

Progress Report System Expansion



Preparing for population economic growth, responding to rising congestion, and meeting public demand for expansion

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ST Projects Map

System Expansion

System Expansion projects under Sound Transit 3 adds 62 new miles of light rail with stations serving 37 additional areas for a regional system reaching 116 miles. The program also establishes Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on I-405/SR 518 and SR 522/NE 145th; expands capacity and service of the Sounder south rail line; includes ST Express bus service; improves access to stations for bicyclists, pedestrians, drivers, and pick-up and drop-off services, and expands parking at stations.

Light Rail

- Sixty-two new miles of light rail will result in 116-mile regional system, five times larger than it is today, reaching Everett, Tacoma, Seattle neighborhoods of Ballard and West Seattle, and new Eastside destinations of Redmond, south Kirkland, Bellevue, and central Issaquah.
- Builds on extensions now being planned and constructed to Angle Lake, Northgate, Lynnwood, Mercer Island, Bellevue, and Overlake.
- Extends Tacoma Link west to Tacoma Community College with six stations.
- Provides 20 hours of service each day, every 6 minutes in peak and every 10 minutes in non-peak hours.
- With this expansion, light rail is projected to serve about 600,000 riders every day.

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

- BRT provides fast, reliable bus service every 10 minutes in peak hours along I-405/SR 518 and SR 522/NE 145th Street, connecting to light rail service in Bellevue, Tukwila, Shoreline, and Lynnwood.
- BRT will operate in the Express Toll lanes between Totem Lake and south Renton and mainly on exclusive right-of-way between Tukwila and Burien Transit Center, allowing users to take advantage of high speeds.
- Builds inline freeway stations that allow buses to stop within the freeway right-of-way to pick-up/unload riders at NE 85th Street in Kirkland and NE 44th Street in Renton, and a new transit center and parking garage in south Renton.
- Provides new or expanded parking at Totem Lake, NE 44th in Renton, South Renton, North Sammamish, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, and Bothell.

Sounder Train Service

- Sounder train service expansion responds to fast-growing south line ridership (15 percent growth in the last year) by increasing capacity with extended platforms that could serve trains up to 10 cars in length and approximately 40% more passengers at Lakewood, Tacoma, Puyallup, Sumner, Auburn, Kent, and Tukwila.
- In addition to expanding train capacity, this expansion provides the potential to run more trains during the day.
- Two stations added to the south line, at Tillicum to serve Joint Base Lewis-McChord and a second at DuPont.
- New parking built at the north line stations at Edmonds and Mukilteo, and access improvements will be made to both the north and south lines.

ST Express Bus & Other Improvements

- ST Express continues serving key long distance corridors.
- Capital contributions improve bus speed and reliability along Pacific Avenue in Tacoma, between cities in East Pierce County and the Sumner Sounder station, and frequent bus service between Lakewood and Tacoma.
- The Bus-on-Shoulder program provides opportunities for buses to use shoulders on freeways and state highways to bypass congestion where feasible.
- A capped contribution to Madison Street BRT along with capital improvements to Rapid Ride C and D lines to improve speed and reliability to Ballard and West Seattle while light rail to those communities is under construction.

Improved Access to Station

- Includes funding at stations to improve walking and cycling routes, transfers from partner transit services, and pick-up and drop-off areas.
- Parking additions at:
 - New light rail stations: Everett Station, Mariner Park-and-Ride, South Boeing Access Road, South 272nd, Federal Way Transit Center, South Federal Way, Fife, Southeast Redmond, and central Issaquah.
 - Sounder Stations: Everett, Mukilteo, Edmonds, Tillicum, and DuPont .
 - BRT stations: Totem Lake, NE 44th, South Renton, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, and Bothell.
 - North Sammamish.