



 **SOUNDTRANSIT**

# West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

January 4, 2018  
Elected Leadership Group Meeting #1

# **Project Background and Details**

# Connecting the Region

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

Approved as part of ST3 ballot measure in November 2016



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



# 2021



## Light rail

- U District, Roosevelt, Northgate

Link Light Rail  
Sounder 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, South 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

# West Seattle and Ballard

## Representative Alignment

- ✓ Identifies mode, corridor, station areas
- ✓ Informs cost, schedule, operating needs



# Previous studies

**Forward Thrust**  
1968, 1970

**ST2 Long Range Plan Update**  
2005

**ST3 Long Range Plan Update**  
2014



**Seattle Monorail Project**  
2005

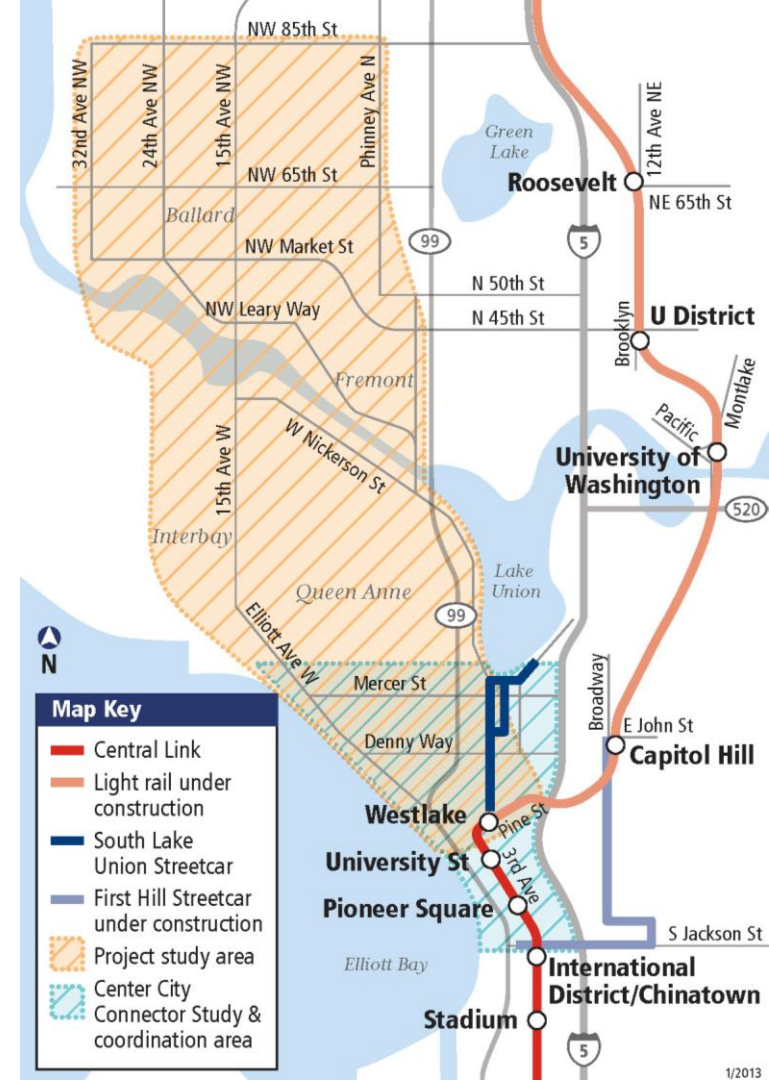
**HCT Corridor Studies**  
2013-2014

**ST3 System Plan**  
2015-2016



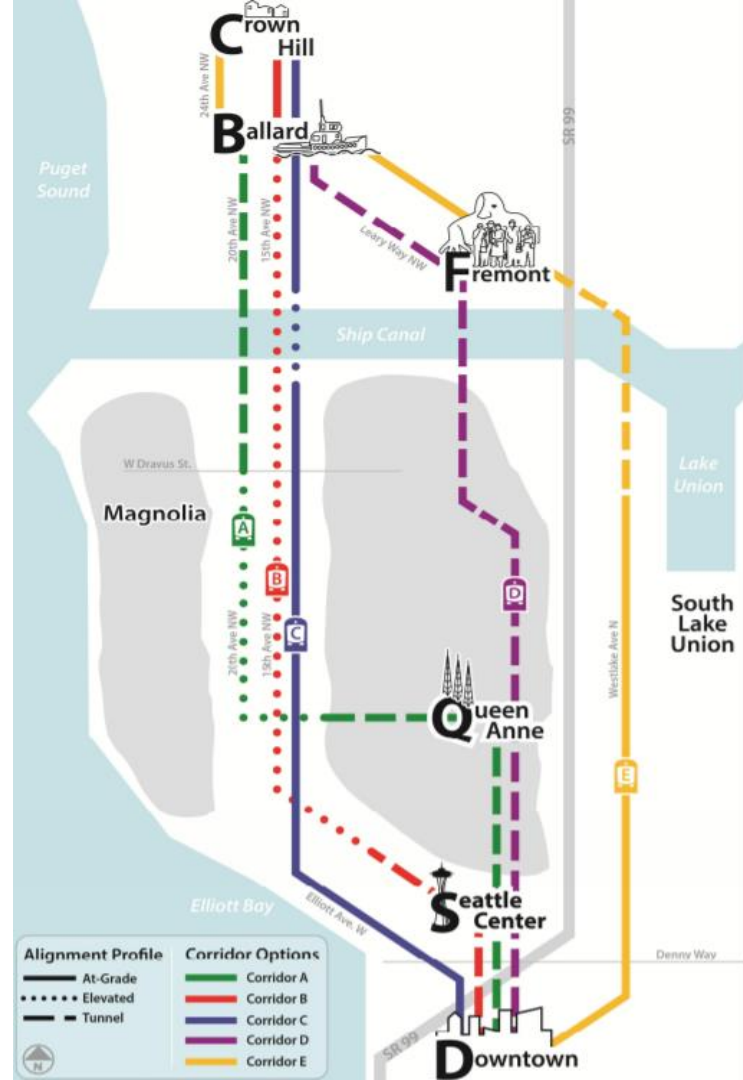
# Transit Expansion Study – Ballard to Downtown

- ✓ City and Sound Transit partnership
- ✓ Supported Seattle Transit Master Plan
- ✓ Supported ST Long-Range Planning



