

Amendment 2 to RES 32055 – Sound Transit WSBLE Recommendations

Sponsor: Councilmember Strauss

Re-examine Ballard Alignment Options

Effect: This amendment would add language to support re-examining Ballard tunnel alignments that would more directly serve the center of the of Ballard Hub Urban Village.

Revise Section 3 of RES 32055 as follows:

Section 3. The City recognizes that Sound Transit is exploring potential cost-savings refinements to the DEIS alternatives in response to the 2021 Sound Transit Board action on ST3 realignment, as well as other refinements that strive to avoid impacts, reduce risk, or achieve other benefits to the system. The City supports exploring strategies to control costs overall, but opposes scope reductions that do not bring commensurate benefit to the system and its riders, and that are not consistent with what was committed to voters when ST3 was approved in 2016. The City supports re-examining Ballard tunnel alignments that would more directly serve the center of the Ballard Hub Urban Village in the vicinity of NW Market Street and 22nd Avenue NW. While tunnel options west of 15th Avenue NW did not advance into the DEIS during project screening, that decision was influenced by the significant anticipated cost difference between elevated and tunnel alignments. As the DEIS has shown a narrowing of this cost difference, re-examining tunnel alignments west of 15th Avenue NW may identify additional opportunities to reduce costs or to better serve the anticipated ridership.