



DATE: March 4, 2024

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

FROM: Andrew Singelakis, Director of Transportation, 452-6468  
Mike Ingram, Senior Planner, 452-4166  
*Transportation Department*

SUBJECT: Eastrail Connection to Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail

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On January 22, Council accepted an award of \$2.5 million in federal Transportation Alternatives Program funding via Puget Sound Regional Council. This funding award will support construction of a connection between the Eastrail and the Mountains to Sound Greenway (MTSG) Trail (Ordinance No. 6774).

The Eastrail regional trail is a 42-mile north-south rail-trail conversion that connects communities from Renton, through Bellevue, to Snohomish County. There are some Eastrail gaps in Bellevue and elsewhere; stakeholders are collaborating to complete the trail. The MTSG regional trail encompasses a 100-mile trail system paralleling I-90, connecting the Seattle waterfront to Ellensburg, across the Cascade Mountains. However, this east-west system also has critical gaps, including a lack of any formal connection to the north-south running Eastrail regional trail.

This project will construct a trail connection along SE 118<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE and SE 32<sup>nd</sup> Street between the two major regional trails and will also fill an existing gap in the City's trail along the east side of Mercer Slough Park. At the meeting on March 4, staff will share images and detail of the planned trail connection.