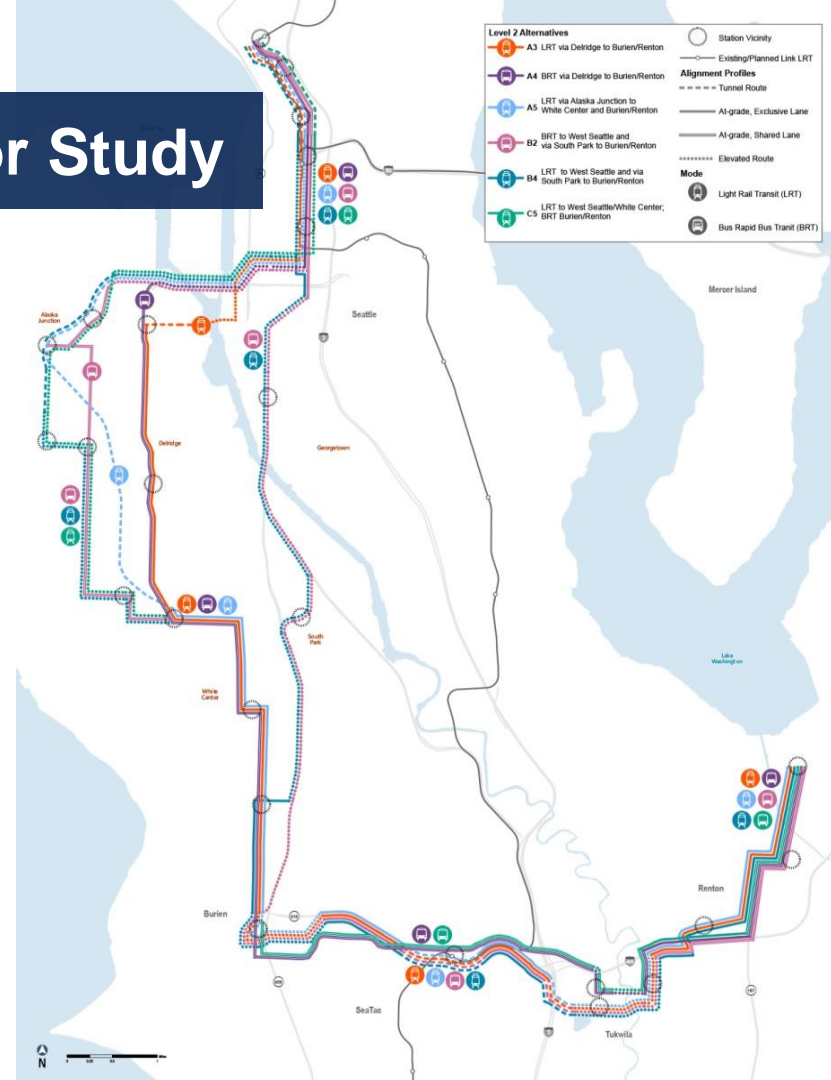
# Transit Expansion Study – Ballard to Downtown

- ✓ Studied five representative alignments
- ✓ Included Light Rail and Rapid Streetcar



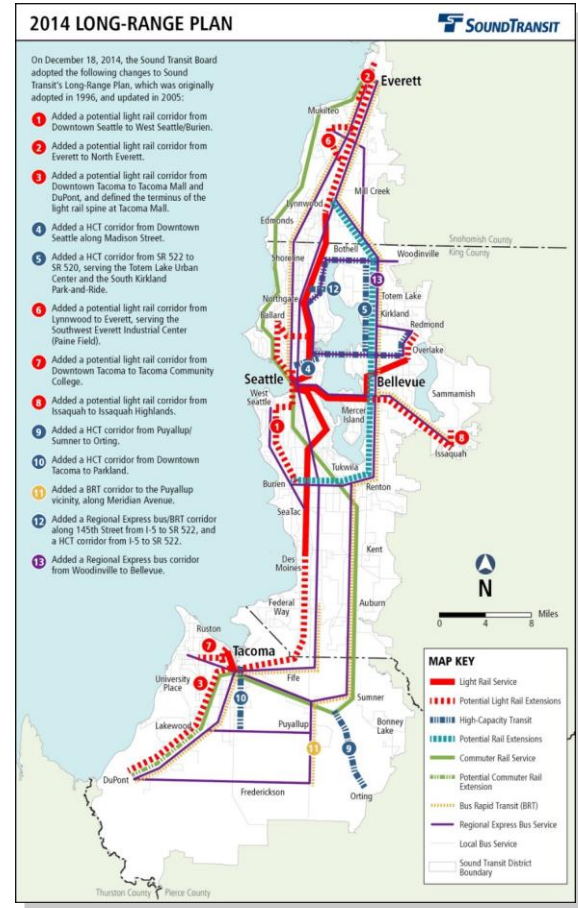
# South King County – HCT Corridor Study

- ✓ Studied six alternatives
- ✓ Considered options to the Junction, along Delridge and to Burien and Renton
- ✓ Included Light Rail and BRT

