





# West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

December 2017

# Agenda

-  System Expansion Plan
-  West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

# Sound Transit district

**3** counties:  
King | Pierce | Snohomish

**51** cities

**800,000**  
more people by 2040

More than  
**3 million**  
residents

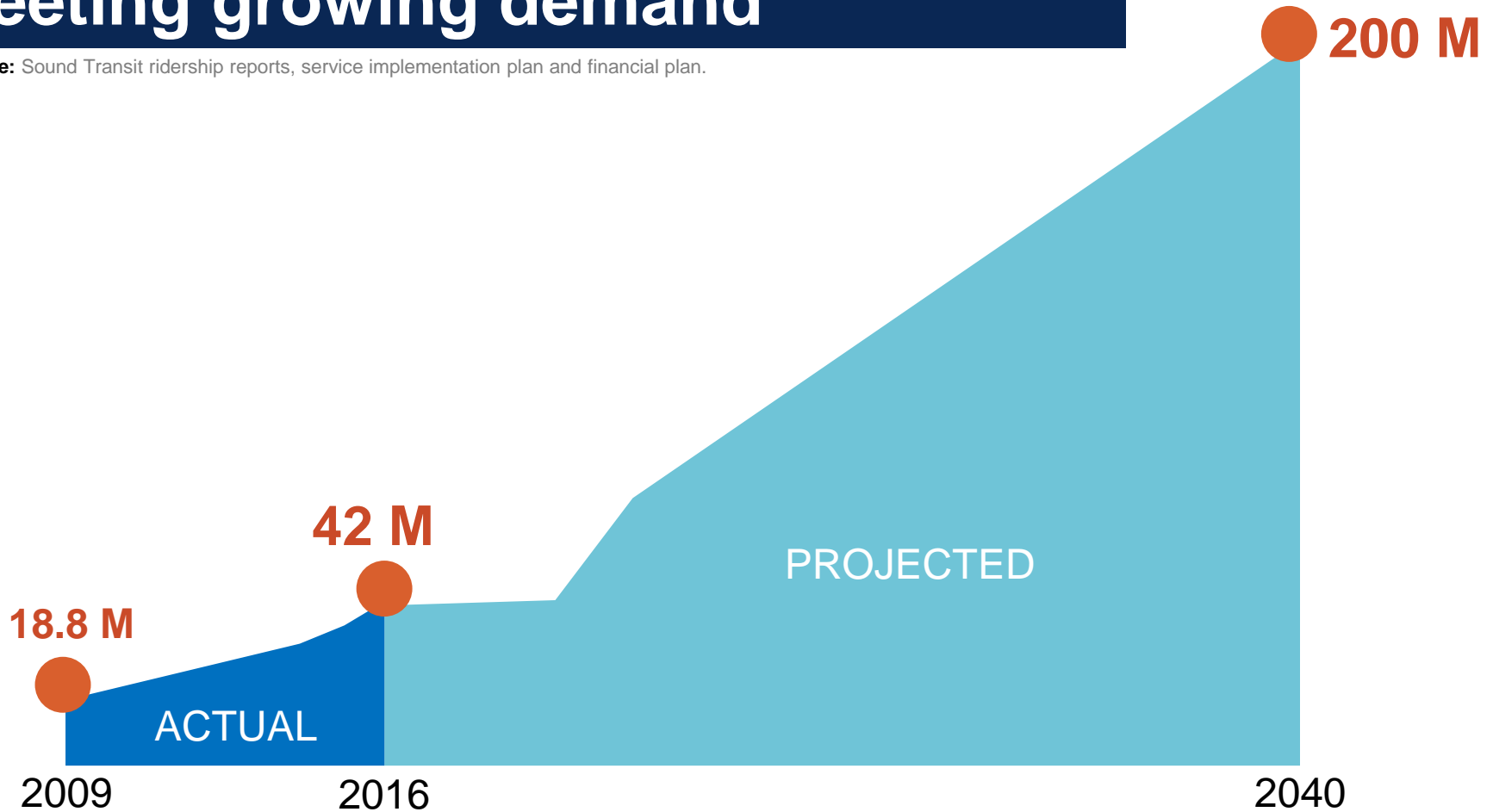
**40%**  
of the state's  
population



# Meeting growing demand

Source: Sound Transit ridership reports, service implementation plan and financial plan.

