

## Energize Eastside Community Outreach Summary

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April 13, 2016

### Overview

Energize Eastside has been engaged in community outreach since the project launched in December 2013. In 2014, PSE led a public route discussion process and shared information about the project with the public. Since then, PSE continues to inform the public about the project and connect with property owners about fieldwork efforts.

### Community Advisory Group process

Throughout 2014, PSE worked with a Community Advisory Group to consider community values when evaluating transmission line route options. Advisory group members were composed of representatives from various interests, including neighborhood organizations, cities, schools, social service organizations, major commercial users, economic development groups, an environmental organization and a property developer.

Throughout the process, the advisory group:

- Learned about the factors involved in developing the possible route segments
- Developed an understanding of what segment combinations make up viable route options
- Narrowed those route options
- Finalized a route recommendation for PSE's consideration

In spring 2014, the Community Advisory Group was informed by three Sub-Area Committees. Sub-Area Committee membership included advisory group members and representatives from each potentially affected neighborhood association located within the project study area. The Sub-Area Committees developed findings on specific sub-area values, concerns and considerations to inform the advisory group's work. The committees were focused on the following geographic areas: North (Kirkland, Redmond and North Bellevue), Central (Bellevue), and South (Newcastle and Renton).

PSE held twenty-three public meetings related to the advisory group process:

- Eight meetings of the full advisory group on Jan. 22, Feb. 12, June 4, June 5, July 9, Oct. 1, Oct. 8 and Dec. 10, 2014.
- Six Sub-Area Committee workshops on March 19, March 26, March 27, April 16, April 23 and April 24, 2014.
- Three Sub-Area Committee meetings on May 7, May 14 and May 15, 2014.
- Six community open houses, held on Jan. 29, Jan. 30, Sept. 10, Sept. 11, Nov. 12 and Nov. 13, 2014. For the September and November open houses, PSE hosted online open houses to reach additional stakeholder unable to attend the in-person meetings.

The advisory group completed their work on Dec. 10, 2014 and selected routes Oak and Willow as their final recommendation for PSE's consideration. The Community Advisory Group Final Report can be found at [www.energizeeastside.com/documents](http://www.energizeeastside.com/documents).

### Community meetings and events

PSE has worked to keep the community informed about the project. In addition to the six open houses and two online open houses PSE hosted to help inform the advisory group's work, PSE also hosted additional community meetings and events to share information, respond to questions and learn more about community interests. These other community meetings include:

- One webinar on undergrounding and electric and magnetic fields, held on March 5, 2014
- Two Question and Answer sessions, held on April 21 and July 7, 2014

The Energize Eastside team engaged in outreach at festivals and community events in 2014 and 2015. At these events, the team talked with Eastside residents about the latest information and answered questions about the project.

PSE conducted outreach at the following nineteen festivals and community events:

- Neighbor to Neighbor Forum, Renton, Feb. 8, 2014
- Newcastle Earth Day Event, Apr. 19, 2014
- YMCA Healthy Kids Day, Bellevue, Apr. 26, 2014
- Bellevue Strawberry Festival, June 27-29, 2014
- Bellevue Family Fourth, July 4, 2014
- Redmond Derby Days, July 12, 2014
- Renton River Days, July 25-27, 2014
- National Night Out, Renton, Bellevue and Newcastle, Aug. 5, 2014
- Outreach at HopeLink Foodbank, Redmond, Aug. 7, 2014
- Outreach at HopeLink Foodbank, Bellevue, Aug. 26, 2014
- Bellevue Blueberry Festival, Sept. 6, 2014
- Newcastle Days, Sept. 6, 2014
- Safety and Preparedness Fair, Bellevue, Oct. 18, 2014
- Neighbor to Neighbor Forum, Renton, Feb. 7, 2015
- Newcastle Earth Day, April 18, 2015
- Bellevue Strawberry Festival, June 27-28, 2015
- Bellevue Family Fourth, July 4, 2015
- Renton River Days, July 24-27, 2015
- Neighbor to Neighbor Forum, Renton, Feb. 27, 2016

### **Stakeholder and neighborhood briefings**

Since launching the project, PSE has provided presentations and briefings to stakeholders and community and neighborhood groups. At these meetings, PSE shared information, answered questions, and heard concerns and feedback. These include briefings to forty-five groups (*i.e.*, chambers of commerce, rotaries, etc.) and to nearly one hundred interested stakeholders.

PSE has also held thirty-five meetings with neighborhood groups. Meetings have included full briefings with presentations, question and answer sessions, project area walkthroughs, and living room or property visits.

