



Graham Street Station Project

About the project

Sound Transit's Graham Street Station Project would add a new street-level station to the existing 1 Line of the Link light rail network on Martin Luther King Jr Way South in the vicinity of South Graham Street in the Rainier Valley.



Fast and frequent service to destinations:

- Graham Street to Sea-Tac Airport: 18 minutes*
- Graham Street to downtown Seattle: 18 minutes*

* Projected travel times

Project benefits and elements

The addition of a new station on Martin Luther King Jr Way South at South Graham Street would:

- **Bridge the 1.6-mile gap between the popular Columbia City and Othello stations**, expanding access to high-capacity transit in the region.
- **Help people get to the places they need to go daily**, by increasing access to the 1 Line and larger Link light rail network.
- **Accommodate future growth** and planned transportation improvements in the project area.
- **Improve** station area sidewalks and pedestrian crossings to support navigating to and from the station.



Graham Street Station Project

Project history



1996

Sound Move Plan

- Graham Street Station not included

1999

Central Link EIS

- Graham Street Station evaluated (1998 Board Motion identified Graham Street Station to be evaluated)

1999-2001

Station Deferrals

- Graham Street Station deferred

2016

ST3 Ballot Measure

- Graham Street Station included

2021

ST3 Realignment

- Graham Street Station identified as Tier 1 project with 2031 as anticipated opening year.



Graham Street Station Project

Project status

The Graham Street Station Project is currently in the early planning phase, called **alternatives analysis**.

■ Early 2024

- Engaged community around priorities and concerns for a new station through interviews and briefings.

■ Mid 2024

- Held in-person and online open houses to engage the community around identifying station options to be studied.

■ Early 2025

- Holding in-person and online workshops to get feedback on station options.
- Based on community feedback and technical information, Sound Transit is expecting to advance one option to conceptual engineering and environmental review.

2024 engagement highlights



525 people completed the online survey



252 people subscribed to project updates



Engaged with over 50 people at the in-person open house



Engaged with over 220 people at 5 in-person tabling events



Met with people at 7 community interviews and briefings



Sent 5,044 mailers to recipients within a 1/2-mile radius of the project area



Received 23,110 impressions and 1,280 clicks on social media





Graham Street Station Project

Community priorities

Here's what we heard is important to the community and how Sound Transit is incorporating that input:



A pedestrian gate at a crossing along the East Link Extension.

- **Enhance safety:** Sound Transit is including ideas like pedestrian gates and safe crossing areas in the station's design.
- **Minimize disruptions and impacts to local businesses:** Sound Transit is looking at how much space is needed to build the station and how to reduce effects.
- **Increase access and connections:** Sound Transit is working with partners like King County Metro and the City of Seattle to make smooth connections between different types of transportation.
- **Build the station as soon as possible:** Sound Transit is exploring ways to phase construction to build the station while minimizing disruptions for the community and Sound Transit passengers.



Designing and building a station

In addition to community priorities, there are technical considerations Sound Transit evaluates when designing a station. As the project moves forward, Sound Transit is considering:



People walking on Rainier Beach Station platform as trains pass on both sides.