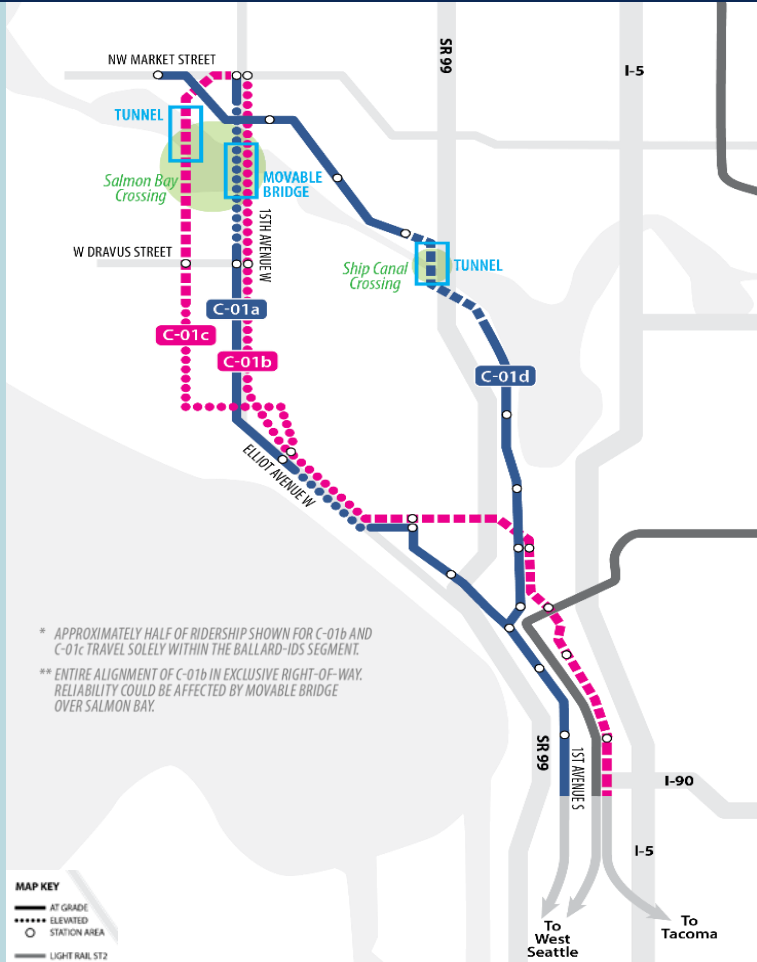


# Long-Range Plan

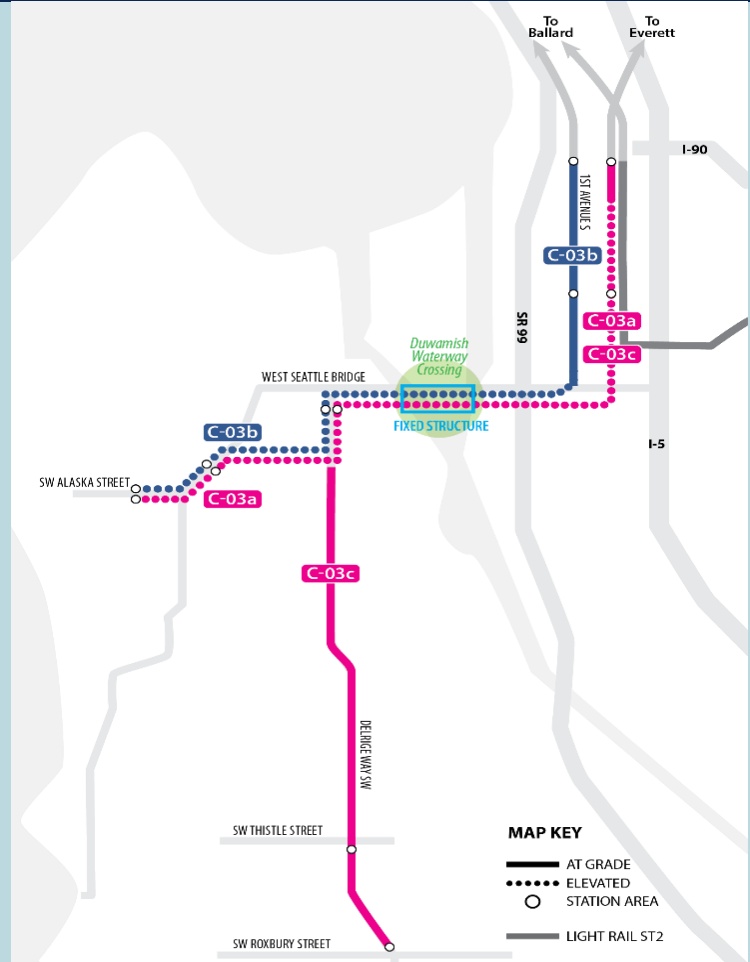
## ✓ Regional Transit Long-Range Plan December 2014



# Ballard to Downtown

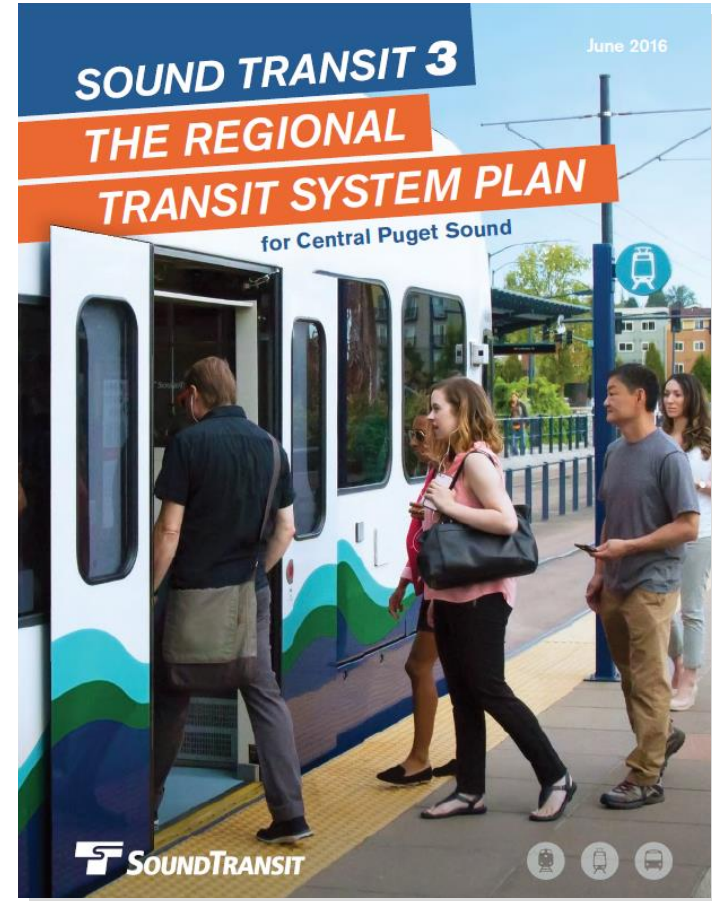


# West Seattle to Downtown



# Final Plan

- ✓ Sound Transit 3 (ST3) Plan  
June 2016



# ST3 public input

- ✔ 2,320 written comments
- ✔ 1,250 attendees at open houses
- ✔ 34,706 responses to online survey
- ✔ 18,032 narrative “open-end” commentary
- ✔ 90+ comments from local jurisdictions, agencies, stakeholder organizations



