# **KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

# Signature Report

#### **Motion 16154**

**Proposed No.** 2022-0167.1 **Sponsors** Balducci 1 A MOTION approving a memorandum of understanding to 2 restructure the Eastrail regional advisory council. 3 WHEREAS, Eastrail, formerly known as the Eastside Rail Corridor or ERC, is a 4 forty-two-mile corridor that extends from Renton to Snohomish and from Woodinville to 5 Redmond, and 6 WHEREAS, the King County council originally established the governance 7 structure of the Eastside Rail Corridor regional advisory council ("the RAC") on 8 December 11, 2012, in accordance with Motion 13801, to create a collaborative group to 9 carry out a regional planning process to ensure effective use of the southern portion of 10 Eastrail and the Redmond Spur, and 11 WHEREAS, the King County council approved the original membership of the 12 RAC with Motion 13834 on February 11, 2013, and 13 WHEREAS, the RAC's original membership was comprised of owner 14 jurisdictions and included: three King County councilmembers; the King County 15 executive or the executive's designee; one representative from the city of Redmond; one 16 representative from the city of Kirkland; one representative from Puget Sound Energy; 17 and one representative from Sound Transit, and 18 WHEREAS, on June 6, 2016, in Motion 14654, the King County council 19 approved the 2016 work plan for the RAC, which called for redesign of the governance 20 structure previously adopted in Motion 13801, and

21	WHEREAS, the King County council approved the Eastside Rail Corridor
22	Regional Trail Final Master Plan and Environmental Impact Statement on February 13,
23	2017, in Motion 14805, and
24	WHEREAS, on June 7, 2017, the RAC membership unanimously voted to amend
25	its administrative procedures and expand its membership to include members from
26	jurisdictions through which sections of the corridor pass and a group representing
27	nonprofit and private sector voices to support the development of the vision of the
28	corridor and surrounding land uses in accordance with the 2016 work plan approved by
29	the King County council in Motion 14654, and
30	WHEREAS, the King County council approved a memorandum of understanding
31	on August 14, 2017, in Motion 14922, to restructure the RAC to include additional
32	jurisdictions and stakeholders as members as well as to expand its scope of work to align
33	with the 2013 Creating Connections report and the 2016 work plan adopted by the RAC,
34	and
35	WHEREAS, in accordance with Motion 14922, the RAC serves as a venue for
36	coordinating efforts of member jurisdictions to advance common goals such as
37	advocating for the funding and implementation of Trail Master Plan improvements, and
38	WHEREAS, on January 25, 2019, the RAC reached consensus to change its name
39	from the Eastside Rail Corridor regional advisory council to the Eastrail regional
40	advisory council, and the King County council made that change in Motion 15531, and
41	WHEREAS, at its January 31, 2022, quarterly meeting, the RAC reached
42	consensus in support of modifications of its leadership structure, to be formalized through
43	revisions to its 2017 memorandum of understanding, and recommended to its member

- entities that they take action to approve those revisions;
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:
- The memorandum of understanding regarding the organization of the Eastrail
- 47 regional advisory council, which is Attachment A to this motion, is hereby approved.

Motion 16154 was introduced on 4/19/2022 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/5/2022, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Dembowski, Dunn, Kohl-Welles, Perry, McDermott, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay

KING COUNTY COUNCIL KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:

<u>(laudia Balduu</u> —7E1C273CE9994B6...

Claudia Balducci, Chair

ATTEST:

— Docusigned by:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** A. Memorandum of Understanding Regarding the Organization of the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING Regarding the Organization of the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council

This MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) is made by and among KING COUNTY, SNOHOMISH COUNTY, THE CITY OF KIRKLAND, THE CITY OF REDMOND, CENTRAL PUGET SOUND REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (SOUND TRANSIT), PUGET SOUND ENERGY (PSE), THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, THE CITY OF WOODINVILLE, THE CITY OF RENTON, and THE EASTSIDE GREENWAY ALLIANCE (EGA) (collectively, the "Parties"). This MOU sets forth the Parties' mutual understanding regarding, and intent to structure the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council (RAC).

#### **RECITALS**

WHEREAS, King County, the City of Kirkland, the City of Redmond, City of Woodinville, Snohomish County and Sound Transit are owner jurisdictions of portions of the Eastrail, and

WHEREAS, Puget Sound Energy, King County and Sound Transit are easement holders of the corridor, and

WHEREAS, the cities of Bellevue and Renton are jurisdictions through which sections of the corridor pass, and

WHEREAS, the Eastside Greenway Alliance has been an active voice for the non-profit and private sector community interested in the potential mobility and recreation options provided by the corridor, and

WHEREAS, the Eastrail (formally known as Eastside Rail Corridor) Regional Advisory Council (RAC) was\_established by King County Council ordinance as a collaborative group to carry out a regional planning process to coordinate planning and development activities so as to ensure effective use of the rail banked portion of the Eastrail and the Redmond Spur, and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the parties entered into a memorandum of understanding regarding the purposes and governance of the RAC, and

WHEREAS, development of the Eastrail will enhance the mobility of our region by creating a critical north-south transportation corridor that will allow for multimodal connections, including high-capacity transit and non-motorized trail use. The corridor will help us integrate the pieces of our larger transportation networks. The corridor will enable key utility improvements to help meet the demands of a growing population. The

corridor will expand the recreation network, creating equitable access for all residents, and benefiting generations of Puget Sound residents, and

