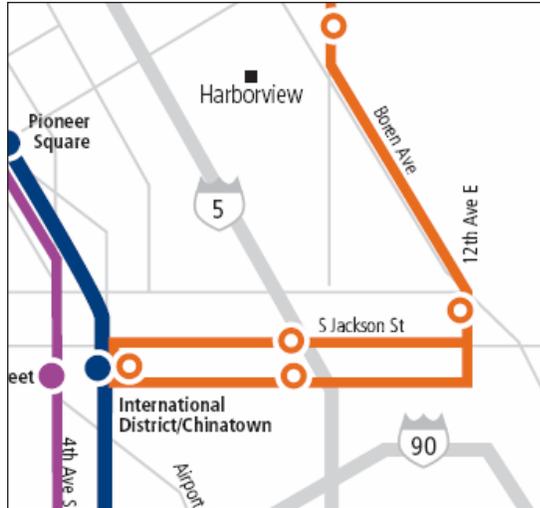


EAST LINK Light Rail

Illustrative Glossary Terms



AT-GRADE COUPLET

Route located on two parallel roadways in which one direction runs on one road and one direction on the other road. Both routes are at street level.



AT-GRADE/SURFACE

Route located at street level.



BORED TUNNEL

Excavation of a tunnel or underground passage by way of a large drilling machine. When a tunnel is bored, surface disturbance is typically limited to stations and portals.



COMMUTER RAIL

Also known as "Sounder" in the Central Puget Sound region. A form of daily long distance travel by rail mostly during peak commuting hours. Tracks are usually shared with freight or long-distance passenger trains (Amtrak) and are run by either electric or diesel power (diesel in our region). Typically there is one station in each town or city.



COLUMN/PIER

A column or pier provides structural support to an elevated structure. (Tukwila elevated track)



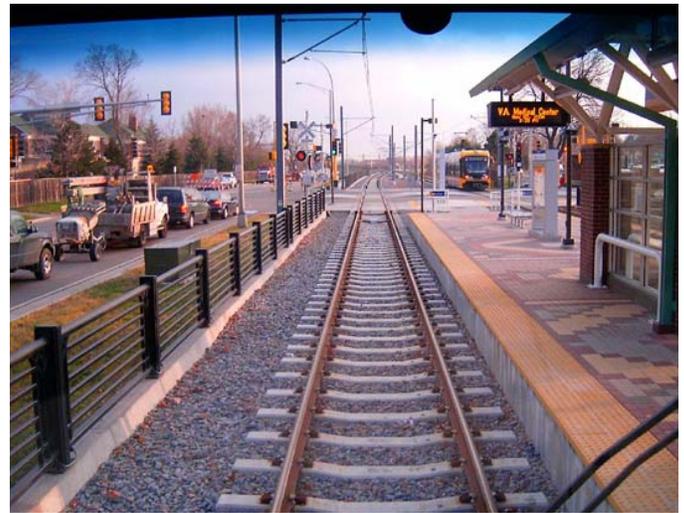
ELEVATED/AERIAL STRUCTURE

Structure that is raised above the ground; a bridge.



GRADE-SEPARATED

Separation of transportation facilities, such as streets and rail lines, in order to eliminate potential conflicts for right-of-way travel.



GUIDEWAY

Trackway of an exclusive rail facility dedicated to the conveyance of train vehicles.



(c) Jeremiah Cox

MEZZANINE

An intermediate floor between main floors of a building. In an elevated train station, the mezzanine would allow for the connection of two loading platforms without the need for crossing railroad tracks and could include ticket dispensing machines, information kiosks and rest areas.



OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE (O&M) FACILITY

Facility designed for the storage and maintenance of transit vehicles. An O & M facility for light rail operations for East Link may be 10 to 20 acres in size and include tracks for outside storage and a building for maintenance and cleaning of vehicles, as well as tracks leading to and from the facility to the main line.



OVERHEAD CATENARY SYSTEM (OCS)

System of overhead contact wires that supplies electrical power to a light rail car.



PLATFORM

Can be located on either side of rail tracks or between them. Customers use platforms to enter or disembark trains. Platforms may have ticket vending machines, maps and schedules available.



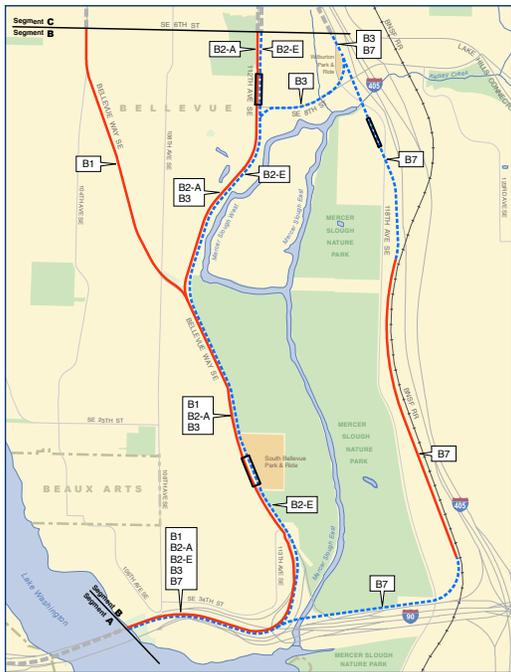
RETAINED CUT

A trench; the retention of an excavated area or land by way of a reinforced or stabilized wall in order to create space for a road, structure or train tracks.



