

EASTRAIL REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

MEETING SUMMARY

July 25, 2025 | 10 AM – 12 PM
Woodinville City Council Chambers
17301 133rd Ave NE, Woodinville, WA

Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Members Present: Jessica Forsythe, Redmond Council Vice President and Co-Chair; Sarah Perry, King County Councilmember; John Taylor, King County Dept. of Natural Resources and Parks Director; Jon Pascal, Kirkland Councilmember (alternate for Deputy Mayor Jay Arnold); Tom Teigen, Snohomish County Director of Conservation and Natural Resources; Michelle Evans, Woodinville Councilmember; Ariel Taylor (alternate for Don Billen, Sound Transit)

Welcome and Introductions

RAC Co-Chair and Council Vice President Jessica Forsythe called the meeting to order at 10:07 am, welcomed all in attendance to the third RAC meeting of 2025, and reviewed the agenda.

Approval of April 24, 2025 RAC meeting summary

Councilmember Sarah Perry moved to approve the April 24 meeting summary and Councilmember Evans seconded. **Members unanimously voted to approve the April 24 meeting summary.**

Good of the Order Updates (Information Item)

Woodinville – broke ground on 133rd roundabout and tunnel project. Community members are currently voting on [tunnel skylight and art installation design](#).

Kirkland – moving forward with 132nd crossing project. There is currently a year-long closure at 85th just outside downtown during bridge and shared use pathway construction from downtown Kirkland to the transit center. They are working to expedite completion and potentially find times to open the trail when contractors aren't present given detour challenges.

Redmond – Eastrail segment will open Sept. 12 at 10 am; an official celebration invitation will go out soon. CM Forsythe provided a brief summary of the 'The Future of Eastrail workshop' that was held on June 13.

Sound Transit – continuing to work on NE 85th transit connection. May 10 celebration event opening the Downtown Redmond Link station which connects to the RCCIII was a success and station is already seeing significant use. Rep. Larsen visited to observe the trail/transit connection. They will break ground on Stride BRT facility in Bothell on Aug. 12.

Eastrail Northern Connections – Woodinville and Snohomish County (Information Item)

Jared Hill of the City of Woodinville, Emily Griffith of Snohomish County, and Curt Warber of King County provided updates on Eastrail northern connections with Snohomish County going through Woodinville. Slides were included in the meeting packet.

- **Snohomish County:** Centennial Trail south extension is the northernmost segment of Eastrail. They are working with multiple jurisdictions to connect to additional trails and trails systems. Corridor is currently closed to the public but they have initial funding for planning and early design and will be working on conceptual design and feasibility study this year and begin public engagement in 2026. Cost estimate in 2023 was \$120M but has likely increased. Snohomish

County does not have a parks levy like King County but has a strong capital program. The County is interested in a levy package and is having ongoing conversations with its jurisdictions.

- **Woodinville:** Eastrail will form the spine of a future linear park from the 133rd roundabout to Sammamish River Trail connection with various amenities along the approximately two miles the City has acquired. Projects include:
 - Removal of the trestle at 131st, road widening and overpass installation
 - Path to connect King County's Sammamish River Trail to Eastrail in Woodinville
 - SR202 expansion between NE 175th St and NE 177th Pl, new pedestrian bridge, and trestle repurposing to replace a culvert on Little Bear Creek. Construction will begin in 2027.
 - 133rd roundabout and tunnel broke ground this week. Will choose the final skylight design later this summer. ROW acquisition and utilities relocation will be a challenge. Tunnel added \$2.5M to project cost but was the best option for user safety. Safe Streets for All may be a potential federal funding source.
- **King County:** As mentioned by Redmond RCC III will be officially opened on Sept. 12. Eastrail main line, Eastrail spur, Woodinville Eastrail, and Sammamish River Trail all converge in Woodinville. When Woodinville connects their Eastrail segment there will be continuous trail from Bellevue through Woodinville. King County is working through prioritization of development of its trail segments and connections here in partnership with the local jurisdictions to support their goals. Currently determining how to connect Eastrail main line over the Sammamish River to Woodinville Eastrail segment. The northern portions of King County's Eastrail main line and spur are currently closed but rails have been removed, and they are ready for future development.

Site Walk of Woodinville Eastrail Corridor Area (Information Item)

Councilmember Michelle Evans, Mayor Mike Millman, and City Manager Brandon Buchanan from the City of Woodinville led a walking tour of key Woodinville Eastrail sections.

Interested parties should send comments to eastrail@kingcounty.gov. Joe Inslee will compile any additional comments received.

Next Steps and Adjournment

The last RAC meeting of the year is October 31. The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am before the walking tour began.