# 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



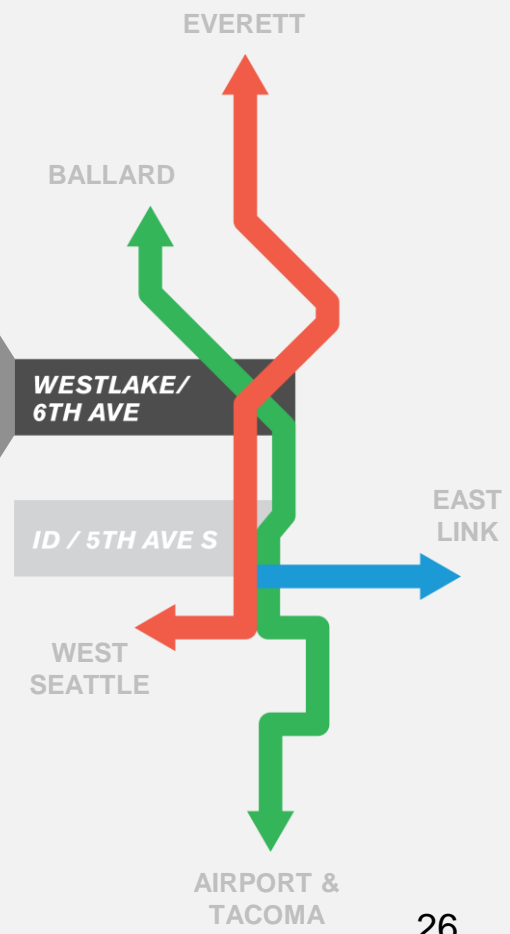
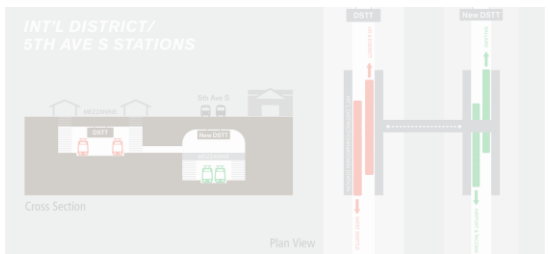
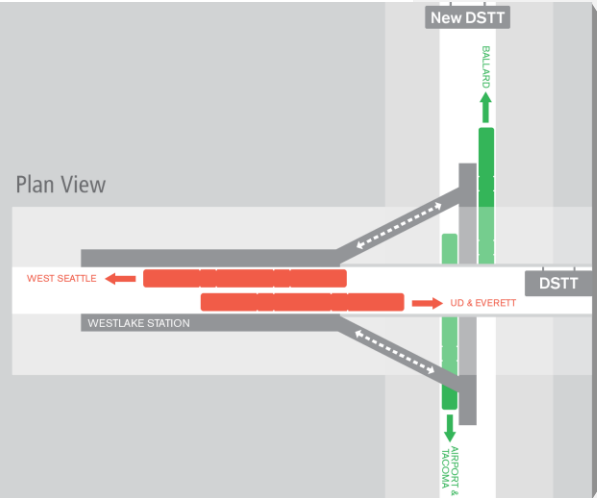
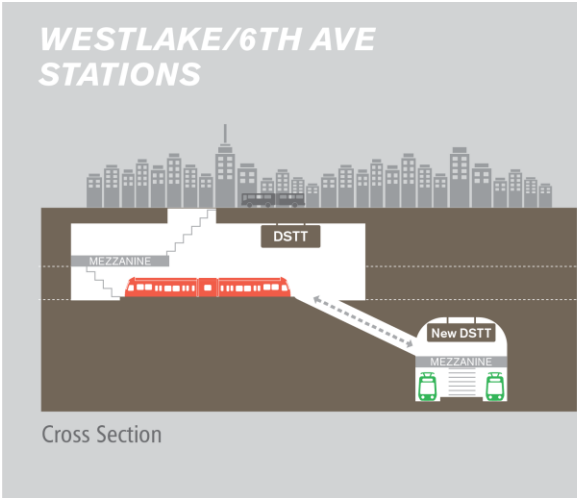
# Ballard Link Extension



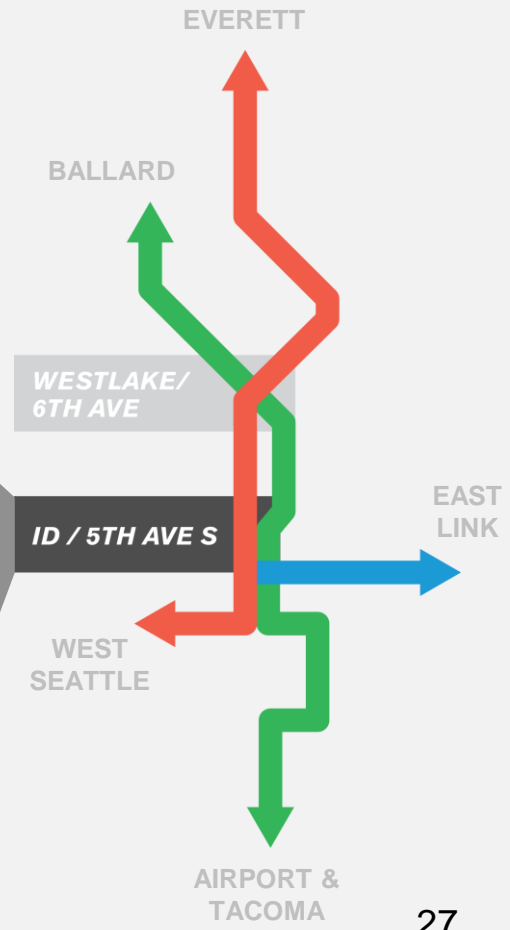
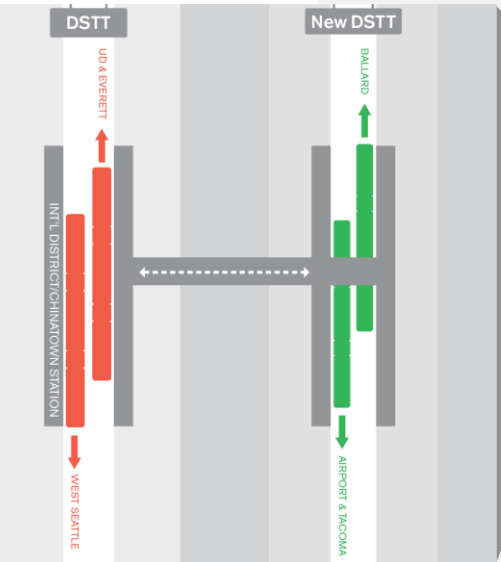
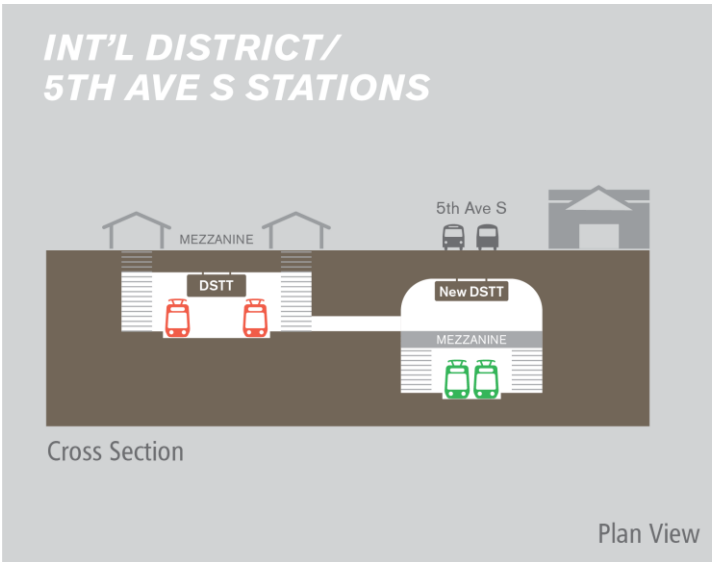
## Project Highlights:

