

# **Connect / 2020**

## ***Linking the downtown tunnel to the Eastside***

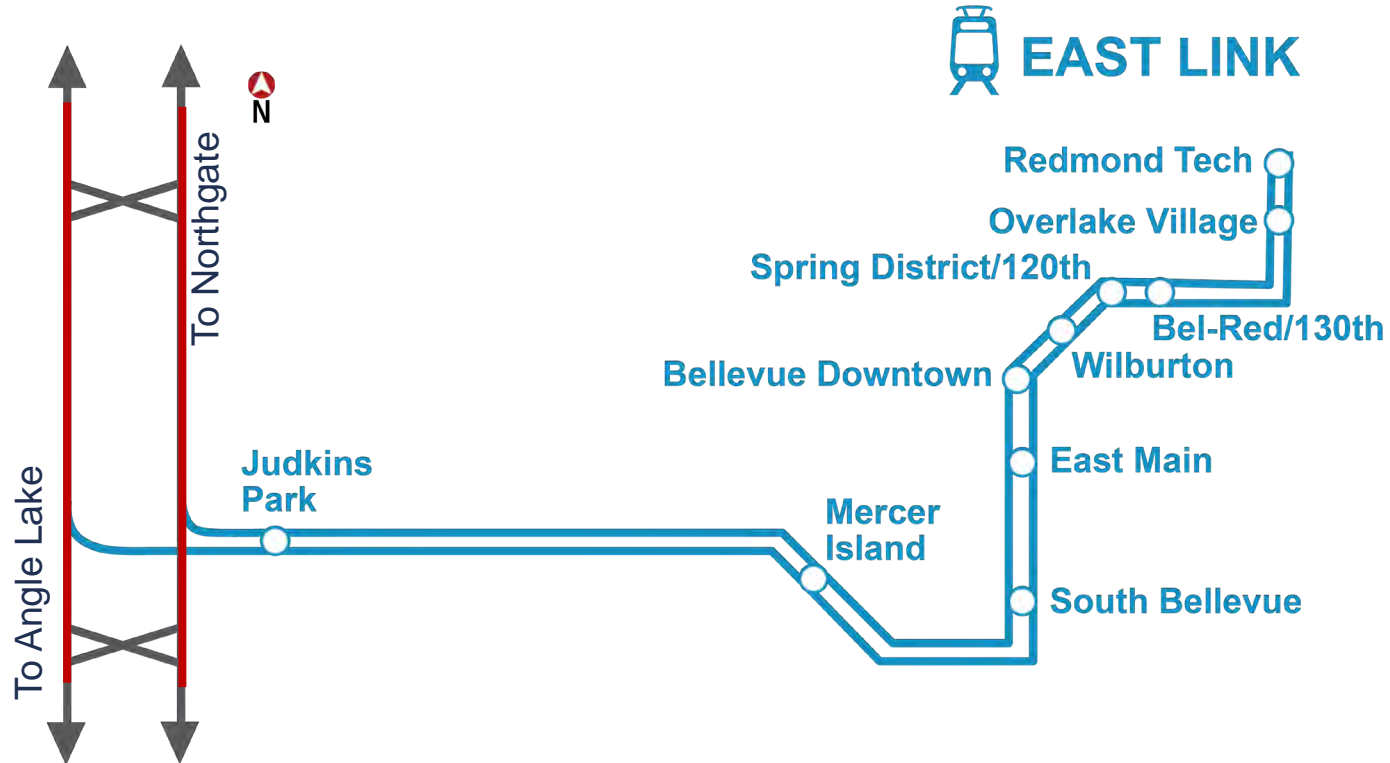
*Citizen Oversight Panel  
June 6, 2019*



# East Link

## Overview

10 stations  
14 miles  
Opens 2023



# *Why we are here*

- To share draft construction timelines, our operating plan, and our *Connect 2020* communications plan during construction to connect East Link tracks to the downtown tunnel
- To describe service disruptions that will occur
- Seeking feedback and opportunities to collaborate

# ***Connect 2020 overview***

## ***The challenge***

- **Complete heavy construction while continuing service**
- **Maintain high safety and security standards**
- **Manage crowding**