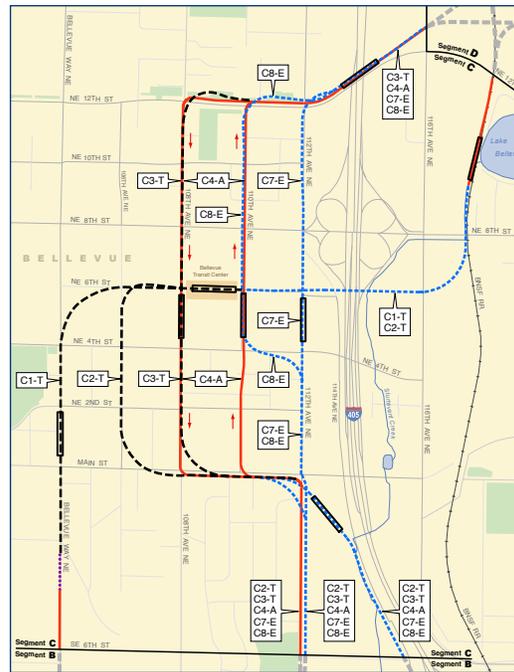
SEGMENT A

I-90: from the International District/Chinatown Station in Seattle across Mercer Island to the east side of Lake Washington.



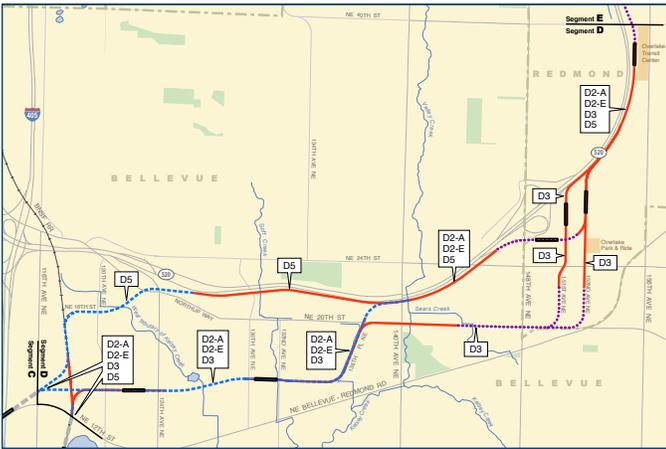
SEGMENT B

South Bellevue: from the east side of Lake Washington through South Bellevue to SE 6th Street in Bellevue.



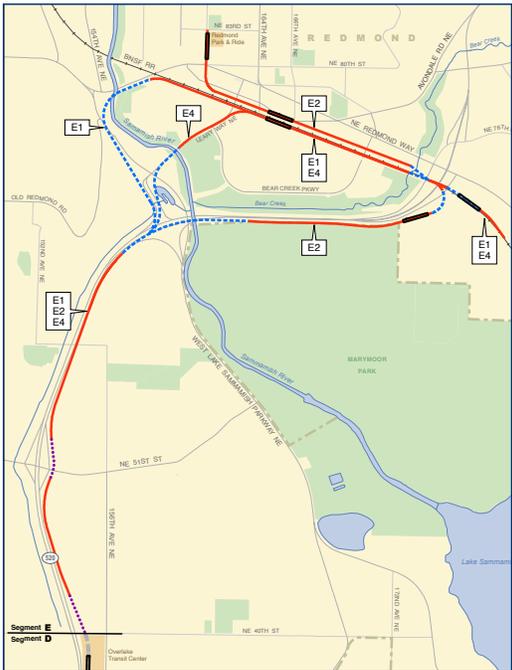
SEGMENT C

Downtown Bellevue: from SE 6th Street through downtown Bellevue to the east side of I-405.



SEGMENT D

Bel-Red Corridor: from NE 12th Street and 116th Avenue NE to the Overlake Transit Center.



SEGMENT E

Redmond: from north of the Overlake Transit Center to downtown Redmond.



STAGING AREA

A temporary site used for the storing and staging of construction equipment and material. (Beacon Hill Station)



SUBWAY

An underground railway.



TUNNEL PORTAL

Exiting or entry way of a tunnel.

Textual Glossary Terms

ALIGNMENT

Route or path of the train.

BOARDINGS

Number of individuals boarding or getting on a train. If you took one train to and from a destination, you would make two (2) boardings during your round-trip.

CATENARY

Overhead contact wire that supplies electrical power to a light rail car.

CONCEPTUAL ENGINEERING

Initial design steps in a project. Generally taken to represent a 5-10% level of design.

CORRIDOR

Generalized travel or transportation path. The area on either side of a transportation facility.