Ridership (millions)



# Station openings in 2016



Capitol Hill

University of  
Washington

Angle Lake

\*University of Washington Station

Link Light Rail  
Ridership Up

83%  
in 2016

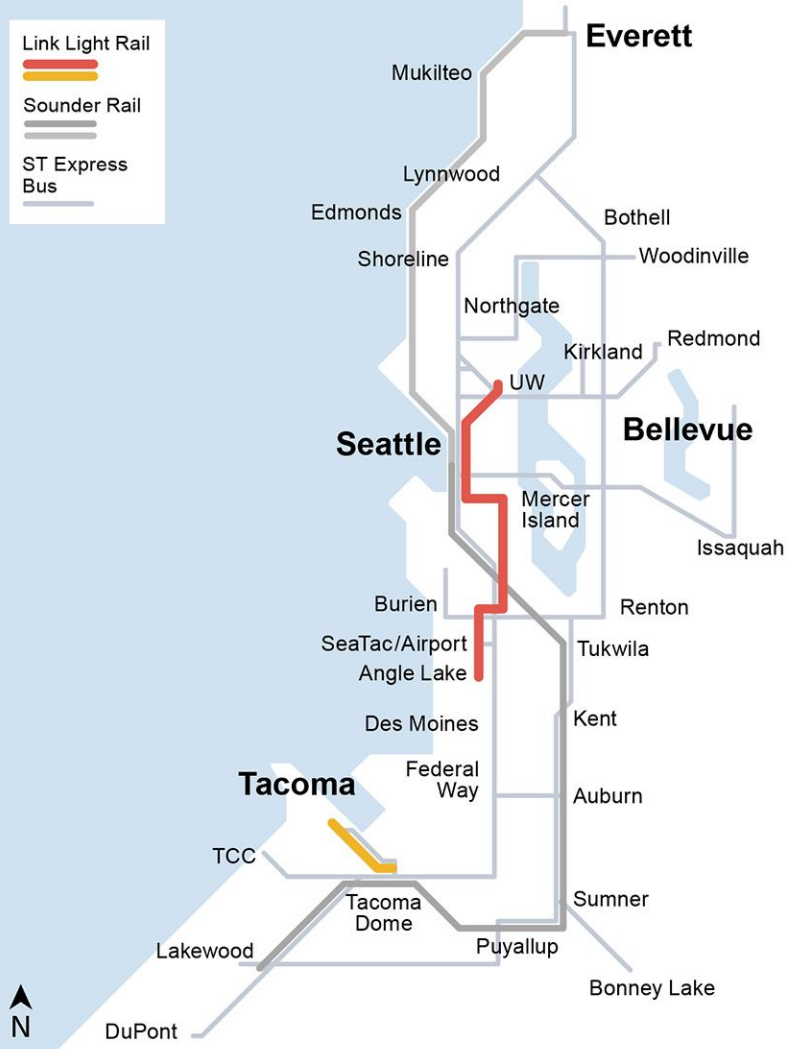
# System expansion

Sound Transit's system expansion means every few years new light rail, bus rapid transit and commuter rail stations open throughout the region, providing fast, reliable alternatives to congested roads



More information on each project:  
[www.soundtransit.org/system](http://www.soundtransit.org/system)





# 2017



## Light rail

- University of Washington, Capitol Hill, Downtown Seattle, Sea-Tac Airport, Angle Lake
- Tacoma Dome to Theater District



## Sounder rail

- Everett to Seattle
- Lakewood/Tacoma to Seattle



## ST Express bus

- 27 regional bus routes





Link Light Rail

Souder Rail

ST Express  
Bus



# 2022



## Light rail

- Tacoma Link to Martin Luther King / South 19th St



# 2023



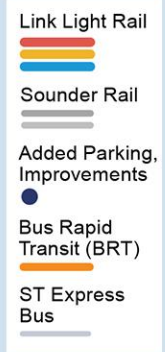
## Light rail

- Mercer Island, Bellevue, Spring District, Redmond (Overlake)