# Connect 2020 overview

## *The solution*

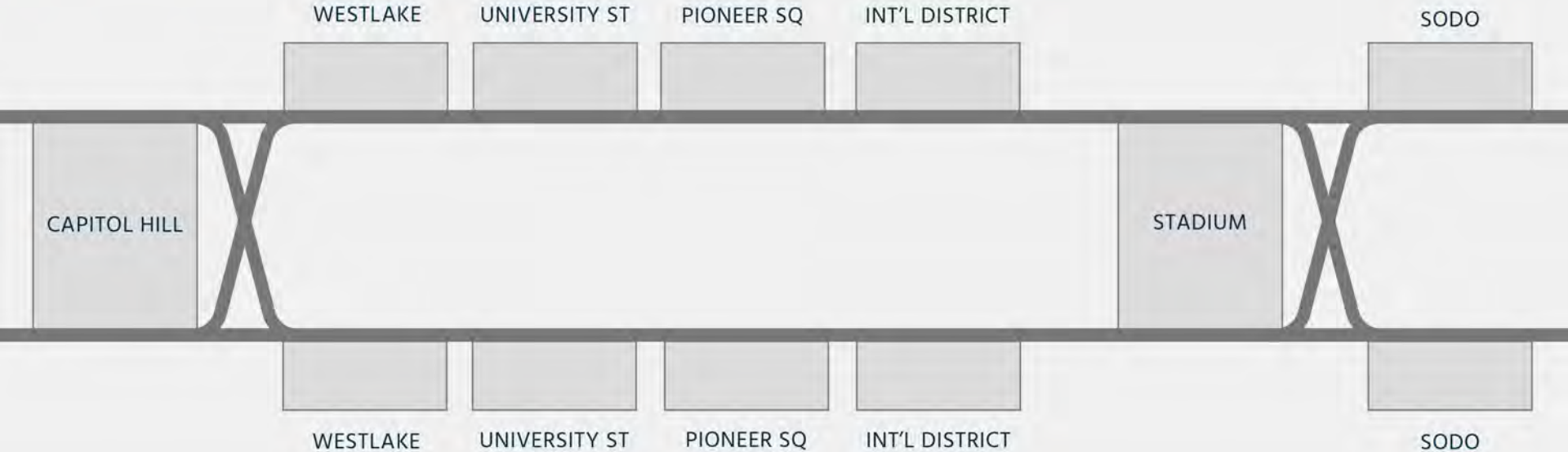
- Operate service on one track (known as “single-track operations”) while construction takes place on the opposite track
- Operate single-track service from Stadium to Westlake for 10 weeks in early 2020
- Build temporary center platform for riders to transfer at Pioneer Square
- During 3 weekend closures, provide shuttle bus service from Sodo to Westlake



