



December 16, 2013

To Affected Tribes, Interested Agencies, and Members of the Public:

The City of Seattle is replacing the Elliott Bay Seawall along Seattle’s downtown waterfront. The Seattle Department of Transportation, as Lead Agency under the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), released a Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in March 2013 to document the final evaluation of the project under SEPA. Project permits were received in fall 2013, and construction began on the City’s Preferred Alternative in November 2013.

This Supplemental EIS (SEIS) has been prepared to evaluate proposed changes in project design and construction methods compared to what was described in the original EIS. These proposed changes are largely the result of agreements made through the various environmental permitting and approval processes, and are collectively presented as the Updated Preferred Alternative. The analysis within this document will be used to assist decision-makers and permit authorities in assessing the environmental effects (adverse and beneficial) associated with the proposed changes. The SEIS focuses on potential impacts and proposed mitigation measures that differ from those described in the original proposal for the following elements of the environment:

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| Transportation                                   | Public Services and Utilities              |
| Economics  | Social Resources and Environmental Justice |
| Noise and Vibration                              | Visual Quality                             |
| Cultural, Historic, and Archaeological Resources | Fish, Wildlife, and Vegetation             |
| Land Use, Shorelines, and Parks and Recreation   | Water Resources                            |

As described in the Final EIS, construction would result in temporary impacts such as traffic congestion, changes in access to businesses and residences, parking loss, construction noise and dust, stormwater runoff, and disturbance of sediments and contaminated materials. The SEIS describes how these impacts will differ under the Updated Proposed Alternative. Operational effects of the project would generally be beneficial and have not changed significantly from the Final EIS. Comments on this Draft SEIS are welcome. Instructions for submitting comments are outlined on the Fact Sheet included in the Draft SEIS. All comments are due by January 22, 2014.

Sincerely,

Peter E. Hahn  
Director, Seattle Department of Transportation

