

Friends of the Burke-Gilman Trail

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Council Votes for "Green Route" The Vote is 7 to 2

The City Council voted to move ahead with the Mayor's proposal for completing the Burke-Gilman Trail along the "Green Route." The vote was 7 to 2 with Conlin, Wills, Compton, Nicastro, Drago, Steinbrueck and Licata in favor, and McIver and Pageler opposed.

The final vote came after several amendments to the "Green Route" resolution were narrowly defeated. These amendments included a proposal to extend the trail further along Ballard Avenue to Market Street and a proposal to postpone any decision until another alternative route could be considered.

Helping to convince the council were letters written by owners of businesses along the "Green Route" who believe a safe trail can be built and can coexist with industry.. It helped that there was an out pouring of letters and emails from all of you trail supporters.

The next step is to design a safe trail that meets the concerns of both bicyclists and industry, apply for funding and move ahead with optimism and a progressive spirit. Contact us with your ideas and suggestions for supporting the trail through the next phase.

Hundreds Attend Public Hearing on the Burke-Gilman Trail

Thanks to the hundreds of trail supporters who turned out Monday night (March 24) for the Transportation Committee public hearing on the Burke-Gilman Trail. Your continued support and thoughtful comments are important for the committee and the Council to hear.

Mayor Supports Completion of the Burke-Gilman Trail

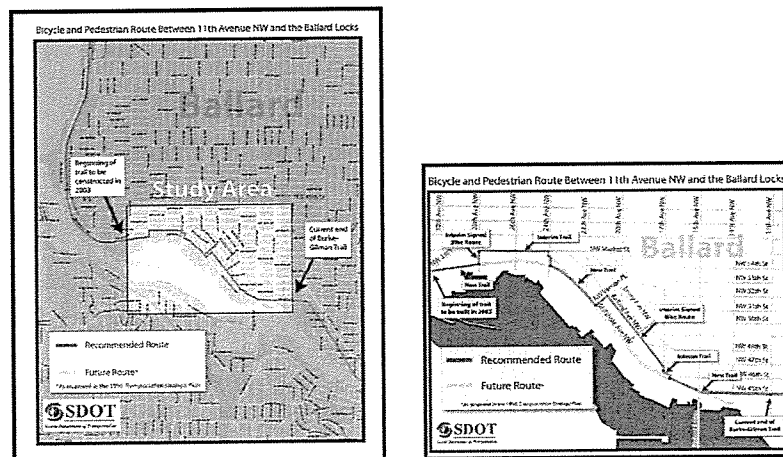
At a press conference on Friday, February 21st, Mayor Greg Nickels announced his decision to move forward with completion of the Burke-Gilman Trail, using the Green Line

Rail/Trail corridor that FOBGT and trail proponents have been advocating. This is a momentous decision, and the Mayor is to be applauded and supported for taking this step. He heard from the citizens of Seattle, from local and regional businesses, and from all of you, that the green line is the logical, safe, and simple way to complete the trail.

To read Mayor Nickels' press release, go to <http://www.cityofseattle.gov/mayor/>. Once there, you can see the final Ballard Corridor Design Study report, which gives the details of the proposed route.

Though the Mayor is not proposing seeking funding for the entire length of trail at present, the compromise he reached on trail routing and phasing strikes a balance between completing key segments of the trail, and acknowledging the vitality and vigor of Ballard's industrial businesses and their operational needs. This is a win-win for everyone involved!

To see the SDOT recommendation, go to http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/mayor/Burke_Gilman.htm



Click on maps to see full size

Seattle Times OP-Ed Makes Case for "Green Route"

"Isn't it time we completed the Burke-Gilman Trail? Such a simple concept: a slice of asphalt coursing through the city's neighborhoods, carrying bicyclists, walkers, skaters and strollers to work, to school, to play. For most of us, this ribbon of alternate roadway is the epitome of what is good and right and beautiful about Seattle..." [Read Op-Ed](#)

The Last Half Mile

The "Missing Link" is the subject of a Dec 11, 2000 article in the Seattle Times. Spokesmen on both side of the trail issue are interviewed by the Times staff. [Years to Go Before Gap in](#)

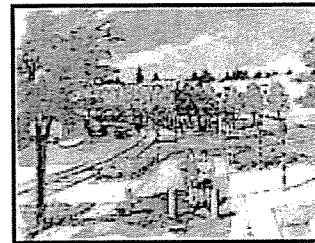
Burke-Gilman Closes**Burke-Gilman Trail Study Wins Design Award**

Nov 14, 2001: A design study commissioned by the Friends of the Burke-Gilman Trail has won the "Merit Award for Landscape Planning and Analysis" from the Washington Society of Landscape Architects. Friends of the Burke-Gilman Trail, a neighborhood group advocating the completion of the popular Burke-Gilman Trail through Ballard, worked with the local firms Susan Black - Landscape Architects and A Northwest Collaborative on the study. Its goal are design solutions for a multi-use trail within the city-owned railroad right-of-way connecting the Ballard Locks and the Ballard Bridge, while maintaining rail service.

Davidya Kaserzyk, AIA, principal of one of the design firms, expressed his satisfaction upon winning the award "The award was given for quality planning and analysis of a very difficult urban design issue. Our design clearly shows that a trail can coexist with the railroad." Jack Brautigam, Chair of the Friends of the Burke-Gilman Trail, weighs in "The study shows how a trail could benefit the Ballard Industrial Area and the National Historic District by considering the needs of businesses and industry as well as those of cyclists and pedestrians."

"Missing Link" Trail Sketches

We present our design for the 'missing link' section of Burke-Gilman Trail through Ballard. The design shows how a multi-use trail can fit within the rail and street right-of-way. The Trail will create new non-motorized transportation options while optimizing the use of this valuable corridor for freight, rail, and automobiles.



Visit our "[Trail Design](#)" page to view design drawings showing segments of the route. We invite your questions, comments and your participation. Email us at Friends@BurkeGilmanTrail.Org.