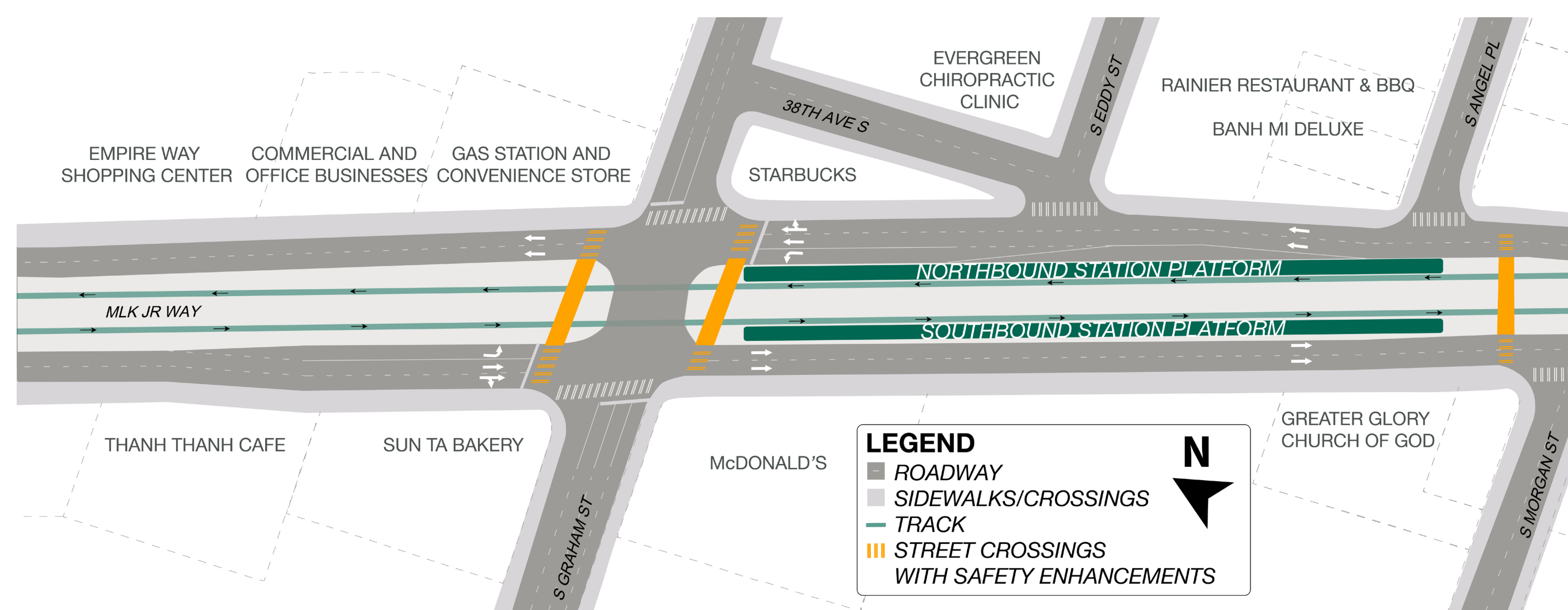
- **Track alignment:** Train tracks need to be straight and level at stations to make boarding safe and easy.
- **Utilities:** There are existing utilities like water and sewer pipes and power cables under the road.
- **Street adjustments:** Martin Luther King Jr Way South might need to shift to have enough space for a station.
- **Safety features:** Sound Transit is partnering with the City of Seattle to add safety improvements in the area, such as better pedestrian crossings near the station.
- **Keeping trains running during construction:** Sound Transit's goal is to minimize interruptions to train service while the station is being built.



