



## How to Participate: Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

**This spring, the Southwest Corridor light rail Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be released for public review and comment. This guide will help you participate in its review.**

A new MAX line could mean many things for our communities. It could provide an additional transit option for travel between Tualatin, Tigard and Portland. It might start an investment of resources in a growing part of the region. Before a decision is made to build it, however, we need to fully understand what it could mean for people, historic structures, traffic and the natural environment. Last year, professional engineers, planners and scientists conducted a study to understand how adding light rail in Southwest Portland, Tigard and Tualatin could affect the area. The findings of this study were compiled in a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). But the work is not

done! It needs to be reviewed by community members, neighborhood groups government agencies, and anyone else interested in the future of the Southwest Corridor.

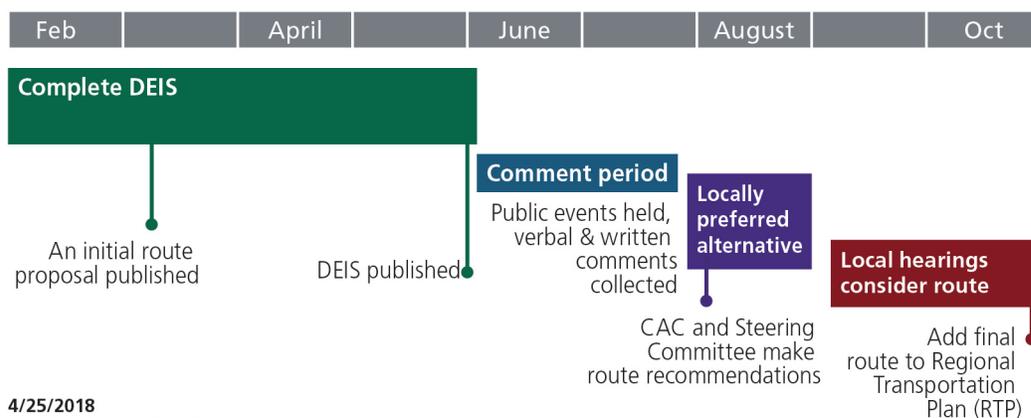
Your comments can improve the study, and decision making process, by adding new information, examining stated conclusions and proposing ways to reduce potential effects.

This document includes tips and suggestions for commenting.



Community members talk about light rail routes.

### 2018 Southwest Corridor light rail project schedule



4/25/2018  
Schedule is subject to change.

#### Learn more...

swcorridorplan.org

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## Two types of comments:

You can make one or both.

1. **Comments on the initial route proposal** help decision makers determine where the light rail should go. Do you like the proposal? Want to suggest a change? We'd like to hear your response.
2. **Comments on the draft environmental study** provide information that only people who live, work and travel here know. What is missing? Is something wrong? Please help us identify the potential effects (good and bad) of this new light rail line.

## Tips for commenting:

- Be clear, concise, and specific. Explain your position in detail.
- Use facts. Use information from the study to support your position. If you have information that conflicts with the study, please share it. If you feel the study does not have enough evidence to support a statement, explain why.
- Identify possible solutions (ways to avoid, minimize, or reduce negative impacts).

## How are comments used?

Comments on the DEIS improve the study and help decision-makers by making sure potential effects are understood. Your input on the study and the initial route proposal will help the steering committee choose a preferred route for the light rail.

## What is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)?

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not a decision. Rather, it is used by agency decision makers as a “tool” to alert them and the public to environmental risks and/or benefits of a proposed decision. The underlying philosophy of National Environmental Policy Act and the EIS process is that governments and communities should weigh the potential consequences of major federally-funded projects before decisions are made.

The proposed MAX line will need federal funding, therefore, the Federal Transit Administration is conducting a DEIS in partnership with Metro, TriMet and our project partners. The purpose is to understand and identify potential risks and benefits before federal funding is made available to build a new light rail line.

Following the DEIS comment period, decision makers will select a preferred light rail route. Partners will then conduct a Final Environmental Impact Statement that responds to the public's comments and affirms the project's strategies to avoid, minimize or reduce any negative impacts identified in this process.



Staff shares a map with young community members.

## Five different ways to submit your comment:

**Email:** [swcorridorplanDEIS@oregonmetro.gov](mailto:swcorridorplanDEIS@oregonmetro.gov)

**Mail:** Southwest Corridor DEIS  
600 NE Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232

**Metro's multilingual hotline:** (503) 797-1888

**Meetings:** We'll host neighborhood meetings in SW Portland, Tigard and Tualatin for learning and commenting. You can also speak at Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and Steering Committee meetings. Visit [www.swcorridorplan.org](http://www.swcorridorplan.org) for a calendar of upcoming events.

**Website:** Visit once the study is released ([www.swcorridorplan.org](http://www.swcorridorplan.org)) to read and comment.