CUT-AND-COVER CONSTRUCTION

Method for constructing tunnels, underground stations or other underground facilities close to the surface by excavating from above and then covering the opening with a permanent lid.

DENSITY

Number of units in a given area. For example, 100 residential units per acre may be considered a very densely developed acre of land.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)

Public document that discloses and evaluates the potential environmental impacts of a proposed project. The EIS may be subject to State or Federal requirements.

FINAL DESIGN

Preceding actual construction, this final step of engineering design moves the project to the 100% design, ready for construction.

GMA

Growth Management Act. Adopted by the State of Washington to manage projected growth in a coordinated and planned fashion and direct growth to designated areas based on an area's ability to support said growth.

GRADE

Grade or steepness of a natural or man-made incline or hill.

HCT

High Capacity Transit. A form of public mass transit systems capable of moving large numbers of passengers along a dedicated right-of-way.

LIGHT RAIL

Light rail is an electric railway powered by an overhead power source. Light rail is versatile and flexible enough to run at street level, through tunnels, or in elevated right-of-way, depending on individual routes.

LEVEL BOARDING

Station boarding from a platform that is at the same level as the low floor of the train car or bus. Used so those in wheelchairs and strollers are easily and quickly accommodated (no steps needed) and to speed loading.

LOW-LEVEL PLATFORMS

Station platforms that are typically 14 inches high.

MITIGATION

Specific actions required and taken to reduce the scale, size or extent of an identified impact resulting from the implementation of a major construction project.

ONE SEAT RIDE

Trip that can be completed without transferring vehicles.

PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING

Advances a design to the 30% design level and further develops the details for the project before final design commences.

PROFILE/VERTICAL ALIGNMENT

Determines whether an alignment is a tunnel, elevated structure or on surface level.

R8A

The preferred alternative adapted by I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV project. This alternative provides HOV lanes in two existing outer roadways of the I-90 floating bridge creating two-way, all-day HOV lanes for transit and carpools.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT DISTRICT/RTID

Entity created by the Washington State Legislature and charged with developing a transportation package to be submitted to voters in the fall of 2007 for improving significant highways and bridges in Snohomish, King or Pierce Counties. RTID is coordinating its work with Sound Transit, which will submit a companion transit proposal to voters.

RIDERSHIP

Number of passengers who ride public transport systems.

RIGHT-OF-WAY

Easement or strip of land dedicated to public transportation uses and facilities.

ROADS & TRANSIT PARTNERSHIP

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.

ROUTE

Systematically assigned line or course of travel for a specific area or territory.

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

18-member appointed governing body of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit). The Board establishes policy, provides direction, and performs oversight. Sound Transit is governed by an 18-member Board of Directors; 17 members are local elected officials, and the 18th member is the Washington State Department of Transportation Secretary. Local elected officials include mayors, city council members, county executives, and county council members from within the Sound Transit District. Currently, the Sound Transit Board includes three members from Snohomish County, ten from King County, four from Pierce County, and the State Transportation Department secretary. The Board of Directors are:

John W. Ladenburg, Executive, Pierce County
Connie Marshall, Councilmember, City of Bellevue,
Mark G. Olson VP, City of Everett Council
Julie Anderson, Councilmember, City of Tacoma,
Mary-Alyce Burleigh, Councilmember, City of Kirkland
Fred Butler, Deputy Council President, City of Issaquah
Dow Constantine, Councilmember, King County Council
David Enslow, Mayor, City of Sumner
Doug MacDonald, Secretary, WSDOT
Richard L. Marin, Councilmember, City of Edmonds
Richard J. McIver, Councilmember, City of Seattle
Greg Nickels, Mayor, City of Seattle
Julia Patterson, Council Vice Chair, King County Council
Larry Phillips, Councilmember, King County Council
Aaron Reardon, County Executive, Snohomish County
Ron Sims, County Executive, King County
Claudia Thomas, Mayor, City of Lakewood
Peter von Reichbauer, Councilmember, King County Council

STRADDLE BENT

On an elevated structure, straddle bent is a bridge structure that straddles both sides of the street. Used when elevated light rail makes a turn.

ST2

Sound Transit 2. The second phase of regional transit investments for the Central Puget Sound.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL PRE-EMPTION

Ability to over-ride traffic signals in order to give priority to approaching vehicles, such as emergency vehicles. Also used in light rail systems operating at surface level.

TRAFFIC SIGNAL PRIORITY

Allows specially equipped buses or trains to communicate with an approaching traffic signal and ask it to hold the green light for a bus or train. A transponder installed on the bus or train sends a signal to a controller on the traffic light.

TRANSITION STRUCTURE

Structure or ramp designed to transition trains from an at-grade facility to an elevated facility.

TRIPS (ARE ONE WAY)

Recorded one-way travel via public or private vehicle from the origin of the trip to a destination.

URBAN DESIGN

Concerns the arrangement, appearance and functionality of towns, cities and urban open spaces.

WSDOT

Washington State Department of Transportation.