- Nineteen neighborhood briefings:
  - Kirkland Alliance of Neighborhoods Briefing, Jan. 8, 2014
  - South Rose Hill / Bridle Trails (Kirkland) Briefing, Jan. 14, 2014
  - Somerset Community Association (Bellevue) Briefing, Jan. 23, 2014
  - Kennydale Neighborhood Association (Renton) Briefing, Jan. 28, 2014
  - Olympus Homeowners Association (Newcastle) Briefing, Feb. 24, 2014
  - Sunset Community Association (Bellevue) Briefing, Feb. 27, 2014
  - Lake Heights (Bellevue) Neighborhood Briefing, March 12, 2014
  - North Rose Hill (Kirkland) Neighborhood Briefing, March 17, 2014
  - Olympus HOA (Newcastle) Walkthrough, March 27, 2014

- Woodridge Neighborhood (Bellevue) Open House, May 7, 2014
- West Bridle Trails (Bellevue) Briefing, May 12, 2014
- Bridle Trails Community Club (Bellevue) Briefing, May 15, 2014
- Lake Bellevue HOA (Bellevue) Briefing, May 28, 2014
- Newport Shores (Bellevue) Neighborhood Briefing, July 17, 2014
- North Rose Hill (Kirkland) Neighborhood Briefing, Sept. 15, 2014
- Seasons at Madrona Park Condo Association (Bellevue) Briefing, Sept. 23, 2014
- Houser Terrace, Renton Housing Authority Briefing, Oct. 2, 2014
- Woodridge Community Association (Bellevue) Briefing, Oct. 16, 2014
- Horizon View (Bellevue) Neighborhood Briefing, Oct. 28, 2015
  
- One neighborhood question and answer session:
  - Somerset (Bellevue) Community Q&A, May 29, 2014
  
- Eight neighborhood project area walkthroughs:
  - Ripley Lane (Bellevue) Walkthrough, May 14, 2014
  - West Bridle Trails (Bellevue) Walkthrough, May 29, 2014
  - Bella Vista (Bellevue) Walkthrough, June 19, 2014
  - Lake Lanes (Bellevue) Walkthrough, June 23, 2014
  - South Rose Hill/Bridle Trails (Kirkland) Walkthrough, June 24, 2014
  - Trails End (Bellevue) Walkthrough, July 22, 2014
  - Kennydale and Clover Creek (Renton) Walkthrough, July 28, 2014
  - Honey Creek Ridge (Renton) Walkthrough, July 31, 2014
  
- Seven living room or property visits, held on March 11, April 16, May 12, May 15 and Aug. 7, 2014 and April 5 and April 6, 2016

## **Communications**

PSE has regularly informed the public through:

- Eight large mailings, each to an average of 54,000 individuals in the Eastside, including property owners and residents along the existing utility corridor, interested parties, registered voters in the five jurisdictions and businesses:
  - Open House Postcard, January 2014
  - Summer 2014 Project Newsletter, July 2014
  - Open House 2 Postcard, August 2014
  - Open House 3 Postcard, October 2014
  - Energize Eastside 2015 Update, January 2015
  - Spring 2015 Energize Eastside Update, March 2015
  - Fall 2015 Project Newsletter, November 2015
  - Spring 2016 Project Newsletter, April 2016
  
- Twenty-seven email updates sent to an email list that grew from 150 subscribers in January 2014 to 1,450 subscribers in March 2016:
  - Eight Community Advisory Group (CAG) meeting notifications (2014)
  - Ten Public meeting and open house notifications (2014)
  - CAG Preliminary Route Recommendation Notification Email, Oct. 10, 2014
  - CAG Final Route Recommendation Notification Email, Dec. 11, 2014
  - CAG Final Report Notification Email, Jan. 14, 2015
  - Route Update Notification Email, March 9, 2015

- EIS Scoping Announcement Email, April 30, 2015
- Fieldwork Update Email, July 7, 2015
- Fall 2015 Newsletter Email, Dec. 16, 2015
- Phase 1 Draft EIS Notification Email, Jan. 29, 2016
- Preferred Route Announcement Email, March 21, 2016
  
- Regular website updates, including forth-five Latest News updates:
  - One Latest News update in 2013
  - Twenty-seven Latest News updates in 2014
  - Fourteen Latest News updates in 2015
  - Three Latest News updates in 2016 to date

The team also maintains a project email inbox, website comment form, voicemail box, and fieldwork information phone line. If a communication includes a question, where feasible, PSE responds to answer the question and shares further information. To date, 2,615 communications have been received from 2,000 members of the public.

### **Fieldwork**

In 2015, PSE began collecting field information to inform the environmental review process, project design and future permit applications. PSE completed land survey, tree inventory and wetland delineation on more than 500 properties, and completed more than fifty geotechnical investigations at limited locations. In addition, PSE conducted a pipeline co-location study on limited properties.

Throughout the fieldwork process, PSE kept property owners and tenants informed through four quarterly mailed notifications sent to over 7,000 parcels and door to door outreach a few days in advance of beginning work.