Sustainability provides future generations with a tomorrow that's better than today.

Sustainability is a core mission at Sound Transit. The agency encourages sustainability by providing affordable, environmentally friendly travel options that connect people to where they live, work and play. Delivering transit projects and services also helps foster a healthy environment, community and economy. To reflect these values, the agency built its Sustainability Plan and annual targets around the pillars of people, planet and prosperity. In 2023, Sound Transit will carry out a wide range of sustainability projects. This year's efforts focus on integrating sustainability into capital project design, construction, and operations. The decisions made today will keep sustainability part of Sound Transit’s system for years to come.

Environmental and Sustainability Management System

Sound Transit's internationally certified Environmental and Sustainability Management System implements the agency’s Sustainability Plan. Since 2007, Sound Transit has been among a select number of transit agencies nationwide to achieve and retain certification to the ISO 14001 standard. This system holds the agency accountable for identifying and controlling environmental impacts, setting and achieving objectives and targets, and demonstrating continual improvements in performance.

For more information visit soundtransit.org/get-to-know-us/environment-sustainability.
Sound Transit
2023 Environmental and Sustainability Targets
Supporting people, planet and prosperity

People
■ Identify resources and partnership opportunities to restore a stream on Sound Transit’s transit-oriented development property next to Lynnwood Transit Center.
■ Support a minimum of five staff in earning new LEED and Envision credentials.
■ Enhance employee wellness benefits with expanded support for mental and physical health.
■ Launch Talent Guard, career path, succession management and employee career profile initiatives.

Planet
■ Create a sustainability dashboard to track operational greenhouse gas emissions.
■ Purchase first battery electric truck for the agency’s non-revenue vehicle fleet.
■ Begin bus procurement for Stride, the agency’s first battery electric bus fleet.
■ Generate revenue from electric transit service under Washington state’s Clean Fuel Standard.
■ Design Stride’s Bus Base North to operate as a fossil fuel-free facility.
■ Conduct zero-emission locomotive feasibility study for Sounder rail service.
■ Identify and evaluate ecosystem services on a representative Sound Transit project.
■ Begin water use reduction feasibility study by reviewing landscape standards that are less water dependent.
■ Initiate LEED Platinum and Fitwel feasibility studies for the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions & Operations and Maintenance Facility South.
■ Update environmental commitment tracking system tools for improved efficiency and effectiveness.
■ Implement the Preliminary Environmental Site Assessment for due diligence studies on the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions and Everett Link Extension.
■ Review and revise Environmental Corrective Action Report system to enhance construction contractor environmental compliance.
■ Establish framework for agency Stormwater Management Program.

Prosperity
■ Reevaluate King and Pierce counties’ Threat Hazard Identification Risk Analysis.
■ Reevaluate floor captain responsibility for a hybrid work environment.
■ Integrate climate resiliency into design requirements.
■ Identify and prioritize construction materials where the carbon content can be reduced.
■ Meet 2023 competitive grant assumptions, including at least one sustainability grant.
■ Evaluate renewable diesel feasibility for use in emergency power generation at Sound Transit facilities.
■ Build model to determine transportation efficiencies in labor deployment management.
■ Hire an Energy Manager and develop a strategic plan for compliance with the Washington Clean Buildings Performance Standard.
■ Begin incorporating climate change adaptation strategies in Tacoma Link Asset Management Plan.
■ Educate all staff about green procurement options for micro-purchases.
■ Finish Procurement, Contracts and Agreements e-file library development and migrate required legacy contracts and Agreements to the new system.