

Sound Transit 2— part of a comprehensive transportation solution

Traffic congestion, accidents and weather delays create daunting transportation challenges for us today, and the problems will only grow—along with our region. By 2030 our region's population will add a projected 1.2 million residents, an increase of more than 40 percent. This growth will challenge a transportation system that already experiences near-daily congestion and delay.

The region is responding to this challenge. Over the past two years, thousands of area residents, local jurisdictions, civic organizations, and transportation experts have worked to craft a comprehensive Roads & Transit transportation solution that is scheduled for a public vote this November. The transit piece of the solution is called Sound Transit 2.

The Roads & Transit plan is a joint effort by Sound Transit and the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) to create the first-ever integrated set of highway, bridge and transit improvements for Snohomish, King and Pierce counties.

The agencies' common goal is to fix the region's worst traffic chokepoints and to connect the three counties' busiest population and job centers with effective mass transit,

expanding our light rail system to more than 60 miles. The resulting system would run from Lynnwood in the north, Redmond/Overlake Transit Center in the east, and the Port of Tacoma area in the south, with potential additional extensions to downtown Tacoma and downtown Redmond, subject to securing additional funding or costs savings.

Light rail plays a major role in Sound Transit 2 and the Roads & Transit package. It can move thousands of people, every few minutes, through our region's most crowded corridors. It's easy to use, and people won't need a schedule. Operating in a dedicated right-of-way, light rail runs free of congestion and other delays.

Light rail works effectively with buses to create an integrated transit system—light rail stations serve as hubs that collect riders from local bus routes.

Once built, Sound Transit's extended light rail line will move nearly 300,000 people by 2030, taking hundreds of thousands of cars off the road.

Want to learn more about Roads & Transit?

Visit www.soundtransit.org/st2 for transit information and www.rtid.org for more on the road package.

Roads & Transit Map

MAP KEY

Transit

- Underway
- - - Proposed

Roads

- Underway
- - - Proposed



MISSION STATEMENT: Sound Transit plans, builds, and operates regional transit systems and services to improve mobility for Central Puget Sound.

INFORMATION: For information about Sound Transit projects or services visit us online at www.soundtransit.org or call 1-800-201-4900 / 1-888-713-6030 TTY. To receive email updates for Sound Transit's bus or rail service, projects, or other information, subscribe online at www.soundtransit.org. Write Sound Transit, 401 S. Jackson St., WA 98104-2826.



Sound Transit's proposed East Link project will connect downtown Seattle, Bellevue and Redmond via I-90 and Mercer Island

EAST LINK WINTER 2007



Пожалуйста, приходите на наше общее собрание, чтобы изложить свои комментарии по поводу проекта по расширению зоны действия городского транспорта системы Sound Transit до восточной King County. Для получения дополнительной информации, а также для того, чтобы договориться о переводчике, позвоните по номеру 1-800-823-9230 в рабочее время.

請您前來參加我們的公共會議，就 Sound Transit 把公共交通擴展至 King County 東部發表您的見解。欲知詳情或要求安排譯員，請在通常辦公時間內打電話到 1-800-823-9230。

Por favor reúnanse con nosotros en una reunión pública y comuniquen sus comentarios acerca del proyecto de transporte público de Sound Transit al este de King County. Para mayor información o para hacer arreglos para que haya intérpretes presentes, llame al 1-800-823-9230 durante las horas de oficina normales.

Dumalo po kayo sa pampublikong pulong-pulong at magbigay ng inyong kuru-kuro tungkol sa proyektong pangmasang transportasyon ng Sound Transit sa East King County. Para sa karagdagang impormasyon o para kumuha ng tagapagsalin ng wika paki tawagan lang ang numero bilang 1-800-823-9230 sa panahon ng regular na oras ng negosyo.



Union Station, 401 S. Jackson St., Seattle WA 98104
1-800-201-4900 • 1-888-713-6030 TTY • main@soundtransit.org • www.soundtransit.org