# Downtown tunnel track diagram



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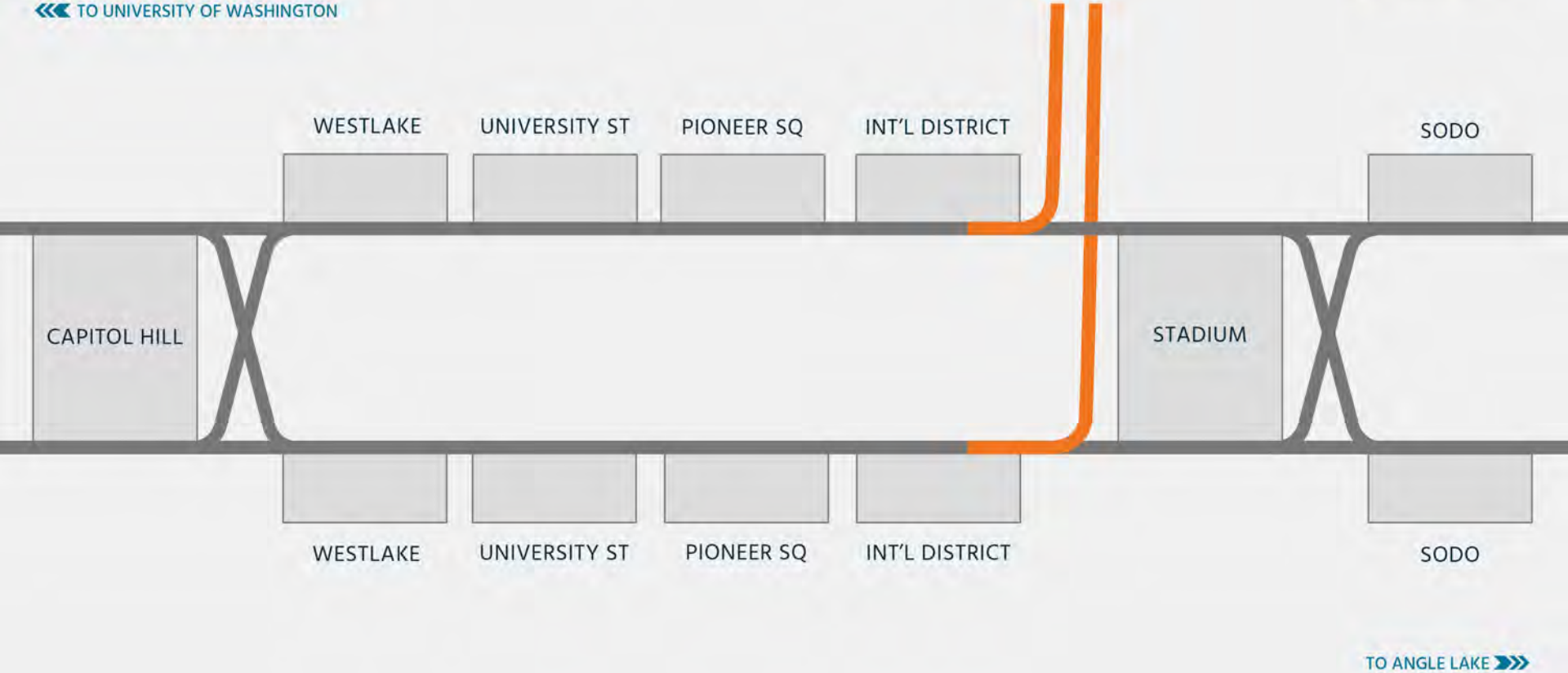




# International District track diagram



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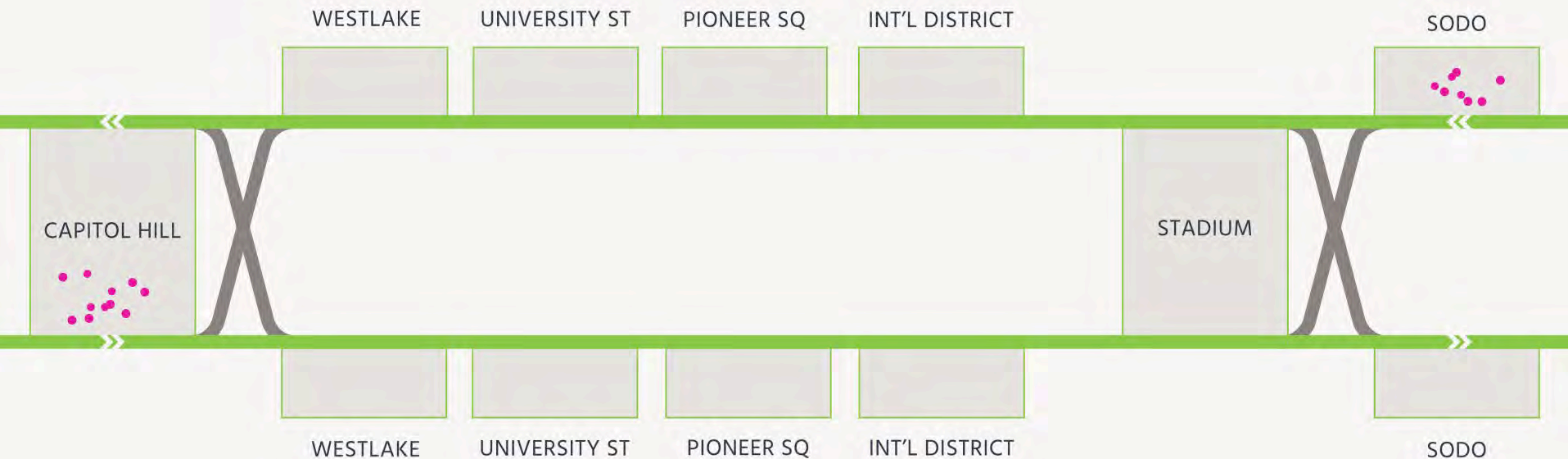
TO ANGLE LAKE





