

March 3, 2022

Mayor Bruce Harrell  
City of Seattle  
600 Fourth Ave  
Seattle, WA 98104

Submitted via Email

Mayor Harrell:

Over the last 11 months, the Seattle Center Foundation and many Seattle Center Resident Organizations have been meeting weekly, studying and intensely discussing the potential impacts of the plan for the arrival of Sound Transit in 2037. We are all very supportive of light rail opening its doors in the Uptown neighborhood and look forward to the ultimate success of the largest infrastructure project in the history of Seattle.

However, we have concluded that **the proposed location for the Preferred Alignment is untenable for Seattle Center and its Resident Organizations.**

Now that the DEIS has been released, our consultants and resident organizations KEXP, Vera Project, SIFF and Seattle Rep, have determined that they cannot stay in place and solvent during 5-10 years of construction, unless a significant change of course happens in the design, construction methodology and location of the Uptown station. The impacts of noise and vibration, as well as the significant unknown construction impacts have created a truly existential crisis.

We know that our job is to help the Sound Transit Board and staff understand the complexities of the unique and treasured cultural organizations at Seattle Center, so the best choices on the alignment and station locations can be made later this summer. To that end, in partnership with Seattle Center and SDOT, we held an in-person design charrette in November with over 64 people attending. Sound Transit staff have attended multiple group meetings with us and have held two additional workshops for Seattle Center Resident Organizations, with two more scheduled over the next month.

We do not take sounding this alarm lightly. But as the City is the landlord for all Seattle Center Resident Organizations, the Partner Agency for Sound Transit, and the permitting entity, we believe we needed to share these conclusions with you as soon as possible. And we hope you will come to the same conclusion as your staff reviews the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

We look forward to working through these big decisions with you and your staff and are available at any time to provide more details on our conclusions.

Best,

Jane Zalutsky  
Executive Director  
Seattle Center Foundation

Sung Yang  
Board President  
Seattle Center Foundation

Jeffrey Herrmann  
Managing Director  
Seattle Rep

Diana E. Knauff  
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Councilmember Alex Pederson

Councilmember Kshama Sawant

Councilmember Dan Strauss