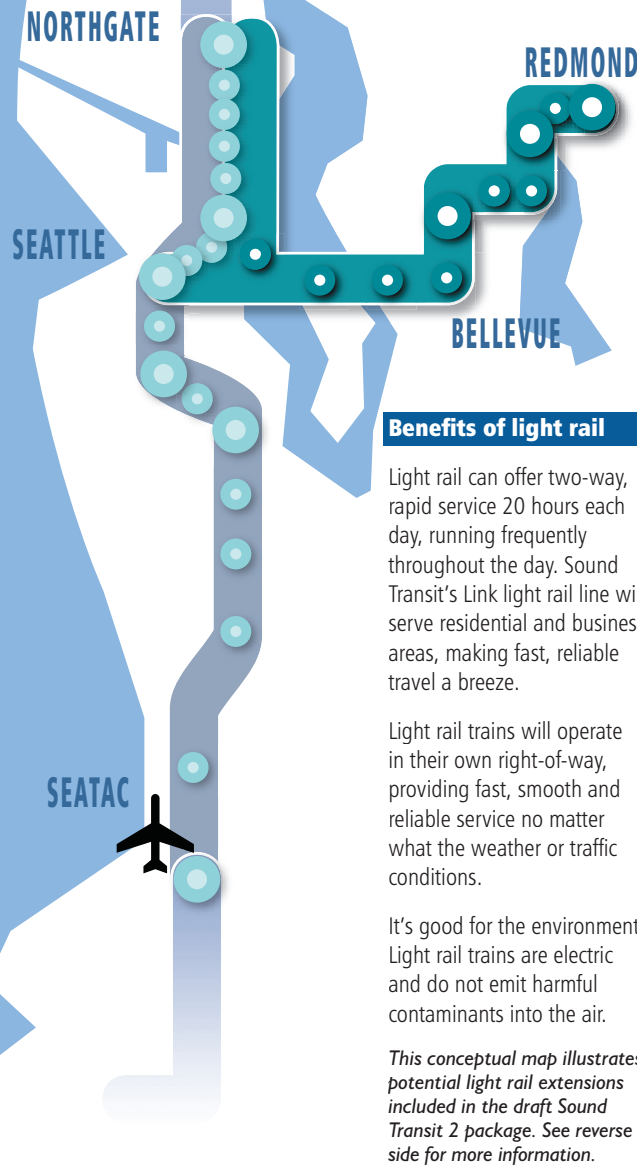
East Link project

Sound Transit's proposed East Link light rail project is part of a regional proposal to extend mass transit, called Sound Transit 2. Sound Transit 2 will make a range of transit investments, including the addition of over 40 miles of light rail to the 19-mile light rail line, from the University of Washington to Sea-Tac Airport, that is currently under development. The first light rail line, Central Link, runs from downtown Seattle to the airport. Central Link construction is well underway and will be completed in 2009.

East Link will tie into Central Link and extend light rail across Lake Washington on the I-90 bridge. Its 19 miles will connect the Eastside's biggest population and employment centers, including Mercer Island, Bellevue, the Bel-Red Corridor, Overlake and Redmond. It will provide a congestion-free alternative for travel both within east King County and to the rest of the central Puget Sound region. **Once Sound Transit 2 is completed, East Link will connect the Eastside to most of the region's largest centers — from Lynnwood in the north to Northgate, the University of Washington, downtown Seattle, Rainier Valley, Tukwila, SeaTac, Federal Way and the Port of Tacoma area.**

The need for additional transportation solutions is clear. The Eastside is a major economic engine in the Central Puget Sound area and is home to global leaders in technology, manufacturing, retail and finance. In East King County, population is expected to increase by approximately 30 percent and employment to double by the year 2030. The East Link project is projected to move nearly 45,000 people on the Eastside each day — 13 million per year — by 2030, taking thousands of cars off the road and providing a way through congestion in the most heavily traveled corridors.

East Link and Sound Transit 2 are part of a broader Roads & Transit package that will be presented to voters in November 2007.



East Link project timeline	
Scoping period and public meetings	Fall 2006
Sound Transit Board identifies EIS Alternatives	Winter 2006
Prepare draft EIS	2007 – 2008
Comment period for draft EIS	Fall 2008
Sound Transit Board identifies preferred alternative	Winter 2008
Prepare final EIS	2009
Sound Transit Board adopts project	Winter 2009
Federal Transit Administration issues Record of Decision	Winter 2009
Public meetings and outreach is continuous throughout project	

The Environmental Process

In Sept. 2006, Sound Transit, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) began an approximately three year environmental review process; including preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Public scoping, the first step in this process, was completed in Oct. 2006. During this time, public comment was sought on the proposed scope of the EIS including the range of alternatives to be studied in the EIS, the elements of the built and natural environment to be evaluated, and the preliminary Purpose and Need Statement. Comments received during this time were included in the Scoping Summary Report, which was presented to the Sound Transit Board, as well as made available to the public, in Nov. 2006.

In Dec. 2006, the Sound Transit Board identified the light rail routes, stations and maintenance facility alternatives that will be studied in detail in the East Link Draft EIS. The project team is now advancing conceptual engineering on the EIS alternatives and preparing for the environmental analysis. The preparation of the Draft EIS is lengthy as each alternative undergoes the same detailed study. Sound Transit plans on publishing the draft EIS in fall 2008 and conducting a formal public comment process on the document. After the public process is complete, the Sound Transit Board will identify a preferred route for the East Link project, with a final EIS anticipated for release in 2009.

Working with communities

Sound Transit is committed to working with the East Link project neighborhoods on designing a light rail system that is attractive and compatible with the surrounding communities. Sound Transit will continue working closely with communities along the East Link corridor to provide opportunities for the public and other government agencies, as well as individual neighborhoods, to be involved in each step of the environmental process. Public involvement opportunities in 2007 include station workshops, monthly briefings regarding high capacity transit and Sound Transit's role in the Puget Sound region, and regular meetings with neighborhood and community organizations.

Sample travel times (approximate):

- Overlake to downtown Bellevue: **10 minutes**
- Overlake to Northgate: **50 minutes**
- University of Washington to downtown Bellevue: **30 minutes**
- Downtown Bellevue to Sea-Tac Airport: **55 minutes**
- Downtown Bellevue to Qwest Field: **20 minutes**

Stay involved!

Current East Link project information can be found on Sound Transit's website at www.soundtransit.org/eastlink. To request a briefing for your organization or for more information contact Brooke Belman, Community Outreach Specialist, at 206-398-5238 or belmanb@soundtransit.org.



40K - 45K daily riders
will travel on Link light rail from Redmond to Seattle



What is light rail?

An electric railway powered by an overhead power source



Is versatile enough to run at street level, through tunnels, or in elevated right-a-way, depending on individual routes



Can expand and grow with increasing demand.