## Sounder

- Sounder south parking and access improvements



# 2024



## Light rail

- Shoreline, Mountlake Terrace, Lynnwood
- SE and Downtown Redmond
- Kent/Des Moines, Federal Way



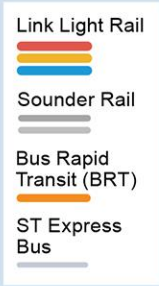
## Bus

- I-405 BRT – Lynnwood to Burien
- SR 522 BRT – Shoreline to Bothell
- North Sammamish park-and-ride



## Sounder

- Sounder north parking and access improvements



# 2030



## Light rail

- Alaska Junction, Avalon, Delridge
- South Federal Way, Fife, East Tacoma, Tacoma Dome



# 2031



## Light rail infill stations

- NE 130th St
- South Graham St
- South Boeing Access Rd



# 2035



## Light rail and new downtown tunnel

- Ballard, Interbay, Smith Cove, Seattle Center, S. Lake Union, Denny, Midtown



# 2036



## Light rail

- Everett, SR 526/Evergreen, Everett Industrial Center, Mariner, Ash Way, West Alderwood Mall



## Sounder

- DuPont and Tillicum
- Sounder south capacity and access improvements completed



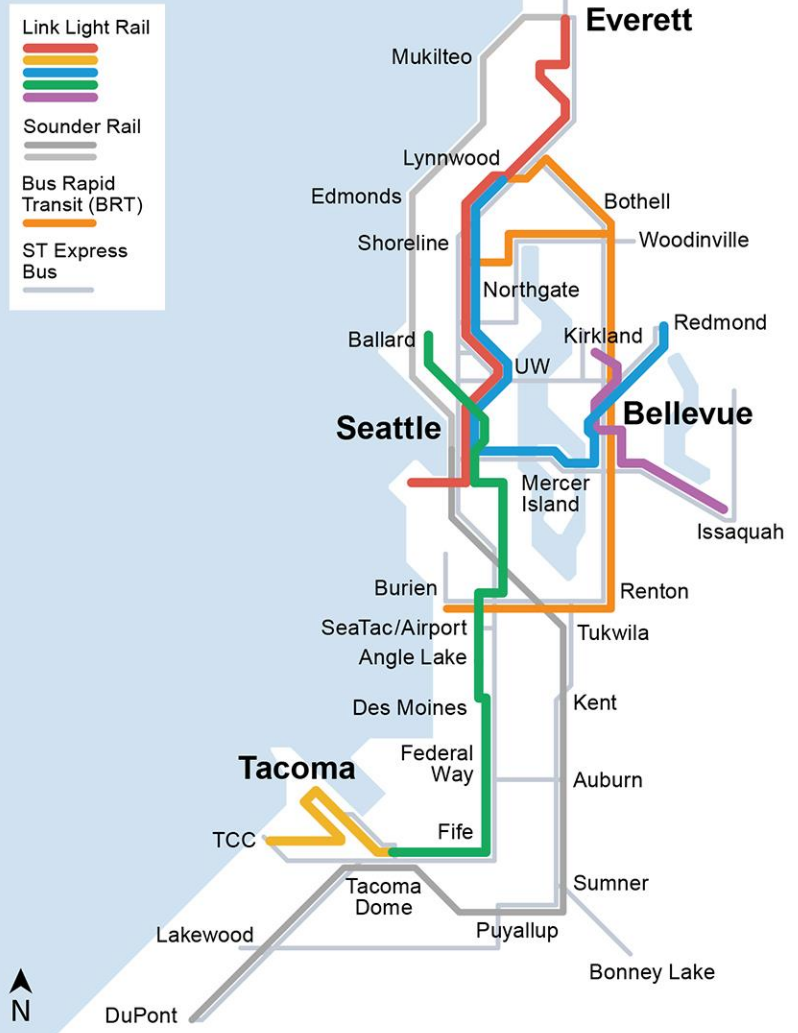
# 2039



## Light rail

- Tacoma Link - Martin Luther King / South 19th St to Tacoma Community College





# 2041



## Light rail

- South Kirkland, Richards Road, Eastgate/Bellevue College, Issaquah

# Regional Link light rail expansion



**By 2041:**

**116+ miles**

**80+ stations**

**16 cities connected**

# West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

# West Seattle Link Extension



## Project Highlights:

- Opening 2030
- Length: 4.7 miles
- 4 elevated stations at SODO, Delridge, Avalon and Alaska Junction; one at-grade station at Stadium
- New rail-only fixed span crossing of the Duwamish River

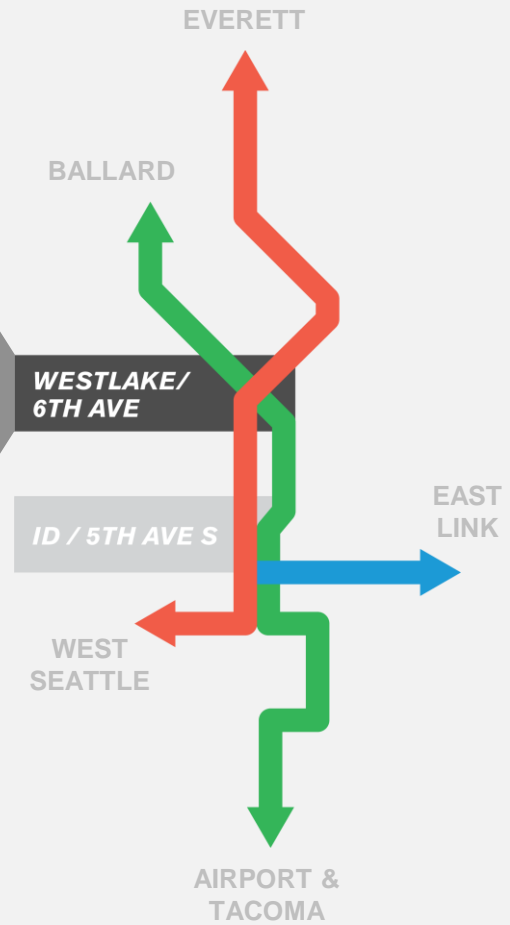
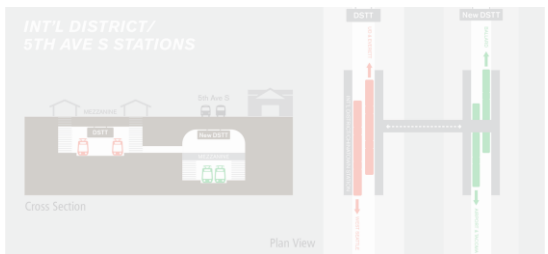
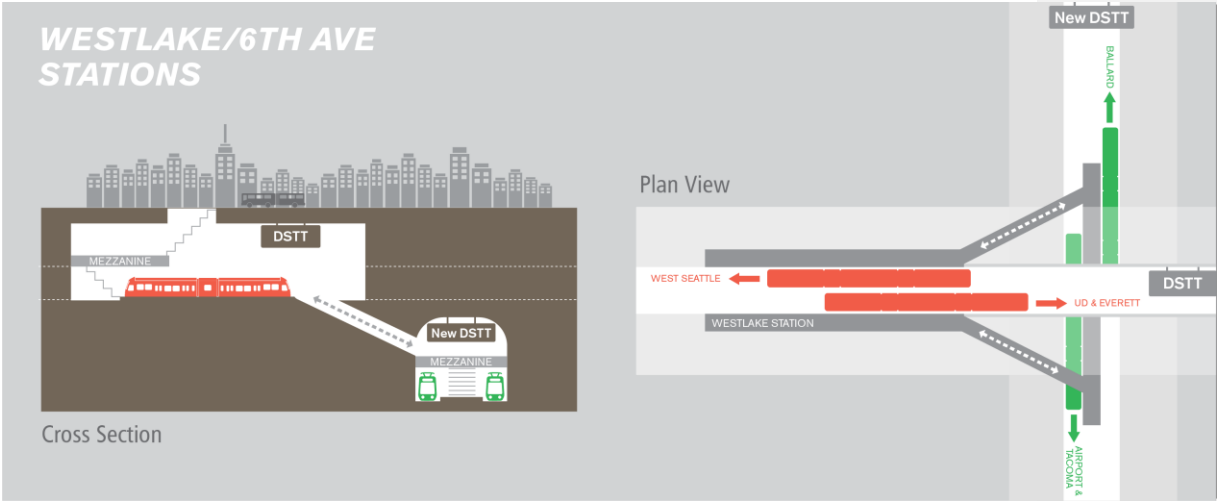
# Ballard Link Extension



