

2024 FHWA REGIONAL COMPETITION: PROJECT SPONSOR FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

AGENCY: Port of Seattle

PROJECT: Air Cargo Road Reconstruction & Non-motorized Improvements

Question #1: In your application, you shared a plan for future outreach, but can you provide more information on how past outreach efforts helped shape the project? More specifically, can you share what you heard from members of the EFAs?

Answer #1: The EFAs for the project include People of Color, People with Low Incomes, Youth, and People with Limited English Proficiency. During the design of the Air Cargo Rd improvements located south of the proposed project the Port conducted two separate outreach efforts. One during the preliminary engineering phase to seek feedback on areas of concern that need to be addressed by the design, and a second one later in design focusing on the proposed improvements and managing construction related impacts. Approximately fifty comments were received during these sessions and were predominantly from air cargo employees and commercial ground transportation services (taxis, transportation network companies, courtesy vehicles) which represent these EFAs. The following five comments exemplify the range of comments received and how they were addressed by the project:

- A comment was received requesting that sidewalks and bicycle lanes be provided
 within the project limits. Sidewalks were provided throughout the project limits.
 Bicycle facilities (either bicycle lanes or shared use path) were evaluated but not
 provided due to limited right-of-way and proposed future terminal development that
 would displace the improvements.
- A comment was received requesting that crossings be provided at transit stops with lighting. These improvements were provided for the transit stop within the project limits.
- A comment was received to address truck turn radii at key intersections. Truck turning radii at intersections were evaluated during design with curb lines adjusted where needed to support the larger turning radii.
- A comment was received asking if the lanes on northbound Air Cargo Rd can be separated so that the free right-turn lane onto the expressway cannot be cut into by aggressive drivers in the left lane. This was a key design concern that was addressed through the development of the channelization plan for the project.

 A comment was received noting that there is considerable impact of seasonal cherry harvest/shipment June through August and leading up to winter holiday season impacting affecting cargo movements along Air Cargo Rd. Port staff coordinated with the cargo operators to define the peak times and lane closures for construction were limited during those peak times.