

Everett Link Meetings and Public Comments



A practical guide for the Sonrise church family

Information checked October 10, 2026 | Compiled by Pastor Craig Gorc

Sonrise members can help Sound Transit understand what the church means to the people it serves. The goal is respectful, specific engagement that seeks to preserve Sonrise’s ministry while considering the needs of our neighbors.

SONRISE Attend an upcoming public meeting

The remaining in-person meetings, as published in the official schedule, are listed below (Pacific time). [1]

Date	Time	Location
Tuesday, October 13, 2026	5:30–8:30 p.m.	Mariner High School, 200 120th St SW, Everett, WA 98204. [1, 2]
Thursday, October 15, 2026	5:30–8:30 p.m.	Carl Gipson Center, 3025 Lombard Ave, Everett, WA 98201. [1, 3]
Wednesday, October 21, 2026	5:30–8:30 p.m.	Lynnwood Neighborhood Center, 19509 64th Ave W, Lynnwood, WA 98036. [1, 4]

Sound Transit says each session provides the same information and opportunity to comment, so choose the one that works for you. [5] The October 6 virtual hearing has passed, and no additional online hearing or recording is listed; if you cannot attend in person, use the online comment form. [6, 1]

Before you go

- **Registration and speaking rules:** The official meeting page does not list advance registration, a speaker sign-up procedure, or a speaking-time limit. [1] Questions can be directed to everettlink@soundtransit.org or Community Outreach at 206-370-5533. [7]
- **Accessibility:** Planned provisions include an ADA-accessible venue; ASL, Korean, Russian, and Spanish interpreters; a children’s activity area; accessible materials; and comments in any language. [1] Request other accommodations or alternative-format materials from everettlink@soundtransit.org as early as possible. [1]
- **Preparation:** Sonrise asks members who attend to be ready to give a two-minute statement (see “Prepare your two-minute statement” on page 2). Bring this guide and your statement written out, and arrive early enough to ask the welcome staff how to sign up to speak. If the hearing allows less time, have a shorter version ready.
- **Schedule check:** Recheck the official event page before leaving. [1] Do not assume a church-organized ride, group reservation, or livestream is available unless Sonrise announces one.

At the meeting

The events include a presentation, questions and answers, staff available to discuss concerns, a formal hearing recorded by a court reporter, and opportunities to submit written comments. [1] Use the staff discussion for clarification; use the formal hearing or written submission to put your concern on the record.

- **At arrival:** Ask, “Where do I sign up to make a formal comment, and what is tonight’s speaking limit?”
- **With project staff:** Ask to see the SR 99/Airport Road alternatives and the Sonrise property, and ask what specifically creates the displacement risk.
- **For the record:** State the alternative, explain a concrete effect, and ask for a specific response or change. A conversation at a display table is not recorded as an official comment.

Understand the property terms

- **Displacement:** In the Draft EIS, acquisition requiring removal of an existing use; Sonrise is expressly identified for displacement under AIR-1A, rather than simply being near the project. [8]
- **Full or partial acquisition:** Full acquisition involves the entire property; partial acquisition involves only a portion and does not necessarily require relocation, although the effect depends on the design and remaining use. [9]
- **Temporary construction easement:** Permission to use property during construction, after which the property would be restored and the easement terminated; exact areas can change as design develops. [10]
- **Compensation and assistance:** Sound Transit describes an appraisal-based acquisition process and relocation assistance, but these general descriptions do not establish Sonrise's specific benefits or guarantee that an equivalent replacement church will be ready before a move. [9] Church-specific questions should be addressed with the project team and qualified advisors.

Prepare your two-minute statement

At each public meeting, Sonrise would like members to be prepared to give a two-minute statement during the formal hearing.

- **Come with talking points:** Write out a few key points ahead of time; the questions below work well.
- **Share your personal story:** Explain how Sonrise has impacted you personally and how it serves the community.
- **Keep it to two minutes:** Practice aloud and time yourself; clear and specific is better than long.
- **Be flexible:** Sonrise may ask certain people to be prioritized at certain meetings, especially when speaking time is limited. Please be flexible with these requests.

Eight respectful questions to use as talking points

Choose the questions that matter most to you rather than trying to use all eight, and put them in your own words so that Sonrise's comments do not all sound alike. Questions can be directed to staff, and unresolved concerns can also be submitted as formal written comments.

1. **Reason for displacement:** "What exact parts of AIR-1A require Sonrise's property, and can you show the affected buildings, parking, and access on a map?"
2. **Avoiding displacement:** "How could AIR-2B or a revised design preserve Sonrise, and what remaining property or access impacts would still need to be addressed?"
3. **Station funding:** "If the Airport Road station is deferred or never funded, would the rail alignment alone still displace Sonrise? Please distinguish track, station, mitigation, and construction needs."
4. **Ministry and community services:** "How does the analysis account for the loss or interruption of worship, recovery support, help for people leaving homelessness, and other services that people receive through Sonrise?"
5. **Construction access:** "How would services, classes, deliveries, accessible entrances, and emergency vehicles reach the church during construction?"
6. **Parking and noise:** "How would church parking remain usable, how would possible transit spillover be managed, and how would construction and train noise affecting ministry be assessed?"
7. **A workable replacement:** "If displacement cannot be avoided, how would you assess the availability of a replacement location with suitable assembly space, parking, accessibility, and zoning?"
8. **Influence and follow-up:** "What decisions remain open, how will these comments affect alternative selection, and where can members find the agency's written response?"