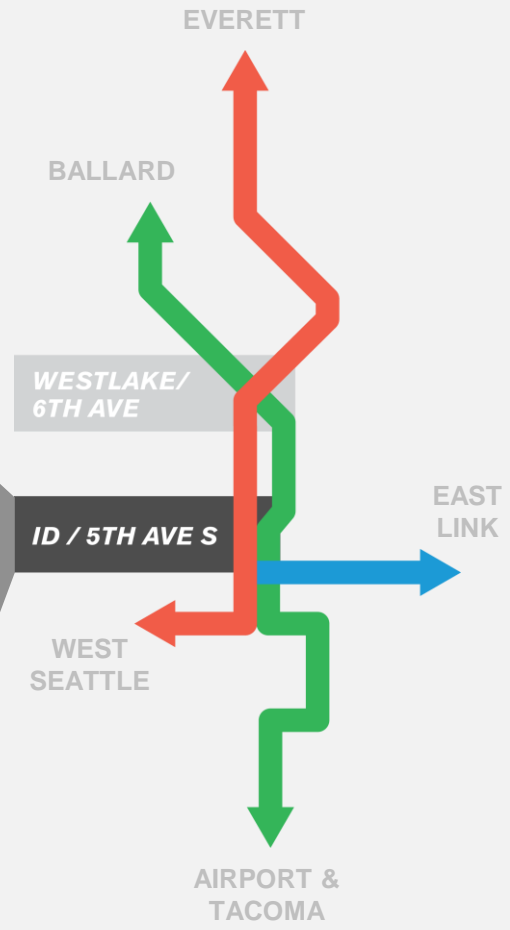
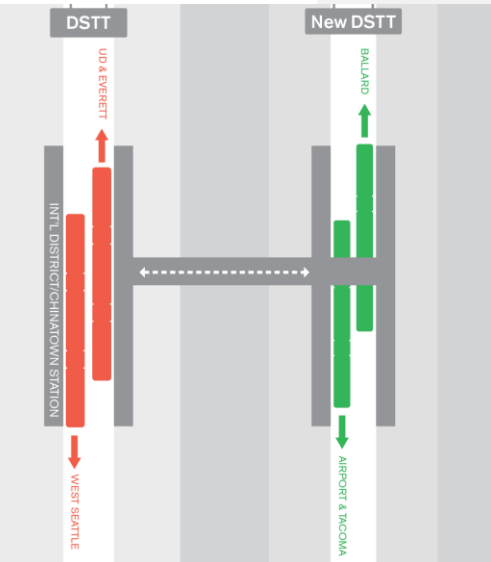
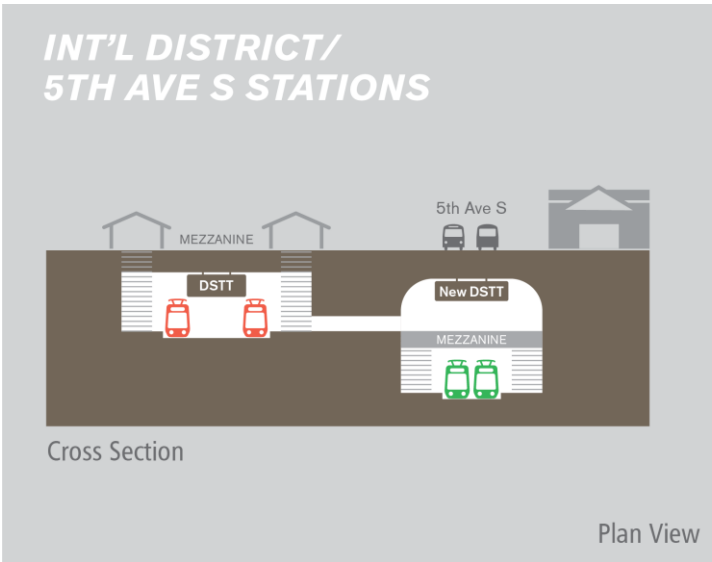
## Project Highlights:

- Opening 2035
- Length: 7.1 miles
- Three elevated stations: Ballard, Interbay, Smith Cove
- Six tunnel stations: Seattle Center, South Lake Union, Denny, Westlake, Midtown, International District/Chinatown
- New rail-only movable bridge over Salmon Bay

# New Downtown Transit Tunnel



# New Downtown Transit Tunnel



# West Seattle Link Extension schedule

## Alternatives Development

Late 2017-2019

## Environmental Review

2019-2022

## Final Design

2022-2025

## Construction & Testing

2025-2030

Start of Service

Public involvement

Safety education

Alternatives development

Board identifies preferred alternative

Draft EIS

Final EIS

Board selects project to be built

Federal agency issues Record of Decision (ROD)



# Ballard Link Extension schedule

## Alternatives Development

Late 2017-2019

## Environmental Review

2019-2022

## Final Design

2023-2026

## Construction & Testing

2027-2035

Start of Service

Public involvement

Safety education

Alternatives development

Board identifies preferred alternative

Draft EIS

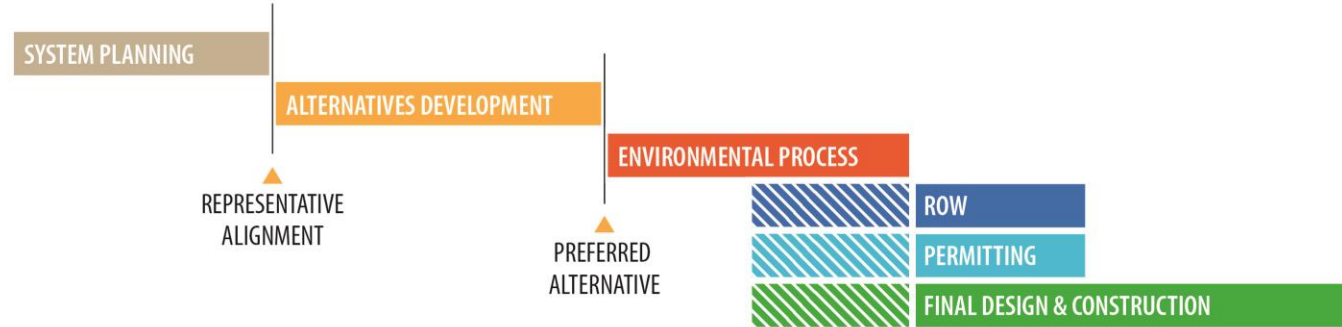
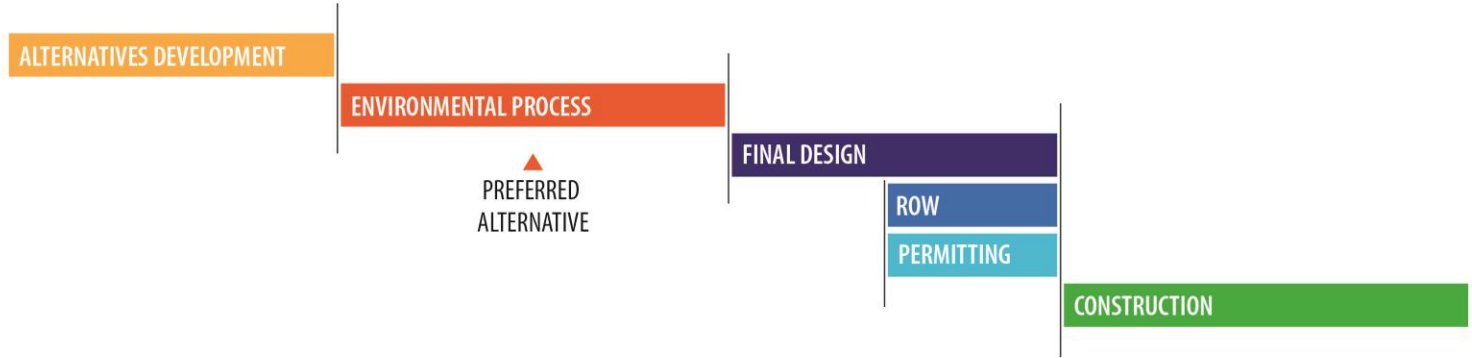
Final EIS