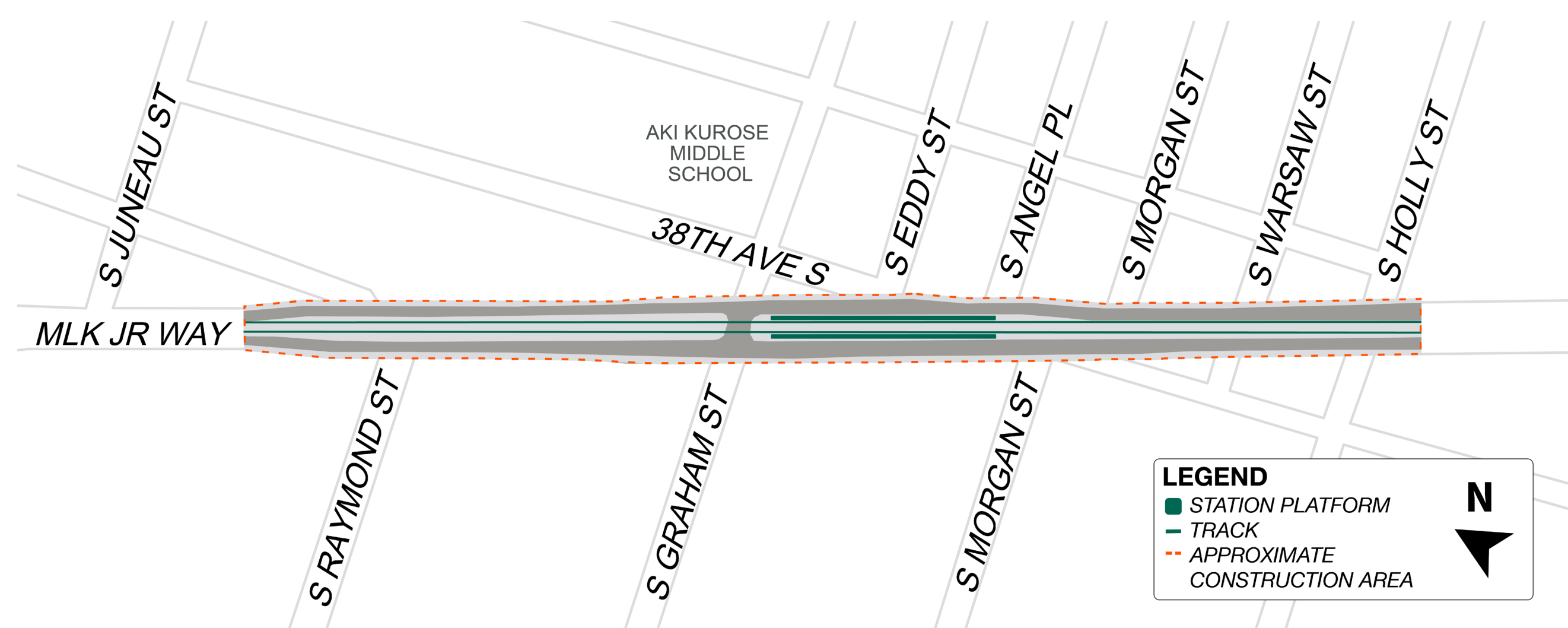
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Option 1: South of South Graham Street with side platforms

Overhead view of the new station



Approximate construction area to build new station



Existing and future conditions

Existing conditions



Potential future conditions



A cross-section of Martin Luther King Jr Way South looking south, comparing how the street looks now (top image) to how it would look after construction (bottom image), with side platforms added.