- Opening 2035
- Length: 7.1 miles
- 3 elevated stations at Ballard, Interbay, Smith Cove
- 6 tunnel stations at 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



# Project flyover

# Alternatives Development

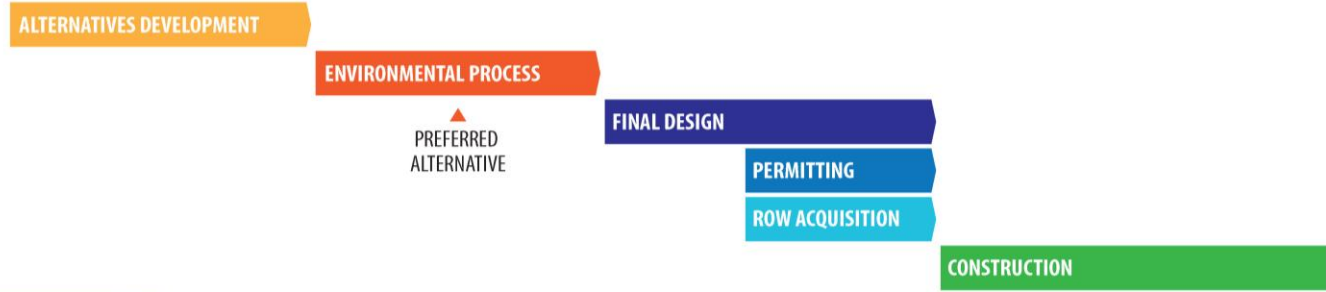
# New approach to project development

- ✓ Enhance commitment to partnership, community engagement, collaboration, transparency and accountability
- ✓ Apply innovative ideas and lessons learned to streamline project delivery

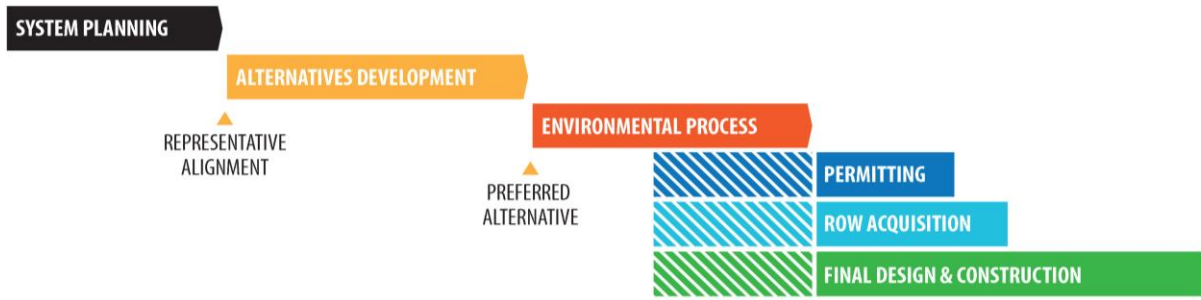


# New approach to project development

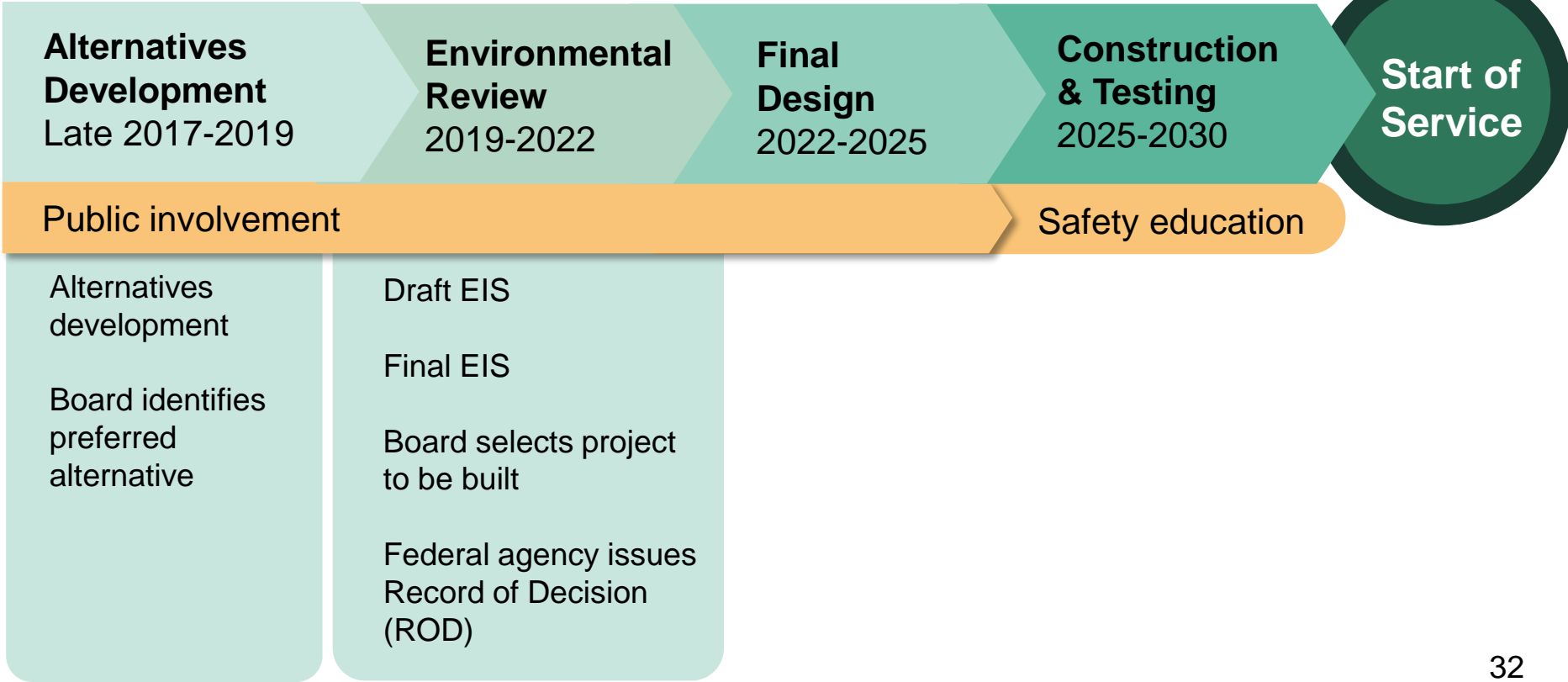
**PROCESS TIMELINE** // //  
**◀ OLD APPROACH**