Board selects project to be built

Federal agency issues Record of Decision (ROD)

# New approach to project development

## ST2 PROCESS



## ST3 PROCESS

# New approach to project development

## Alternatives Development

Late 2017-Early 2019

## Environmental Review

2019-2022

## Final Design

2023-2025\*

## Construction & Testing

2025-2030\*

Start of Service

Public involvement

Safety education

*Identify preferred alternative early*

Access

TOD

Identify project delivery method early

Real estate acquisition plan

\*Schedule for West Seattle to Downtown segment only



# Communications and public involvement



- ✓ Community engagement and Communications Plan
- ✓ Public Information Officer
- ✓ Community meetings, Open Houses

# Stakeholder engagement

Priority in Sound Transit **System Expansion Implementation Plan**:

*“Enhance Sound Transit’s commitment to partnership, community engagement, collaboration, transparency and accountability.”*

Elected  
Leadership  
Group

Stakeholder  
Group

Interagency  
Group

# Stakeholder engagement

## Elected Leadership Group

- Local elected officials
- Sound Transit Boardmembers

✓ Meetings at key milestones



# Stakeholder engagement

## Elected Leadership Group

- Appoint Stakeholder Group members
- Review and endorse project timeline
- Recommend EIS alternatives
- Recommend preferred alternative
- Recommend project to be built



 **Present recommendations to Sound Transit Board**

# Stakeholder engagement

## Stakeholder Group

- Transit riders
- Residents
- Business owners
- Major institutions
- Community organizations
- Members of the public

✓ Meetings every two months





# Stakeholder engagement

## Stakeholder Group

- Highlight issues, trade-offs
- Recommend EIS alternatives
- Recommend preferred alternative
- Recommend project to be built



✓ **Present recommendations to Elected Leadership Group**

# Stakeholder engagement

## Interagency Group

### Agency technical staff:

- Sound Transit
- City
- County
- Transit agency
- State
- Federal

✓ Monthly meetings



# Stakeholder engagement

## Interagency Group

- Examine and resolve technical issues
- Recommend issues for Elected and Stakeholder groups
- Recommend partnering and permitting agreement subjects



# Stakeholder engagement



# Alternatives Development process

**Level 1  
Alternatives Development**  
(Early 2018)

**Level 2  
Alternatives Development**  
(Mid 2018)

**DEIS  
Alternatives Development**  
(Late 2018)

**Preferred  
Alternative**  
Early 2019

Public involvement

ST3 representative alignment

*Stakeholder input*

Early feasibility studies

Level 1 alternatives

*Stakeholder input*

Early feasibility studies




Station planning

Level 2 alternatives

*Stakeholder input*

Additional technical analysis

# Next steps

-  Initiate project development activities (underway)
-  Initiate leadership groups (January)
-  Initiate formal community engagement (January)



SOUND TRANSIT

153B

Link

SOUND TRANSIT



**SOUNDTRANSIT**

**RIDE THE WAVE**



SOUNDTRANSIT