

*Artist's**Rendering of Capitol Hill Station*

University Link light rail Capitol Hill Station 60% Design Open House

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2008

Time: 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

A brief presentation begins at 6:00 p.m.

Location: Seattle Central Community College, Rm 1110

Address: 1701 Broadway, Seattle

Use public transit -- [try the Trip Planner](#)

Jeff Munnoch
Community Outreach Specialist
jeff.munnoch@soundtransit.org
206-398-5131

U-Link Project Update for March 2008

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Link submits Application for Federal Funding

Sound Transit formally transmitted its application for a full funding grant agreement (FFGA) for University Link to the Federal Transit Administration on January 31, 2008. The FFGA opens the door for \$750 million dollars of federal funding toward completion of University Link. The 3.15-mile underground light rail extension from downtown Seattle to the University of Washington has the Federal Transit Administration's highest rating for proposed transit projects in the nation. The FTA is scheduled to make a final decision on the FFGA by August 2008.

Earlier in the year, the Bush administration included \$100 million for the project in his proposed FY 2009 budget. The proposed \$100 million would be the second time the federal budget has included funds toward University Link. Last year Congress awarded the project \$19.6 million. The funds would be drawn down as part of the formal FFGA award.

"I'm pleased to see the President recognizes the benefits this bold project offers to tens of thousands of commuters every day in the region's most crowded area," said U.S. Senator Patty Murray. "I'll keep fighting for University Link and more reliable options for Puget Sound commuters."

"The President's budget offers more fantastic news for the region as we work to build fast, frequent, reliable and sustainable options for commuters," said Sound Transit Board Chair and Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels. "As chair, one of my top priorities is to secure a full funding grant agreement for University Link and this is an important step. Thanks to the work of Senator Patty Murray and our congressional delegation, University Link couldn't be in a better position to start operations in 2016 and add 70,000 daily riders to the regional light rail system."

Extending beyond the University District

The University of Washington Station will serve as the end of the line until light rail is extended to Northgate and beyond. In 2006, the Sound Transit Board identified a preferred route north of the university which includes the Brooklyn Station, Roosevelt Station and Northgate Station. The Sound Transit Board is currently considering options to present to the voters of the region to fund regional transit improvements including light rail expansion. Should funding be approved by voters, the agency will be ready to launch into final design of North Link, followed by construction.

What is University Link?

In April 2006, the Sound Transit Board approved implementation and funding for University Link, a planned 3.15-mile northward extension from downtown Seattle to the University of Washington, with stations at Capitol Hill and on the University of Washington campus near Husky Stadium. Light rail service for University Link will operate in two tunnels (northbound and southbound) stretching between Westlake Station in downtown Seattle, and the University of Washington Campus. Each station will have entrances with easy pedestrian, bicycle and bus access. Once built, University Link will add 70,000 daily boardings systemwide, including 40,000 daily boardings in 2030 at the two stations alone. It is estimated to save 4.4 million hours

of travel time annually.

University Link is a priority for the region's transit system. It will connect the region's three most densely populated urban centers— downtown Seattle, Capitol Hill/First Hill, and the University District—with a safe, congestion free light rail line through the region's busiest corridor. University Link and its two stations serve major markets for all-day ridership and three universities/colleges—the University of Washington, Seattle Central Community College and Seattle University. These institutions currently serve a combined enrollment of 56,000 students. Among other new subway and light rail projects in the country being considered for federal funding, only New York City and San Francisco projects serve areas with higher population densities.