**PROCESS TIMELINE** // //  
**NEW APPROACH ▶**

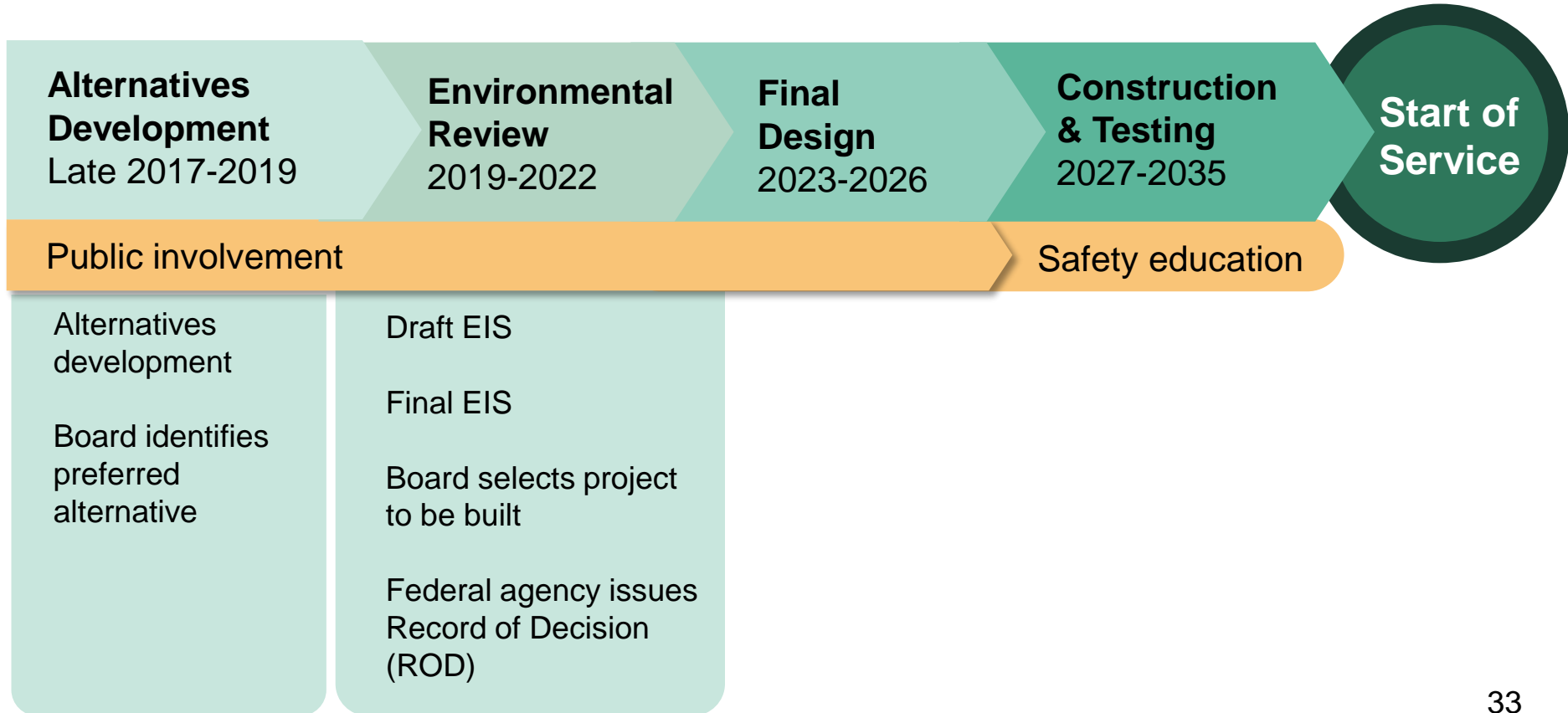


# West Seattle Link Extension schedule





# Ballard Link Extension schedule



# City of Seattle partnership

- Partnership agreement signed by Seattle and Sound Transit  
December 2017
- Agreement includes commitments on:
  - Collaborative community engagement to build consensus
  - Shared environmental review documents
  - Streamlined permit review and processing
- Designated representative

# Public engagement



## Contact ST



- › Call the project line to speak with an Outreach Specialist
- › Send an email with questions, concerns or comments

## Get involved

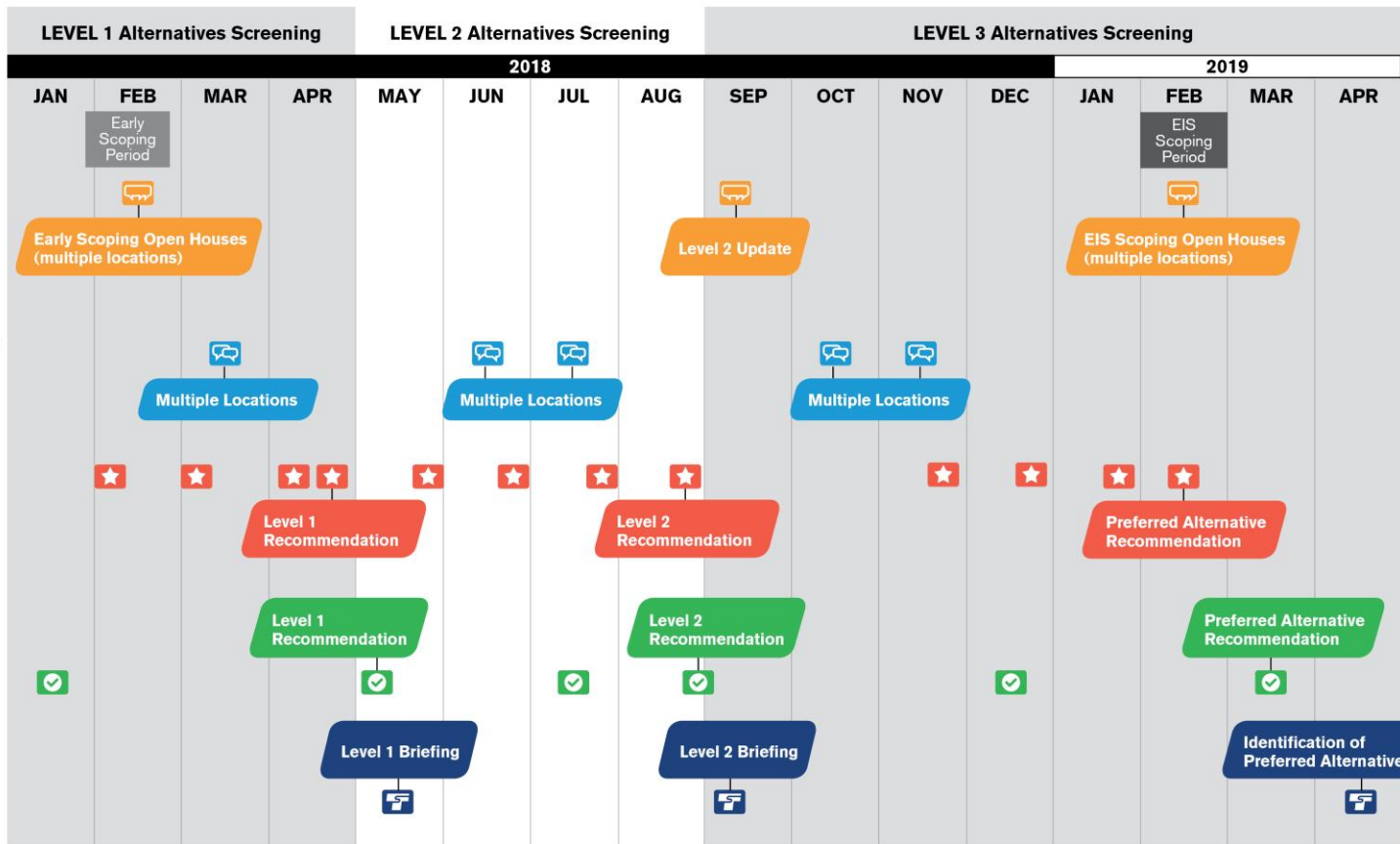
- › Attend an open house
- › Participate in a neighborhood forum



