

FIFA World Cup 26

Community Oversight Panel
01/14/2026



Why are we here?

- Overview of the FIFA tournaments
- Overview of Sound Transit's preparations for the FIFA events
- Presentation is for information only. No action today.

2025 Club World Cup

FIFA Club World Cup 2025 Recap



Key Lessons Learned

- A successful weekday Sounder pilot will return for FIFA World Cup 2026
- Riders need clear advance information about Sounder event trains, prioritized for 2026
- Link's 8-minute peak service trial helped prepare the system for 2026
- Riders responded positively to station activation and on-site engagement and support

FIFA World Cup 26

FIFA World Cup 26 Coordinating Relationship

FIFA

- Leads coordination of logistics of media, VIPs, teams, and match officials.



Local Organizing Committee (LOC) SEAFWC26

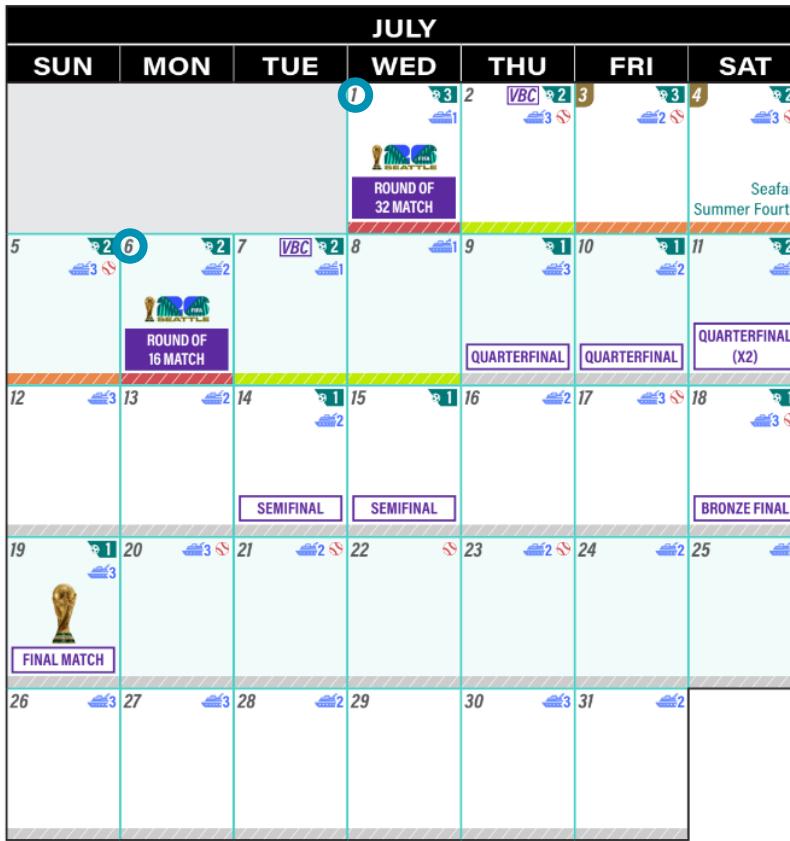
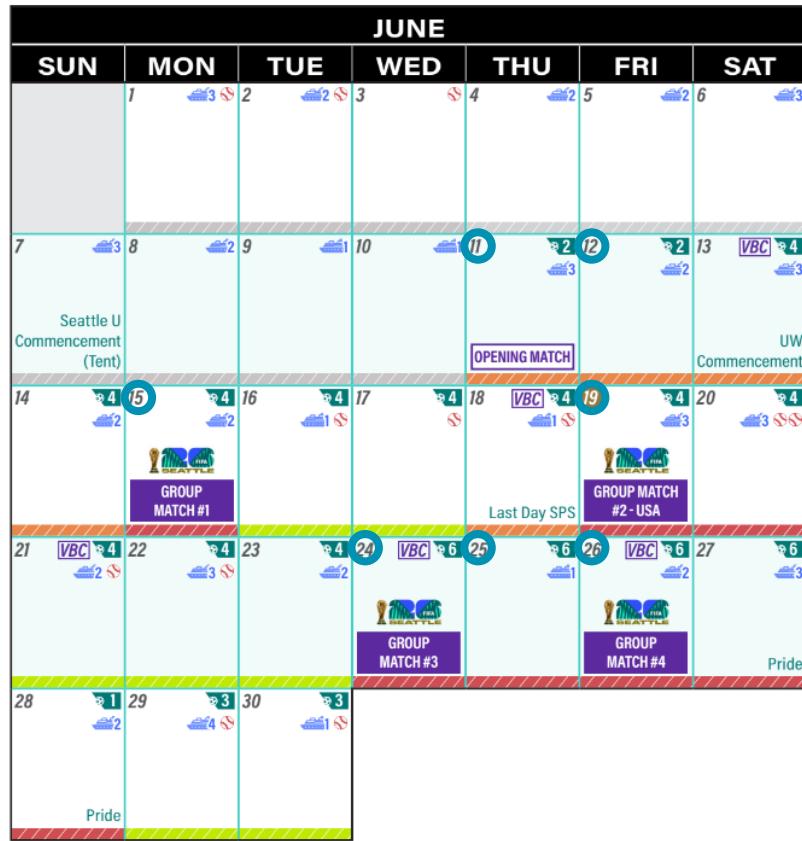
- Non-profit coordinating regional logistics amongst agencies, including activations across the state.
- Point of contact between regional partners and FIFA.

