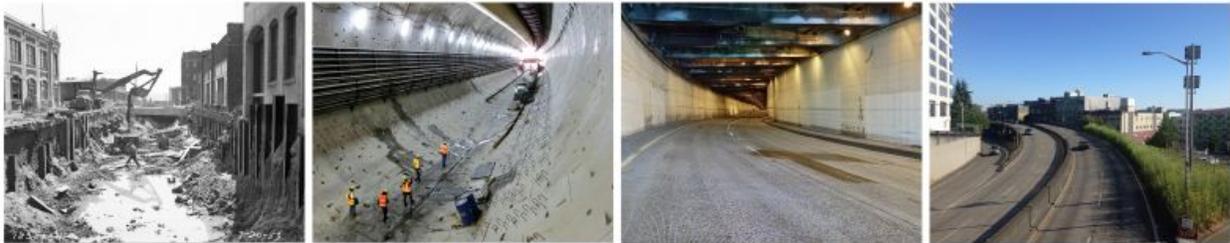


Recharge the Battery

Ideas for the Battery Street Tunnel

Background

The Battery Street Tunnel was completed in 1952 and has serviced the City of Seattle for over 65 years as the primary connector between the iconic Alaskan Way Viaduct and Aurora Avenue North. However, after nearly 15 years of debate regarding the replacement of the Viaduct and years of wondering if Bertha (the tunnelling machine) would ever make it to the finish line, the Viaduct Replacement Tunnel is complete and the current plans are calling for the existing tunnel to be closed and filled.



Call for Ideas

The future of the Battery Street Tunnel might still be open to consideration of options which demonstrate creative alternatives to deliver more value to the community. In March 2017, *Walk the Battery* invited the public into the tunnel to share a one-of-a-kind walking experience through an 'auto-only' public passage. Following the tremendous success of *Walk the Battery*, the Battery Street Tunnel conversation appears primed to take another step forward.

Recharge the Battery is reaching out to ALL Seattle area residents and asking for ideas, suggestions, and/or stories which might begin to inspire possibilities beyond the ordinary and encourage an alternative fate for one of Seattle's most under-appreciated infrastructural icons!

Recharge the Battery is an open ended 'call for ideas' working to gather a diverse collection of ideas from Seattle area residents of any/all ages, disciplines, and perspectives. More specifically, we are excited to welcome submissions in a variety of media, including: stories, artifacts, photos, drawings, designs, even suggestions for future events - anything that considers the context of the Belltown neighborhood, the legacy of the Battery Street Tunnel and/or the spirit of the City of Seattle.

[Walk the Battery](#) and [Recharge the Battery](#) represent the first and second phases of the *b'End Tunnel Initiative* to activate the Battery Street Tunnel by creating a series of events, exhibitions, installations, and gatherings intended to celebrate the historic, structural and cultural significance of the Battery Street Tunnel, in its final years of service.

Questions? Please see our Submission Rules and Submission Guidelines section (below)

More Questions? Email *Recharge the Battery* at batterystreettunnel@gmail.com

Exhibition

All *Recharge the Battery* entries will be featured as part of a public exhibition at Block41, in collaboration with Seattle Design Festival (see [Seattle Design Festival](#) for exhibition information and details).

Recognition of one top entry for each category will be made by our panel of organizers with experiences in design advocacy, community engagement, environmental art, urban planning, and public policy.

Four categories include:

- Most inspiring story
- Most original submission
- Most compelling visuals
- Most actionable suggestion

A People's Choice will also be chosen by in-person voting during Seattle Design Festival.

Each top entrant will be notified by email and recognized during our exhibition remarks ceremony, as well as on related websites, social media channels, publication outlets, and promotional materials.

Submission Rules

- Participation is open to all Seattle area residents of any/all ages, disciplines, and perspectives.
- Participation is open to all ages, but submissions under the age of 12 require an adult sponsor.
- Participation will be limited to three submissions per person. However, each entry must be unique.
- Each entry will be accepted in any media type, but basic visual consideration is preferred.
- Each entry must adhere to all submission guidelines (see Submissions Guidelines)
- Each entry must be received by 11pm PT on Friday, September 1, 2017.

Please submit each entry by email to *Recharge the Battery* at batterystreettunnel@gmail.com

Submission Guidelines

- Each entry must be one 11x17 and submitted in landscape/horizontal orientation.
- Each entry must be uploaded as a PDF at 300 DPI. Maximum file size is 5MB.
- Each entry must include a short title of no more than 75 characters (including text entries)
- Each entry must include a description of no more than 300 characters (including text entries)
- Participants must provide full name, zip code, and a valid email address.
- Participants must verify that they are 12 years of age or older, or submit through an adult sponsor.
- Participants must verify that their submission is original work and not subject to any other copyright.
- Participants must agree to the *Recharge the Battery* submission terms of agreement*

*Note: By nature of submitting, *Recharge the Battery* reserves the right to publically feature each submission during Seattle Design Festival 2017 and/or similar exhibitions leading up to the Battery Street Tunnel decommissioning in 2018/19. *Recharge the Battery* also reserves the right to feature select submissions (for commercial and promotional purposes related to the Battery Street Tunnel), on related websites, social media channels, publication outlets, and related promotional materials of the partnering organizations and special supporting partners

Resources

- Recharge the Battery Homepage: <https://www.facebook.com/rechargebattery>
- Project Belltown Community Plan: <https://projectbelltown.com/2017/06/1198/>
- Battery Street Tunnel Archives: <http://www.seattle.gov/cityarchives/>
- WSDOT Tunnel Status Update: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/Viaduct/Contents/Item/Display/485>
- Alaska Way Viaduct and Battery Street Tunnel Written Historical and Descriptive Date: <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/master/pnp/habshaer/wa/wa0800/wa0830/data/wa0830data.pdf>

Partnership

Recharge the Battery is part of the *b'End Tunnel Initiative*, conceived by [Aaron Asis](#) in partnership with [Downtown Seattle Association](#), [Project Belltown](#) and [Growing Vine Street](#), with support from [Seattle Design Festival](#) and [Block41](#). The Recharge the Battery team is devoted to raising awareness around past, present, and future potential for the Battery Street Tunnel and engaging the community in conceptualizing an inspired future for Belltown, Downtown Seattle, and surrounding Seattle communities.



Downtown
Seattle
Association