## Go online



- › Visit the project website
- › Respond to online surveys
- › Subscribe to email updates
- › Follow on social media



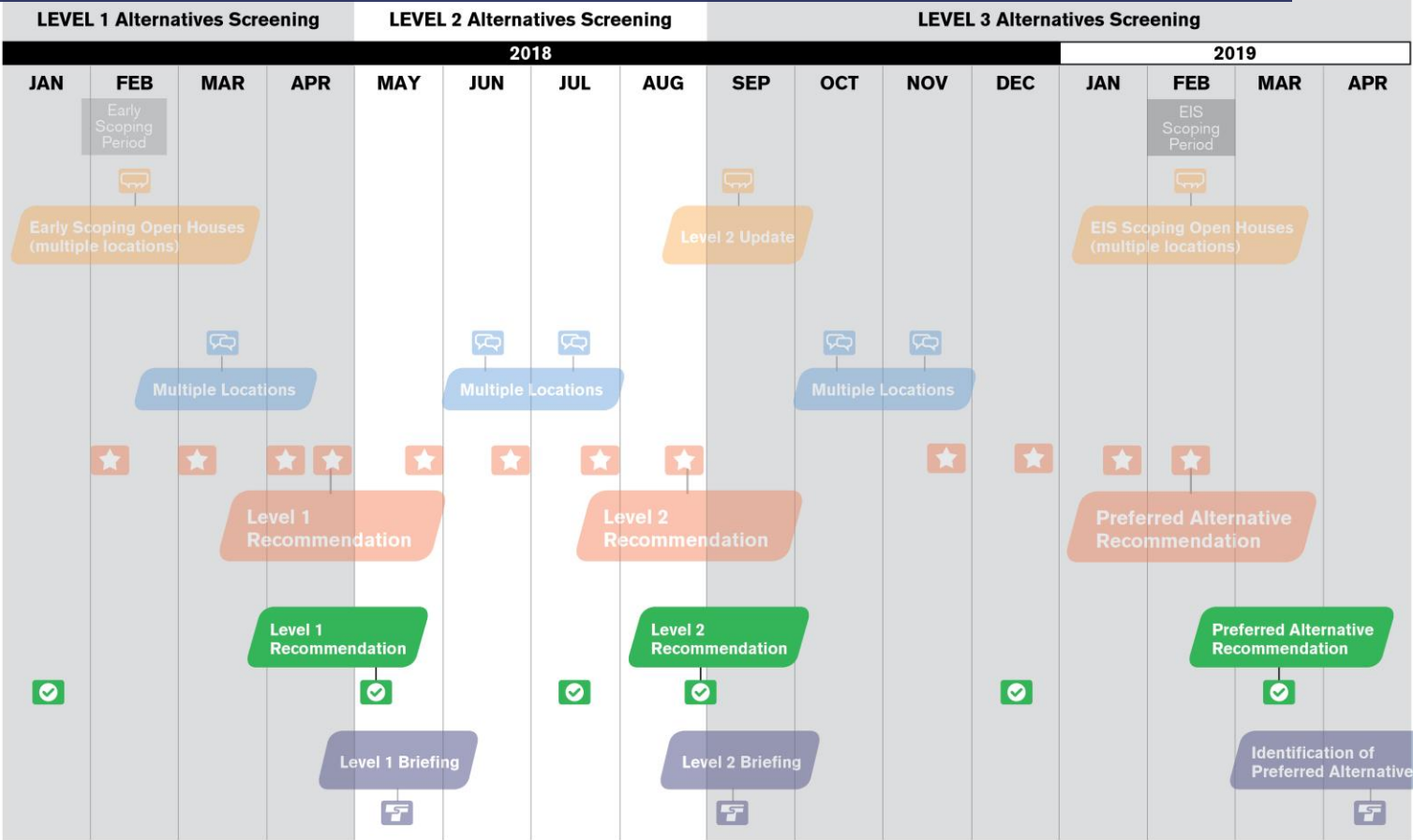
Meeting dates subject to change.

# **Elected Leadership Group Chartering**

# Elected Leadership Group purpose

- Appoint Stakeholder Advisory Group members
- Consider the needs of the extensions within the context of the entire regional transit system
- Work with project staff to understand and evaluate tradeoffs
- Represent the region and the communities they serve and share community priorities
- Recommend a preferred alternative for consideration by the Sound Transit Board based on input from the Stakeholder Advisory Group, the public, and the voter-approved project scope, schedule and budget

# Elected Leadership Group



Meeting dates subject to change.