# Current track flow

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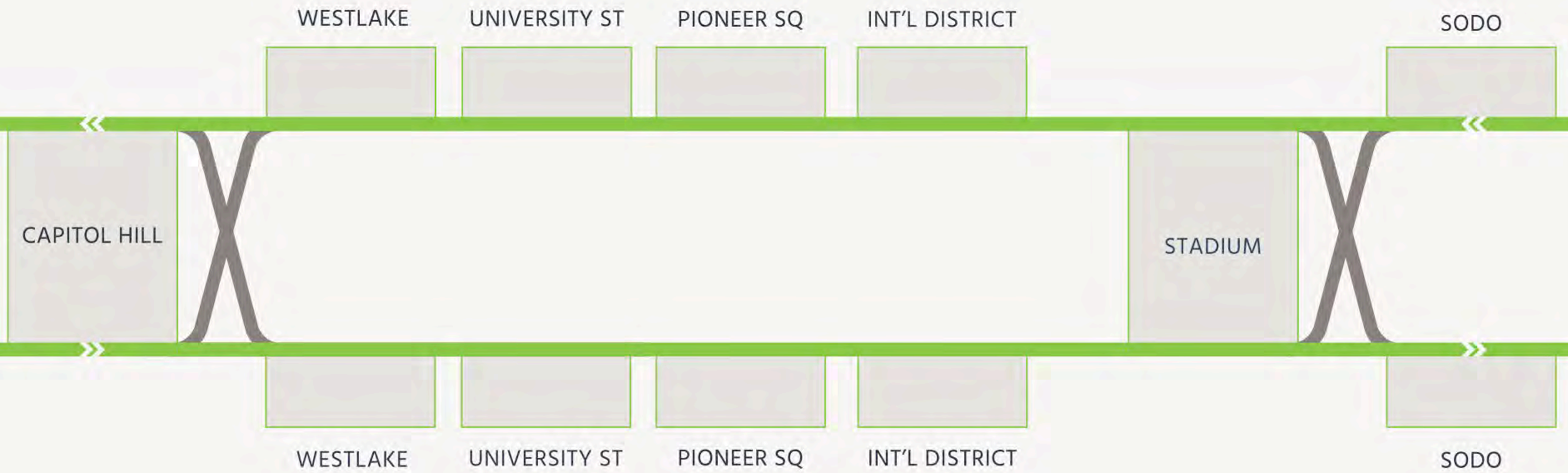




# Northbound closure, January-February



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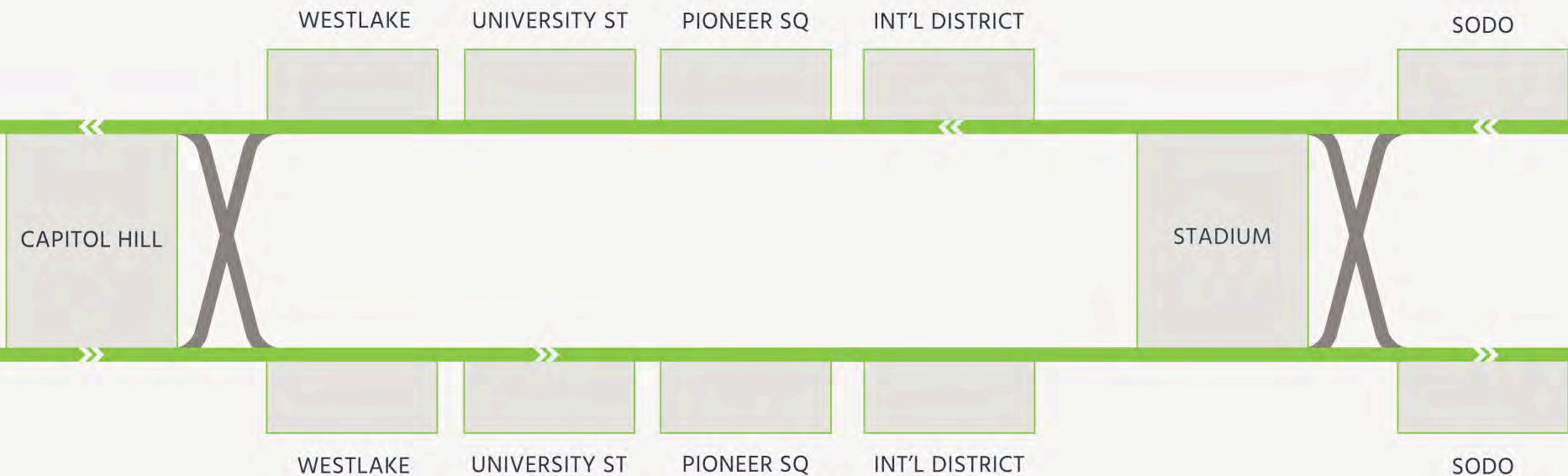
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# Southbound closure, February-March