WHEREAS, the RAC has evolved to include members from non-owner jurisdictions and groups to support the development of the vision of the corridor and surrounding land uses, and

WHEREAS, the owners and easement holders of the Eastrail retain their jurisdictional authority and are implementing and planning projects within and over their individually owned segments of the corridor and this MOU does not affect or limit any owners' or easement holders' property rights within the corridor, and

WHEREAS, the parties now wish to replace the 2017 memorandum of understanding and enter into this MOU that reflects the name change of the RAC as well as its revised governance structure;

THEREFORE, the Parties above have reached the following understanding:

## **SECTION 1. Purpose of the Eastrail Regional Advisory Council (RAC):**

The purposes of the RAC are consistent with the owner and easement holder uses and plans for the corridor, (1) to set and advance the multiple use vision of the Eastrail, as initially set forth in the RAC's Creating Connections report, which emphasized the transportation mobility, utility, recreational and equity benefits of the corridor and (2) to support the implementation of the Eastrail Regional Trail as identified in the King County Trail Master Plan and in corresponding plans developed by certain RAC member jurisdictions. The RAC will also serve as a venue for coordinating efforts of member jurisdictions to advance common goals such as: advocating for the funding and implementation of Trail Master Plan improvements and collaborating to develop a brand identity for the corridor, compatible with existing identities in several RAC member jurisdictions.

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.

## **SECTION 2a. RAC Membership:**

The RAC membership will be driven by the RAC vision. Members will include owner jurisdictions (King County, City of Kirkland, City of Redmond, Sound Transit, City of Woodinville, and Snohomish County) as well as easement holders (PSE, King County and Sound Transit), and cities directly adjacent to the corridor who hold permitting and land use authority, (City of Bellevue and City of Renton), and the Eastside Greenway Alliance. King County will have four representatives, the King County Executive (or his/her designee), and three members from the County Council. The Eastside Greenway Alliance will have one member appointed to serve as representative of the Alliance. All other parties will have one representative from each party as a member of the RAC.

## **SECTION 2b. New RAC Membership:**

The RAC will add or remove members, membership agencies and jurisdictions based on the following processes:

- Consensus agreement of the current RAC membership.
- Signed letter of interest by all parties acknowledging the change to the membership 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.

#### **SECTION 4. RAC Meetings:**

The RAC will meet on a quarterly basis. Meetings will take place in a standing time slot mutually agreed upon by the co-Chairs of the RAC, after consultation with other RAC members. The meeting dates for each year will be set in the fourth meeting of the prior year. The RAC meeting frequency can be adjusted by consensus of the Parties.

#### **SECTION 5. RAC Staffing:**

The work of the RAC will be supported by a staff group comprised of senior staff from RAC member organizations and invited technical experts, to undertake work addressing the RAC priorities. The staff group will serve as an information sharing venue for

distributing information on completed, current, and anticipated activities that provide tangible outcomes supporting the vision. The staff group will make recommendations on information items that should be placed on the RAC agenda. King County will deploy staff resources specifically to support the RAC operations and actions.

## SECTION 6. Property Rights; Jurisdictional Authority.

Nothing herein is intended to limit or affect the Parties' jurisdictional authority over, or their individually-owned property interests in segments of the Eastrail.

#### **SECTION 7.** Legal Relations.

This MOU shall not be interpreted or construed to create an association, joint venture, or partnership between the Parties or to impose any partnership obligations or other liability thereon. No party shall have any right, power, or authority to enter into any agreement or undertaking for or on behalf of, to act as, or be an agent or representative of, any other party. This MOU creates no right, privilege, duty, obligation, or cause of action in any person or entity not a party to it. No Party is obligated to participate under this MOU, but to the extent that a Party elects to participate under this MOU then it shall comply with the MOU.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties hereto have executed this MOU, effective as of the date first written below.

Signatories:	
King County	_
Date:	
City of Kirkland	_
Date:	
	_
City of Redmond	
Date:	

Motion 16154	Attachment A
Sound Transit	
Date:	
Puget Sound Energy	
Date:	
Eastside Greenway Alliance	
Date:	
City of Bellevue	
Date:	
City of Renton	
Date:	
City of Woodinville	
Date:	
Snohomish County	

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Certificate Of Completion** 

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Subject: Please DocuSign: Motion 16154.docx, Motion 16154 Attachment A.docx

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Supplemental Document Pages: 5 Initials: 0

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Claudia Balducci Claudia Balducci claudia.balducci@kingcounty.gov 7E1C273CE9994B6.. King County General (ITD)

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Melani Pedroza Sent: 7/11/2022 7:55:28 PM Melani Kedras Viewed: 7/12/2022 8:43:13 AM melani.pedroza@kingcounty.gov

8DE1BB375AD3422 Clerk of the Council Signed: 7/12/2022 8:43:21 AM King County Council

Signature Adoption: Uploaded Signature Image Security Level: Email, Account Authentication Using IP Address: 146.129.133.38

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Signing Complete	Security Checked	7/12/2022 8:43:21 AM
Completed	Security Checked	7/12/2022 8:43:21 AM
Payment Events	Status	Timestamps