



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### 2024 FHWA REGIONAL COMPETITION: PROJECT SPONSOR FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS

AGENCY: WSDOT

PROJECT: SR 167/SR 512 to Ellingson Rd Vicinity SB Congestion Management

**Question #1:** You mentioned coordinating with your Equity Advisory Committee. Can you provide more information on who they are, their connection to EFAs, and how their feedback influenced the project?

**Answer #1:**

The Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) was formed to support the equity, inclusion, community outreach and community input in the SR 167 Master Plan Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study. It includes representatives from the following community-based organization (CBO)s:

- IDIC Filipino Senior & Family Services
- Asian Counseling and Referral Service
- Center for Independence Tilth Alliance
- Renton Inclusion Task Force
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Somali Community Services of Seattle
- African Housing & Development
- Sound Generation
- ForeverGreen Trails
- Orion Works/Industries
- Atlantic Street Center
- Futurewise
- Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

These CBOs advocated on behalf of vulnerable populations, overburdened community members, environmental justice, and transportation initiatives.

WSDOT partnered with the EAC to identify nearly 70 community members to invite to co-creation workshops from August through September 2022.

Participants of the co-creation workshops helped the project team members better understand the transportation stories, needs, ideas, and challenges of the

community members living and working within the equity priority areas and study area.

WSDOT held two online open houses. Online Open House No. 1 (June 29 to July 29, 2022) focused on gathering feedback related to transportation needs and concerns, and it included a demographic survey. Online Open House No. 2 (March 15 to April 15, 2023) focused on gathering feedback on the SR 167 Master Plan PEL Study process and the Final Study Recommendations.

The EAC had input on the following topics, and feedback was shared with the Technical Advisory Committee and the Policy Advisory Committee

- Locations of equity priority areas within the study area, which were used to help identify potential project impacts and benefits to communities living in these areas
- Locations of community-identified destinations
- Equity considerations and transportation needs and priorities
- Development and implementation of co-creation workshops

This outreach affirms that our vulnerable populations and overburdened communities will benefit from increased transit access and reliability, improved multimodal connections, and improved access to employment centers and key destinations.

WSDOT used this feedback in advancing the SB Congestion Management project for design and construction. WSDOT intends to continue working with the EAC as the project advances.

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**Question #2:** Please identify the HOP typology associated with your project's location along with the policies that currently exist that fall under the 3 categories (Supply, Stability, and Subsidy) for this typology.

**Answer #2:**

This project would extend the SR 167 express toll lanes in the southbound direction to the SR 410/SR 512 interchange. The SR 167 Project adjacent HOP typology varies and includes the following zones:

- Improve Access and Affordability
- Transform and Diversify
- Improve Access and Housing Choices
- Increase Access to Single Family Neighborhoods
- Promote Investment and Opportunity

By expanding the express toll lane system, the Project will increase the access to employment and housing throughout the region. It will move more people through the system, benefits transit by providing a more reliable trip, and benefits freight by improving movement across all lanes. These two primary functions support the VISION 2050 Regional Growth Strategy in this corridor.

Land use and local zoning are not within WSDOT's purview, so any changes to support the increased access opportunities would come from the local agencies. WSDOT will continue to work with the local agencies within the SR 167 corridor to maximize the benefits of the increased mobility and reduce the displacement risk.