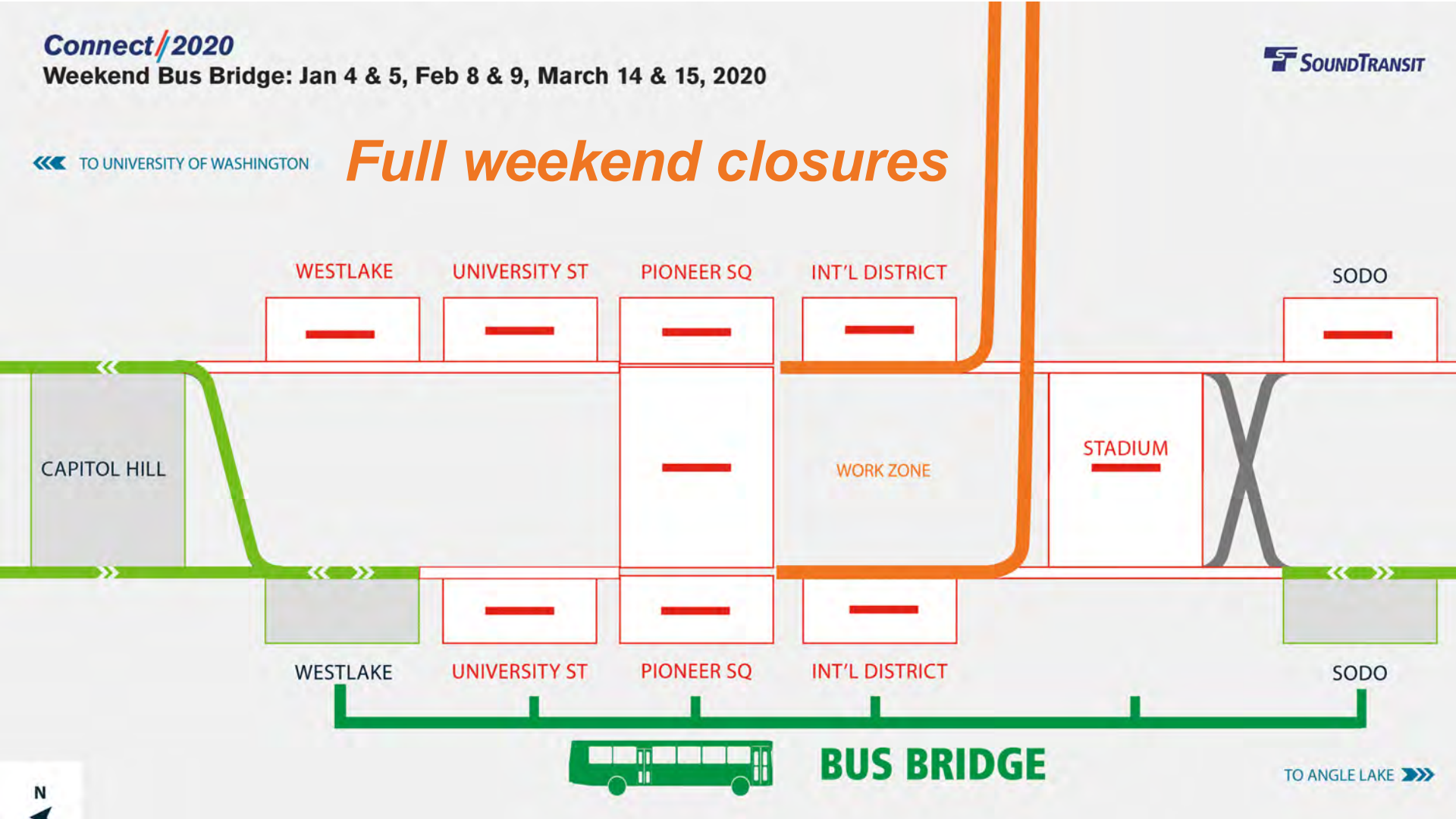
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# Full weekend closures