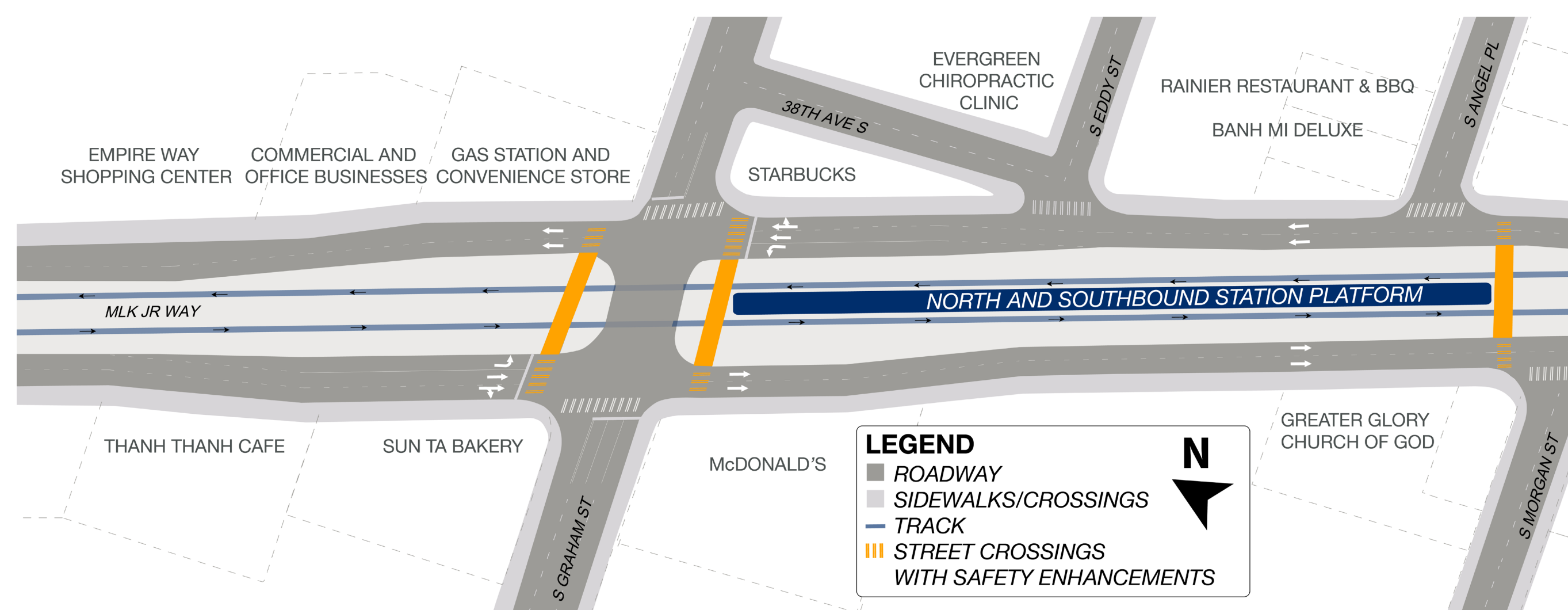


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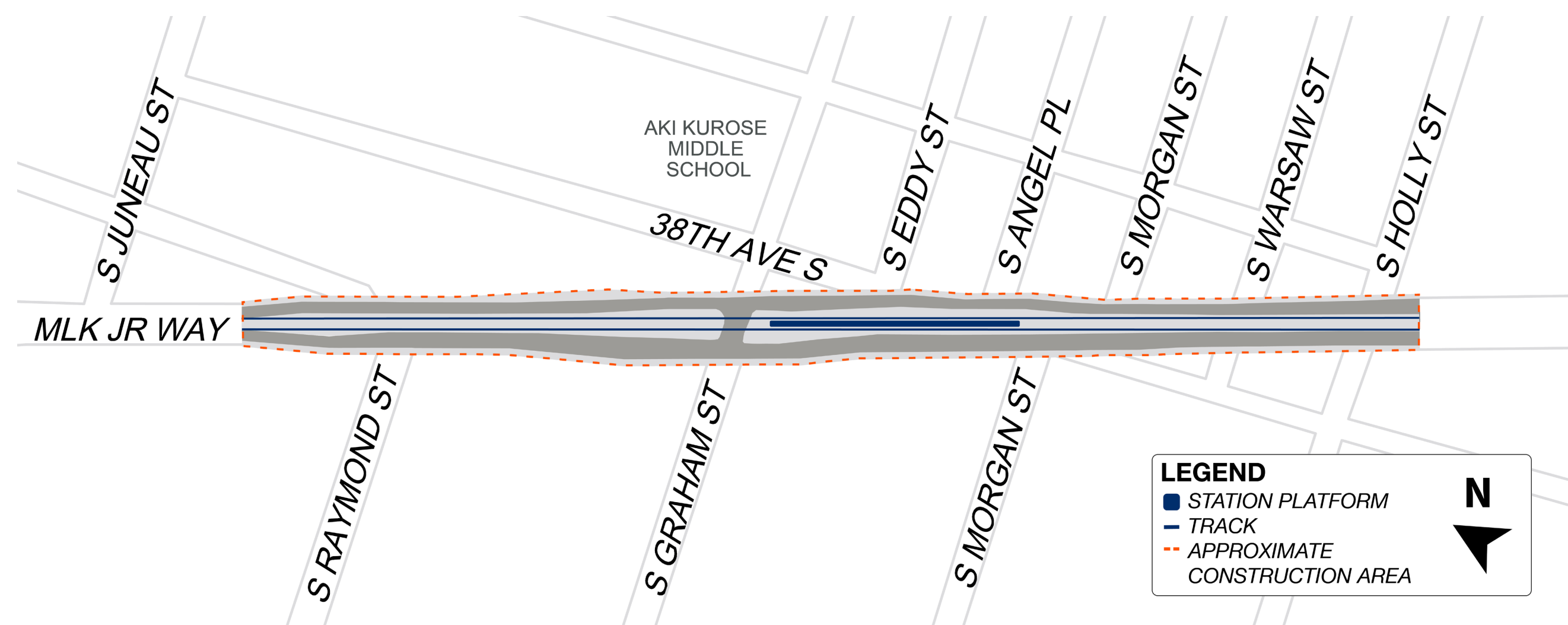
Option 2A:

South of Graham Street with center platform in the middle of the street

Overhead view of the new station



Approximate construction area to build the new station

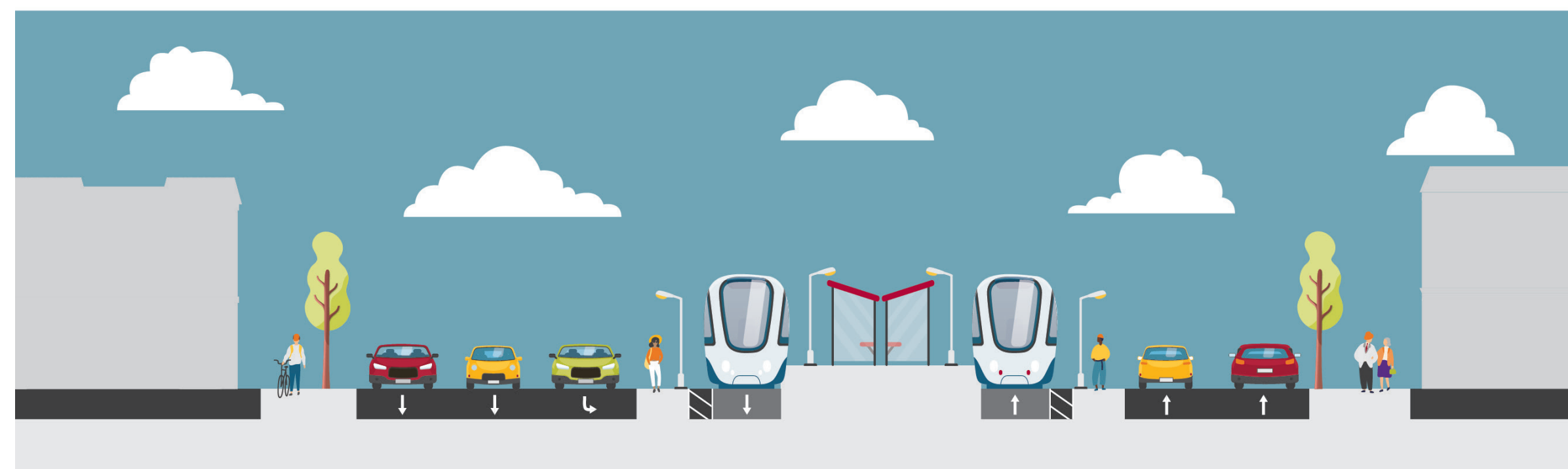


Existing and future conditions

Existing conditions



Potential future conditions



A cross-section view of Martin Luther King Jr Way South looking south, comparing how the street looks now (top image) to how it would look after construction (bottom image), with a center platform located in the middle of the street.

