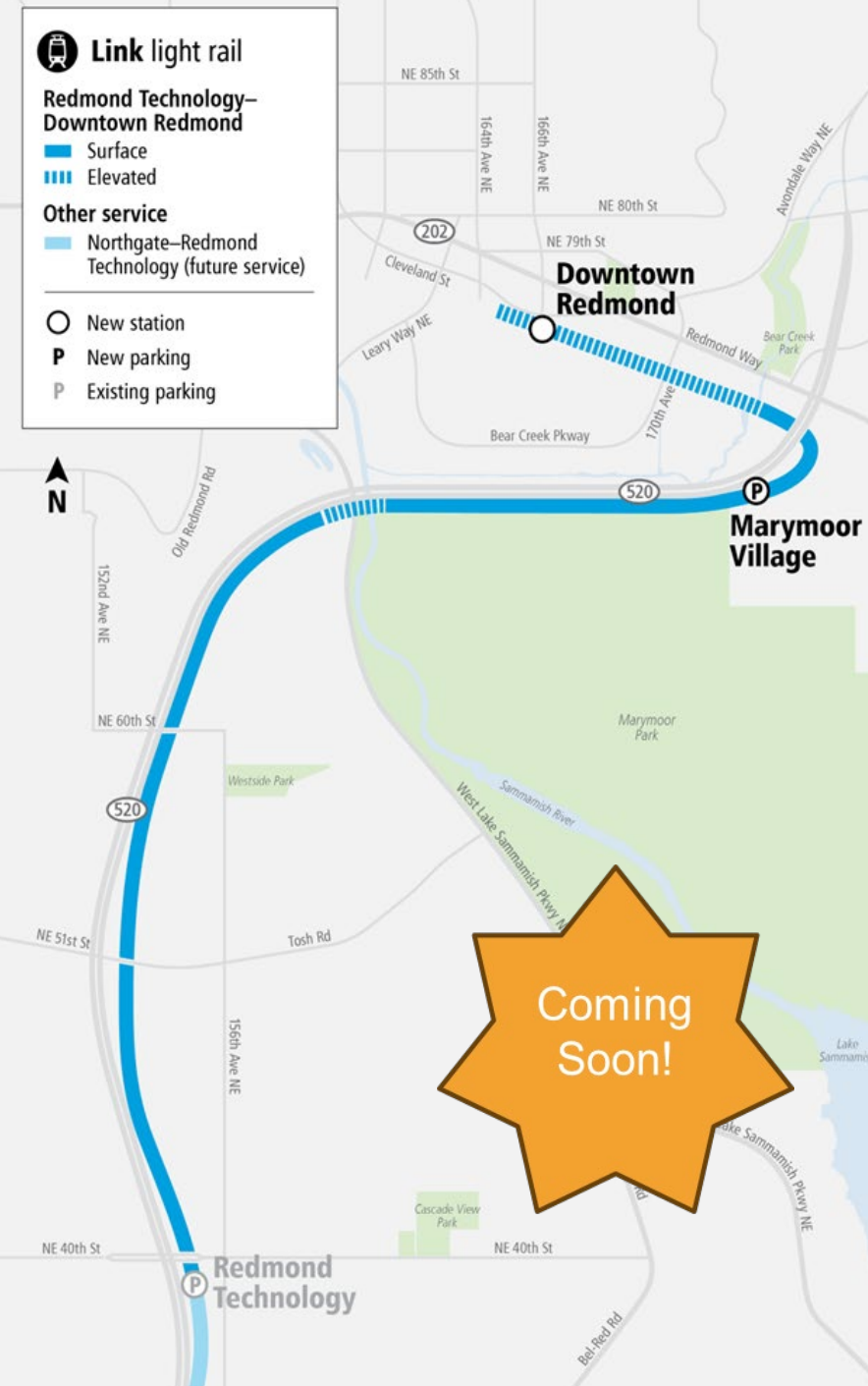
Sound Transit

- Two new stations are set to open to Downtown Redmond (DRLE) in Spring 2025.
- The I-90 Segment of East Link, which will connect the 2 Line currently operating in Bellevue and Redmond, to Mercer Island and Seattle is still on track to open in late 2025

2 Line Opened to the Public on April 27, 2024

- **35,000 people** joined us on opening day and enjoyed community activations at each of the 8 new stations!
- [Ridership](#) exceeding initial estimates

2 Line Expansion to Downtown Redmond and I-90 Bridge coming in 2025!





Let's Connect

**2025 RAC and PST Work Plan
for RAC Approval**

January 24, 2025

2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

Today's Focus:

- Review progress on items from the 2024 Work Plan
- Review and discuss staff recommendation for 2025 Work Plan
- Confirm any modifications or new direction from RAC from today's discussion
- Approve 2025 Work Plan



2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

Review of Progress on 2024 Work Plan Items:

- Completed the compilation and synthesis of demographic data re: Eastrail communities
- Remaining items continue to be supportive of corridor development
- Varying degrees of action for remaining items, but a few have largely been dormant
 - Wayfinding
 - Trail Use Information Plan Implementation



2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

Highlights of Proposed 2025 Work Plan:

- Ongoing constraint of work time available for PST members impacts progress
- Proposed 2025 Work Plan updates and reorganizes the 2024 items remaining on the list
- No entirely new work items are proposed for 2025, but an increased focus on a few that are carried forward
- Several stand-alone items have been combined or grouped within larger, overarching items, e.g., communications
- Added the current list of cross-cutting issues as an Appendix to the Work Plan