WESTLAKE

UNIVERSITY ST

PIONEER SQ

INT'L DISTRICT

SODO

CAPITOL HILL

WORK ZONE

STADIUM

WESTLAKE

UNIVERSITY ST

PIONEER SQ

INT'L DISTRICT

SODO



**BUS BRIDGE**

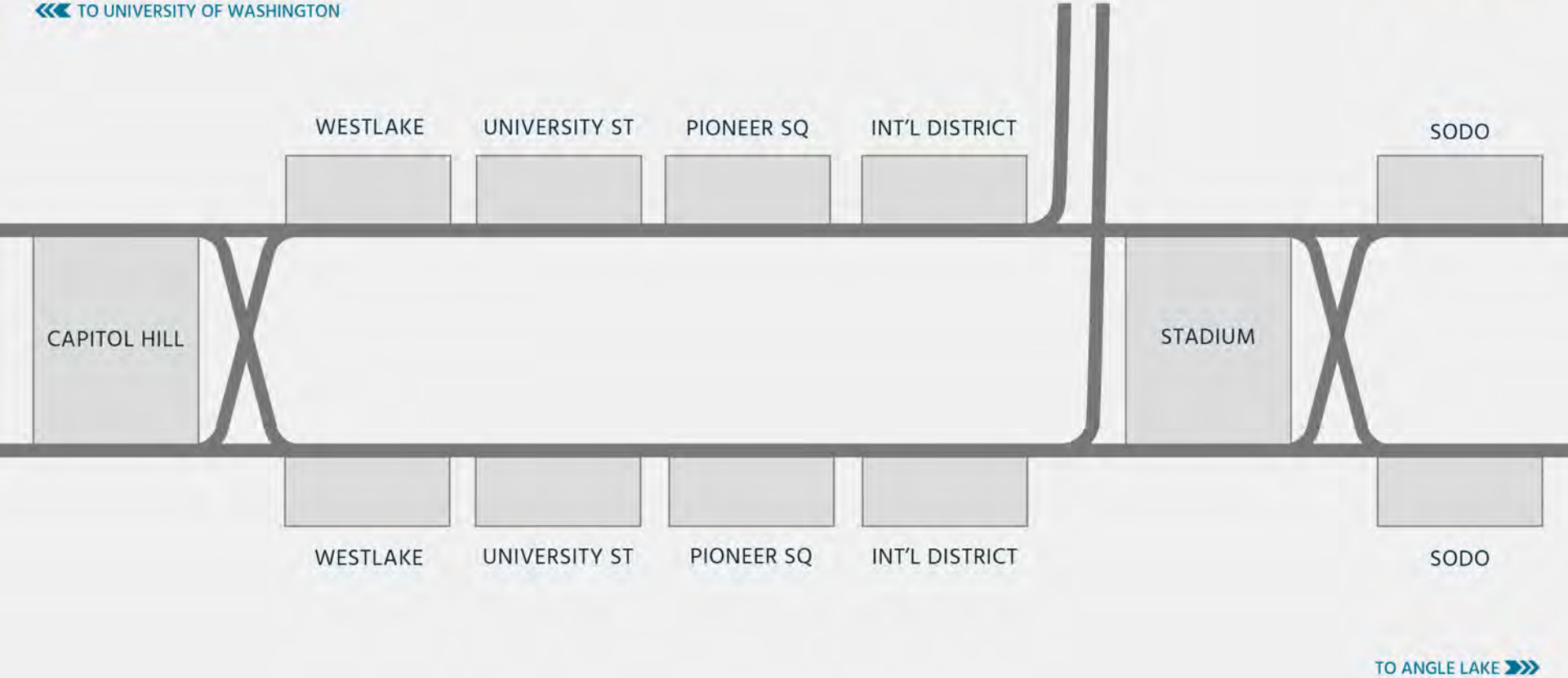
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# Completed tie-in