Regional Agencies and Providers (including Sound Transit)

- Provide mobility and safety/security services to move fans and visitors to and from their destinations.
- Coordinate regional plans to feed into deliverables LOC provides to FIFA

Sound Transit (internal)

- Draft and implement plans to move fans regionally on Sound Transit modes.



LEGEND



SEATTLE MATCHES

Seattle Fan Celebration Active

Number of Matches Per Day

NOTABLE NON-SEATTLE MATCHES

Holiday/Observed Holiday

Seattle Mariners Home Game

Revive I-5 Work

Number of Cruise Ship Sailings

Local Events

Expected Intensity Level*

Baseline

Moderate

High

Highest

FIFA World Cup 26 Match Details

 Date	 Time	 Match Type	Teams
Monday, June 15	12:00 P.M.	Group Match	Belgium vs Egypt
Friday, June 19	12:00 P.M.	Group Match	USA vs Australia
Wednesday, June 24	12:00 P.M.	Group Match	UEFA Playoff (TBD) vs Qatar
Friday, June 26	8:00 P.M.	Group Match	Egypt vs Iran
Wednesday, July 1	1:00 P.M.	Round of 32 Match	TBD (1 st Place of Group G vs 3 rd Place Finisher)
Monday, July 6	5:00 P.M.	Round of 16 Match	TBD (Round 32 winners Match 81 vs 82)

What festivities do we expect regionally?

FIFA Fan Festival

- Central destination for fans to meet to watch the matches live in host city (like a tailgate)
- Hosted at Seattle Center – 10k+ capacity and 20+ days of activation during tournament

FIFA Fan Zones*

- Like a fan festival, with more focus on regional engagement and at a smaller scale
- Across Washington cities: **Everett (Box Car Park)**, **Tacoma (TBD)**, Bellingham, Bremerton, Olympia, Tri-Cities, Spokane, Vancouver, Yakima

City Specific Festivities*

- City hosted viewing parties, could be FIFA sponsored

Sound Transit FIFA Elements Highlights

Key Takeaway: agency prioritizing support for passengers during the tournament

Modal and Service Operations

- 8-min headways on both 1 and 2 Lines on gamedays
- Gameday (weekday) special event Sounder service
- ST Express service adds focused on post-game for gamedays, details TBD
- Additional Tacoma Link service, details TBD
- Temporary Charter bus support for rail contingency for tournament
- Consultant analysis and support

Passenger Experience and Communications

- Facilities and Vertical Conveyance cleaning and support staffing
- Temporary wayfinding and signage
- Demand management and parking strategies at key stations
- Station activation strategies and community partnerships
- Accessible and multi-lingual communications and marketing strategies
- Throne Labs (innovative bathroom) pilot
- Contracted ambassadors and additional station agent staffing

Safety and Security

- Additional Security staffing
- Emergency tabletops, preparedness exercises and training
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) set up and activated during tournament
- IT command room
- Crowd management and metering control equipment at key stations
- Fare Engagement staff overtime
- Liaisons at regional EOCs

Access to Seattle Stadium (Lumen Field)

Key Takeaway

Given FIFA perimeter around Seattle Stadium (Lumen Field), we will need to leverage multiple stations on Link to move crowds during gamedays.



Destination Based Approach

North of downtown use Pioneer Square

East of downtown and PWD* use IDS

South of downtown use Stadium

Within downtown use KCM shuttle or regular bus service

** Passengers with Disabilities*

Next Steps

- Finalize plans for FIFA World Cup 2026
- Continue to participate in LOC and other external coordination meetings to inform internal planning for the tournament
- Prepare for communications push in partnership with LOC starting in late Q1 / early Q2

Thank you.



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