2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

Proposed Items for 2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

A. Plan and implement the RAC-sponsored Eastrail video and leadership assembly event

Purpose: Build awareness of and energy for progress and new opportunities for progress in Eastrail development

Lead/team: RAC/PST , RAC/PST member entities, and EP

B. Complete the new agreements between RAC entities and Eastrail Partners (EP) to support ongoing engagement by EP on priority actions

Purpose: Renew and continue the service relationship with EP to support implementation of key Eastrail activities

Lead/team: RAC/PST and member entities, EP

C. Engage federal and state leaders to support priority Eastrail projects

Purpose: Develop and implement strategic and coordinated outreach to federal and state leaders to support Eastrail priorities

Lead/team: RAC/PST and EP coordinate efforts, with varying roles



2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

Proposed Items for 2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

D. Coordinate efforts to address key cross-cutting corridor management issues

Purpose: Coordinate efforts to identify and address high priority issues that span multiple ownerships and/or jurisdictions

Lead/team: RAC/PST and member entities

E. Complete the work plan to develop and implement the “Welcome to Eastrail” Community Guidelines

Purpose: Support a positive and welcoming trail use experience through the development and use of various techniques and tools; this addresses a cross-cutting issue identified by the RAC

Lead/team: RAC/PST and member entities, EP (supported by service agreement)

F. Coordinate communication about major capital project progress/milestones, community engagement opportunities, and activation events

Purpose: Inform the Eastrail community about and highlight Eastrail trail development progress and opportunities to enjoy the trail through ongoing coordinated communications

Lead/team: RAC/PST and EP coordinate efforts, with varying roles



2024 RAC and PST Work Plan

Proposed Items for 2025 RAC and PST Work Plan

G. Continue co-creation efforts to connect to and involve the diverse Eastrail community

Purpose: Ensure the diverse Eastrail community is welcomed to help create and enjoy the Eastrail trail

Lead/team: EP (supported by service agreement) with RAC/PST

H. Plan/coordinate/implement quarterly RAC meetings and twice-monthly PST meetings

Purpose: Implement leadership and staff meetings to ensure necessary and timely coordination on high priority actions

Lead/team: King County with RAC/PST



2024 RAC and PST Work Plan

2024 Work Plan Individual Items Now Grouped Under Cross-Cutting Issues

- **Compile, synthesize and share demographic information describing the diversity of Eastrail communities** - *Led by Eastrail Partners and City of Renton with support from additional RAC entities: this work has been completed and will be incorporated into ongoing communications and project development efforts and the topic will be added to the cross-cutting issues list for future awareness*
- **Implement the 2021 Eastrail Trail Use Information System Plan** - *King County leads this work with support from additional funding/implementing RAC/PST member entities; this work area remains timely and necessary, and will be added to the cross-cutting issues list and addressed through that focus; moving forward with this work area will involve fresh evaluation of best data collection, data storage, and information communication strategies and tools*
- **Support development and implementation of wayfinding measures to support trail use** – *King County leads this work, including coordination with RAC/PST entities and Eastrail Partners per the project scope; this work area remains timely and necessary, and will be added to the cross-cutting issues list and addressed through that focus*

RAC discussion and approval





Welcome to the Eastrail Community Guidelines

Eastrail Regional Advisory Council
January 24, 2025

How we got here

- Long standing desire to implement a welcoming trail environment
- RAC “cross-cutting issues” discussion on micromobility has identified interest in a “Code of Conduct” concept
- The RAC anticipates moving on to other high priority cross-cutting issues (e.g., open hours, lighting, etc.) after this foundational work is complete
- Increasing amounts of open trail and trail use
- Proposed work plan reflects PST capacity



Welcome to the Eastrail Community Guidelines

Goals

Develop Eastrail messaging and communication products which:

- Set expectations for how trail users should interact with the space and other trail users.
- Welcome a diverse community of users to enjoy the Eastrail.
- Will be implemented across all jurisdictions to help create consistent Eastrail experience.

Principles

- Welcoming tone rather than regulatory tone
- Implement the Eastrail brand throughout jurisdictions
- Include calls to action - Messaging should encourage trail visitors to help create a welcoming trail culture
- Include peer to peer messaging and user testimonials
- Diverse deployment method
 - Temporary/permanent signage
 - Web/social media content
 - Pilot Eastrail Welcoming Host program



Welcome to the Eastrail Community Guidelines

Objectives

- Trail etiquette products
- Eastrail welcoming products
 - Develop campaign products focusing on broadening Eastrail audience
 - Emphasis on multilingual products and deployment (i.e ethnic media)
 - Illustrating/informing the diversity of ways to use and experience Eastrail
- Eastrail educational products
 - Development materials/messaging that educate connections to/from the trail (E.g. adjacent parks, nearby art, business districts)

Proposed 2025 Scope of Work

Focus on trail etiquette objective and associated deliverables

Build upon existing materials to develop a suite of Eastrail etiquette messaging and graphics to be deployed via:

- New temporary sign(s) to be implemented across the Eastrail in summer of 2025
- Social media/web campaign throughout summer of 2025

Lead: PST in coordination with EP



Welcome to the Eastrail Community Guidelines

Proposed 2025 Scope of Work

Scope and begin light implementation of Eastrail Welcoming Host program

- Pilot new volunteer program managed by Eastrail Partners
- Goal is information and welcoming, no enforcement or directly addressing behavior.
 - Jurisdictions could partner with EP to join Hosts
- Will harness volunteer requests being fielded by EP
- Set up tables/stations/lead walks/ or just be present on the trail
 - Focus on creating visibility for possible additional messaging in future years