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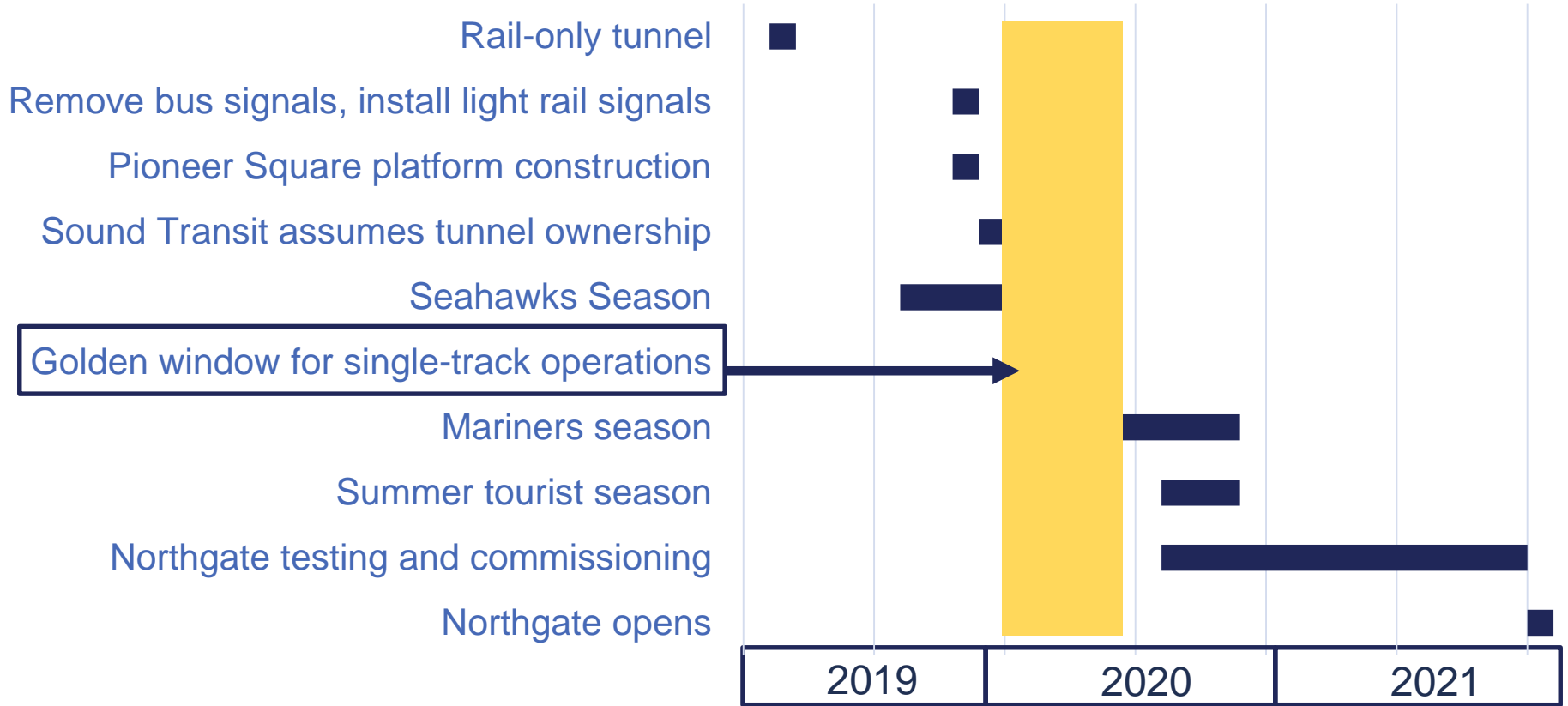