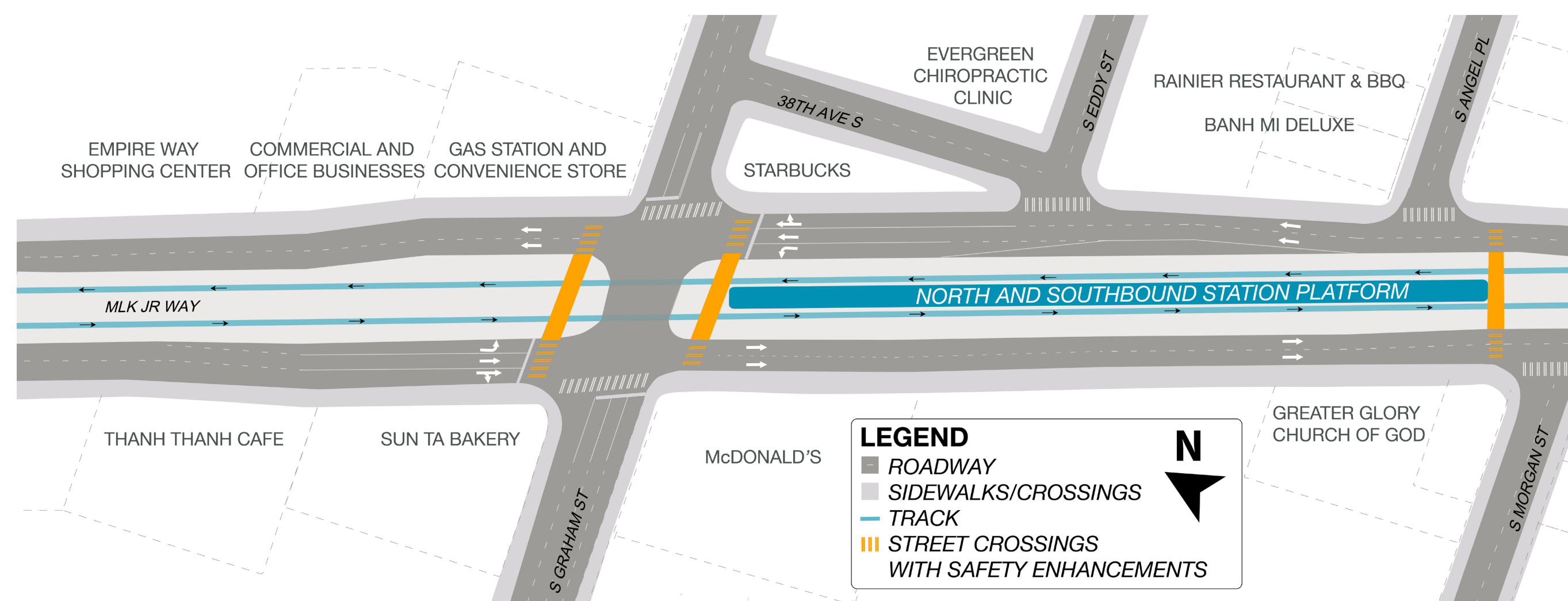


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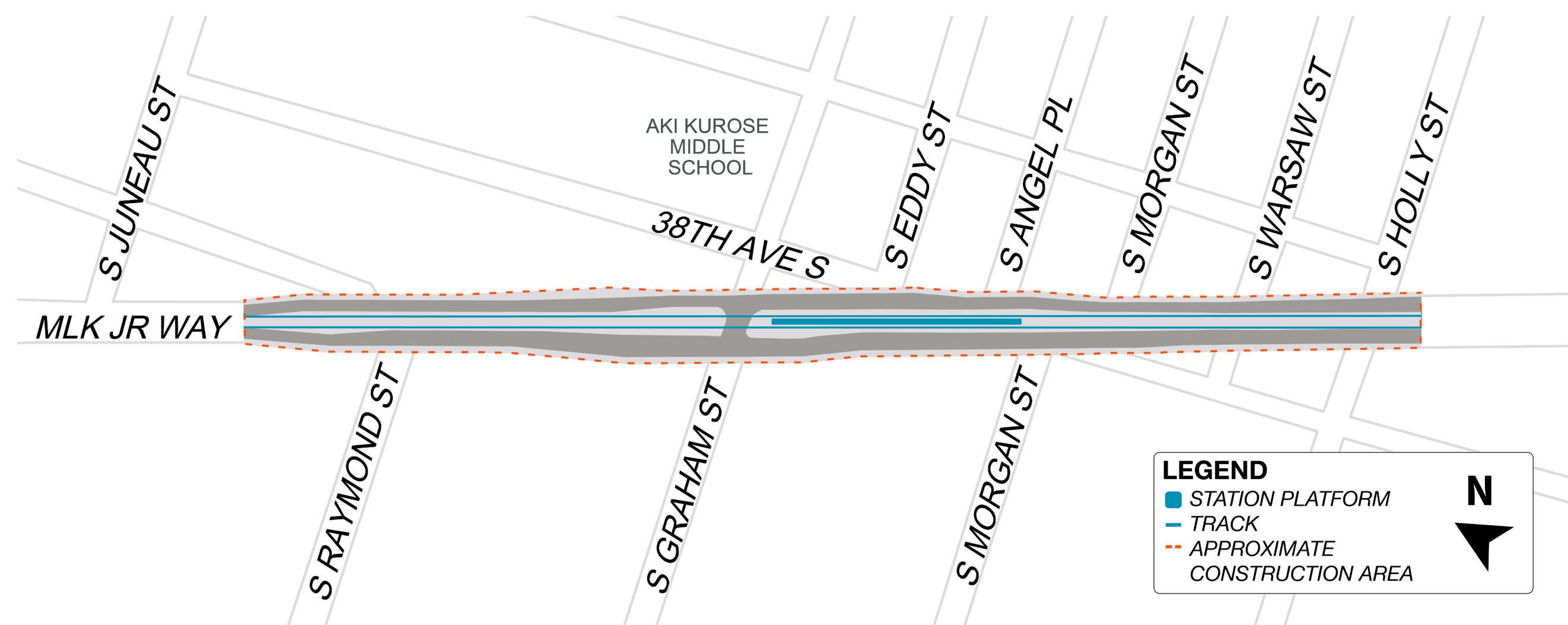
Option 2B:

South of Graham Street with center platform set slightly to the east

Overhead view of the new station



Approximate construction area to build the new station



Existing and future conditions

Existing conditions



Potential future conditions



A cross-section view of Martin Luther King Jr Way South looking south, comparing how the area looks now (top image) to how it would look after construction (bottom image), with a center platform set slightly to the east.



Station options evaluated and removed from consideration

1. Station north of South Graham Street

- **Technical Constraints:** Major utility lines and less space to relocate.
- **Safety Concerns:** Longer distance between pedestrian crossings.
- **Limited Access:** Fewer and farther connections to community destinations and bus stops.

2. Split platform station (platforms on opposite sides of South Graham Street)

- **Challenging Access:** Access to station platforms would be more difficult if one track was closed.
- **Space Issues:** Does not save space.

3. Building a station without reconstructing the track

Two locations were evaluated:

- **South of South Graham Street (approximately 250 feet):** Too close to Othello Station.
- **North of Graham Street (approximately 800 feet):** Farther from bus connections and community destinations.



Racial equity tool outcomes

The project team is applying Sound Transit's and the City of Seattle's respective Racial Equity Tools (RET) to the project. During the alternatives analysis phase, the desired racial equity outcomes for Graham Street Station are:

- Advance environmental and economic justice to improve economic and health outcomes for communities of color.
- Enhance mobility and access for communities of color and low-income populations.
- Optimize opportunities for equitable development and preservation that include expanding and retaining housing and community assets for communities of color.
- Avoid disproportionate impacts on communities of color and low-income populations.
- Create a station that relates to its neighborhood and is a place where communities of color feel welcome, safe, and a sense of belonging.
- Meaningfully engage communities of color and low-income populations in the project.



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Get involved

We want to hear from you!

This light rail station is being designed for you – the community.

Please take a moment to share your thoughts to help shape the vision for this station.



What's next?

Following community engagement and informed by your feedback, the project team will likely give a briefing to the Sound Transit Board on progress for the Graham Street Station in the early Spring of this year.



Learn more about the project and take the survey:

soundtransit.org/grahamstreetsurvey

You're invited to attend the meeting and share your thoughts! Visit our website for more details:

***[soundtransit.org/get-to-know-us/
board-directors/board-meetings](https://soundtransit.org/get-to-know-us/board-directors/board-meetings)***

You can share your feedback by emailing us at

EmailTheBoard@soundtransit.org

Visit our project webpage at: ***soundtransit.org/grahamstreet***