# Project Guiding Principles

- **Expand rapid, reliable and efficient regional transit service** to the communities in the Ballard and West Seattle corridors
- **Increase transit capacity and connectivity in downtown** to meet growing demand and expand regional access and mobility
- **Create additional transit connections** between regional growth centers and downtown
- **Create solutions that are technically feasible and fiscally sustainable** to build, operate and maintain



# Project Guiding Principles

- **Improve mobility and access** for all in the corridor and the region
- **Preserve and promote a healthy environment**, both built and natural, and encourage sustainable urban growth through transit oriented development and affordable housing
- Deliver the project **within the approved timelines and budget**
- **Consider input from stakeholders, communities** along the corridor, **regional transit riders and the public**
- **Support future transit system expansion** as outlined in Sound Transit's Long-Range Plan

# ELG operating guidelines

- ✓ Attend all meetings
- ✓ Meetings will be led by a facilitator and co-chairs
- ✓ Openly share observations and views
- ✓ Keep an open mind regarding others' opinions, ideas and viewpoints
- ✓ Listen to other members while they are speaking
- ✓ Co-chairs will be the primary media spokespeople for the group
- ✓ Strive for consensus

# Stakeholder Advisory Group

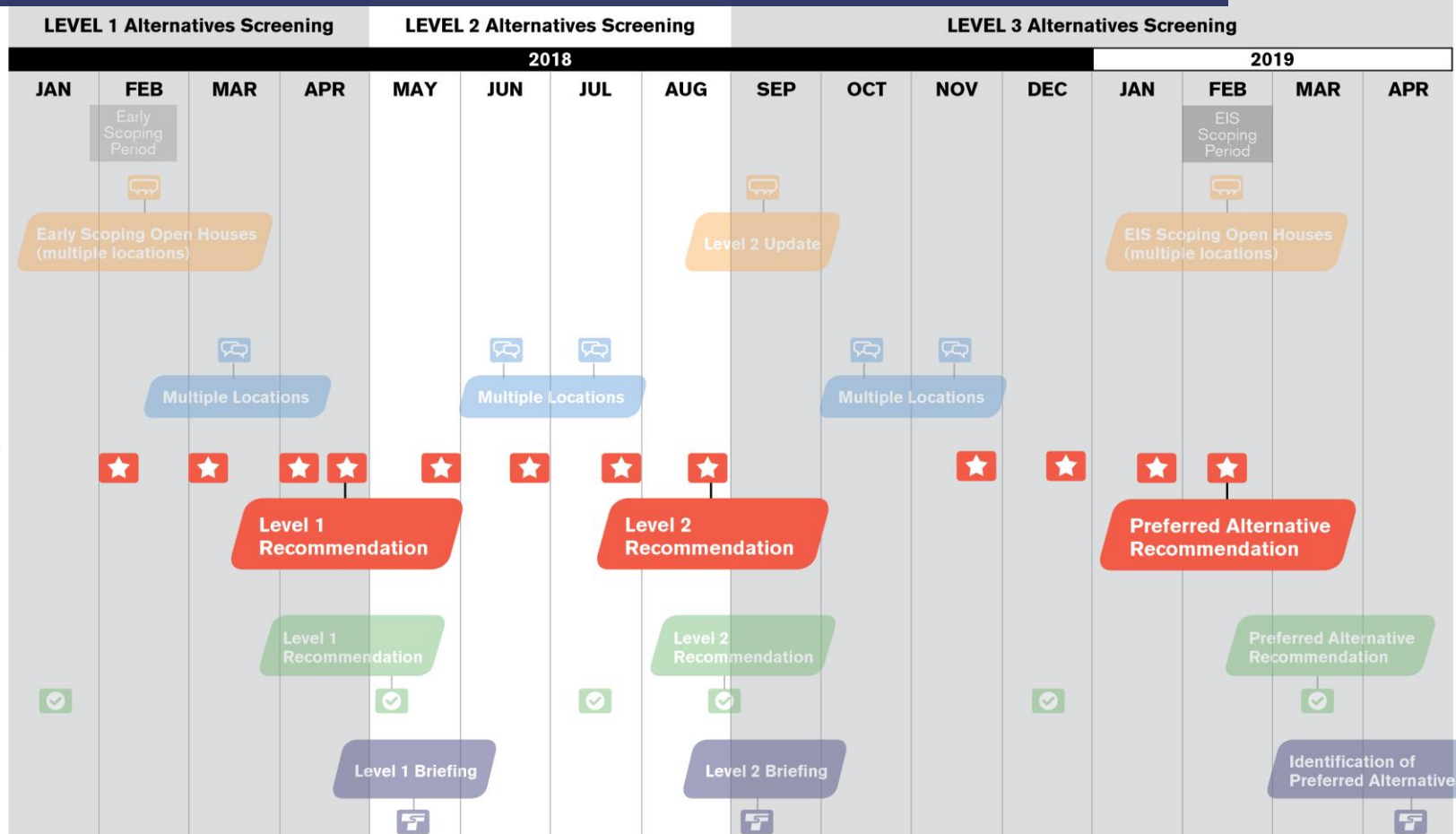
# Stakeholder Advisory Group purpose

- Build consensus around key project decisions and work through project issues as needed
- Make recommendations at key milestones, including:
  - Identifying alternatives to study during environmental review
  - Identifying a preferred alternative
- Highlight specific issues and trade-offs in the corridor



**✓ Present recommendations to Elected Leadership Group**

# Stakeholder Advisory Group



# Stakeholder Advisory Group structure

- **Start:** February 2018
- **Size:** 25-30 community members
- **Membership goals:**
  - Reflect the diversity of the corridor
  - Balance of neighborhood and community interests from communities along the alignment
- **Process:** Elected Leadership Group will appoint members today and announce an open application period for the remaining seats

# Stakeholder Advisory Group application

- Open recruitment for 5-7 positions
- Seek to represent the diversity of the corridor, including:
  - A broad range of age groups
  - Communities of color
  - All levels of income
  - People with disabilities, physical and cognitive
  - Variety of interest areas
- Call for applications via: website announcements, social media posts, media release/earned media



# Membership qualifications

1. **Understand public transportation and mobility** and have an interest in how transportation affects the lives of people in the region
2. **Understand one or more of the affected communities** along the corridor
3. **Act as a community ambassador**, which means sharing information with community members and bringing forth community values, concerns and ideas
4. **Participate collaboratively** with group members whose views may be different from their own
5. **Seek consensus** on solutions that recognize the project's schedule and budget, which may require compromise
6. **Participate fully** in the process, including attending meetings regularly



# Stakeholder Advisory Group representation

Communities along the corridor and the following interest areas:

- Affordable housing
- Arts/Cultural organizations
- Business
- Community service organizations
- Environmental groups
- Freight/Maritime
- Labor
- Life science
- Limited mobility
- Major institutions
- Manufacturing/Industry
- Multi-modal access (transit, bike, pedestrian)
- Traditionally underrepresented populations
- Young adults/Students





SOUND TRANSIT

153B

Link

SOUND TRANSIT



**SOUNDTRANSIT**

**RIDE THE WAVE**



SOUNDTRANSIT