Submit a comment even if you cannot attend

The deadline is **November 2, 2026**. Sound Transit accepts comments in any language through the following channels; mailed comments must be postmarked by that date. [1]

- **Online:** <https://app.maptionnaire.com/q/6zi6rd4xys98> [6]
- **Email:** everettlinkcomments@soundtransit.org. [1]
- **Voicemail:** 425-243-6255. [1]
- **Mail:** Everett Link Extension, Attn: Galeeb Kachra, Sound Transit, 401 S. Jackson St., Seattle, WA 98104. [1]

Suggested email subject: “Draft EIS Comment: Sonrise Christian Center / AIR-1A and AIR-2B.” Keep a copy of your submission and any acknowledgment for your records.

Make your comment specific and personal

Sound Transit asks commenters to name the alternative, explain the effect on them or their community, state what they support or oppose and why, and offer suggested improvements. [1] A useful structure is:

- **Connection:** Briefly explain your relationship to Sonrise or the neighborhood.
- **Real effect:** Share a truthful, specific example of how Sonrise has impacted you or the community, or of the difficulty a displacement would create.
- **Request:** Ask Sound Transit to avoid displacing Sonrise, evaluate preservation options, and explain how ministry continuity would be protected.

Speak in your own words, and identify your views as personal unless you are authorized to represent Sonrise. Avoid claims you cannot verify, exaggerated statistics, and statements suggesting that the loss of the building has already been decided.

Privacy matters: Draft EIS comments become public record, and names are generally published in the Final EIS; the online guidance allows a nickname for commenters who wish to submit anonymously. [1] Do not include another person’s recovery history, medical information, housing situation, or identifying story without permission, and avoid unnecessary personal details about yourself.

Public participation is different from a property meeting

The public hearing provides a formal opportunity to comment; general property-owner webinars explain the process but do not discuss individual property impacts. [1, 9] Sonrise’s leadership can separately request a conceptual-design and avoidance discussion through everettlink@soundtransit.org or the property-owner inquiry line, 425-449-5086; that request does not replace a formal comment before the deadline. [9, 1]

Sound Transit says substantive comments will receive responses in the Final EIS and that public input helps the Board select or modify preferred alternatives. [1] Participation is worthwhile, but it does not guarantee a particular outcome.

Three next steps for members

- **Choose a meeting:** Consider October 13 at Mariner High School or another published session that works for you, and be flexible if Sonrise asks you to attend a particular meeting. [1]
- **Submit a personal comment:** Share a truthful example and a clear request before November 2. You do not need to attend a meeting to comment online, by email, by voicemail, or by mail. [1]
- **Pray and stay connected:** Pray for wisdom for church leaders, project staff, and affected neighbors; look to Sonrise’s official communications for church-specific updates rather than circulating assumptions.

The church can speak firmly about the value of its ministry while treating public servants and neighbors with dignity. May this season be marked by wisdom, unity, truthful words, and confidence in God, without presuming how the project will ultimately be decided.

Printed web addresses

The bracketed numbers in this guide identify the official web pages below. All addresses are plain text, not embedded hyperlinks; type the full address into a browser.

[1] Meeting schedule, accessibility, deadlines, and comment instructions

<https://everettlink.participate.online/comment-now/>

[2] Directions: Mariner High School

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/nDSfgnfLQjbvwaGP7>

[3] Directions: Carl Gipson Center

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/bJkAeKFEgyCLTm1J8>

[4] Directions: Lynnwood Neighborhood Center

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/e4XwWKA3rEP83VAh9>

[5] Sound Transit meeting announcement

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/WASOUND/bulletins/429933d>

[6] Online Draft EIS comment form

<https://app.maptionnaire.com/q/6zi6rd4xys98>

[7] Project overview, schedule, and contact information

<https://everettlink.participate.online/project-overview/>

[8] Draft EIS: Sonrise findings, Tables 4-45 and 4-48, pp. 119 and 121

<https://www.soundtransit.org/sites/default/files/documents/02-EVLE-DEIS-Full.pdf>

[9] Property-owner process and relocation information

<https://everettlink.participate.online/property-owners/>

[10] Acquisition, displacement, and relocation appendix

<https://www.soundtransit.org/sites/default/files/documents/19-EVLE-DEIS-AppendixG.2.pdf>

Before printing or attending

Check the official meeting page for changes. Print this guide double-sided, flipping on the long edge. Bring your two-minute statement, and keep a copy of any formal comment you submit.