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Temporary center platform

# Connect 2020: Why early 2020?



# Connect 2020

## Timeline

1. Rail-only downtown tunnel	March 2019
2. Pre-closure work (signal upgrades, center platform, etc)	Aug-Dec 2019
3. ST assumes tunnel ownership	January 2020
4. Begin single-track service (Stadium to Westlake)	January 2020
5. Switch single-track service from SB to NB track	February 2020
6. Single-track service ends, regular service resumes	March 2020

# Connect 2020

## Operating plan

- **Service pattern:** two lines
  - University of Washington to Pioneer Square
  - Angle Lake to Pioneer Square
- **Frequency:** 12 minutes
- **Train length:** all 4-car trains
- **Through riders:**
  - Trains will meet at Pioneer Square for riders to transfer between lines
  - Temporary center platform will ease transfers
- **Safety analysis:** A bicycle and excess luggage safety plan is currently being developed

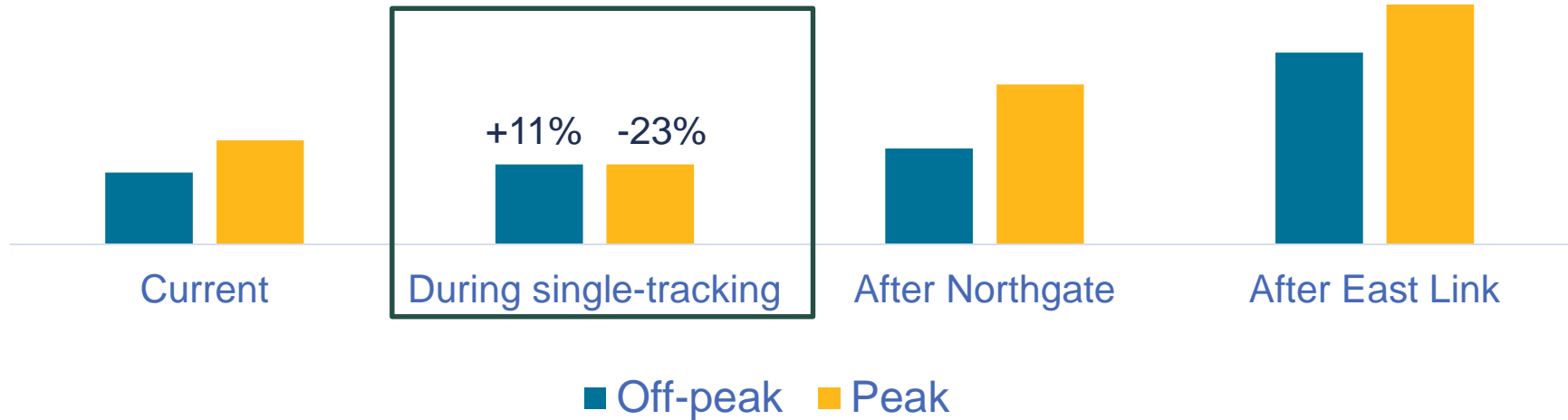


# Connect 2020

## Customer capacity

- **Peak:** 23 percent **less** capacity than today
- **Off-peak:** 11 percent **more** capacity than today

### Relative capacity during closure



# Connect 2020

## Communication plan: timeline and goals



Riders and communities know why this is happening and how to stay informed

Riders know their options and plan ahead

Riders know what to do and where to go

Riders feel appreciated and return to riding Link

# Connect 2020

## Communication themes

### PRE-CLOSURE

Feb-Sept 2019

### AWARENESS

Oct-Dec 2019

### SINGLE-TRACKING

Jan-March 2020

### APPRECIATION

April 2020

—————▶ We're getting ready for Link expansion! ◀—————

- We're investing in the system
- We're building
- How to stay informed
- Plan ahead + travel options
- Know before you go
- No surprises
- Expect crowding/delay
- How to transfer
- Plan ahead
- Pardon our dust
- Thank you
- See you 2021

# Connect 2020

## Key audiences

- Daily Link riders
- Visitors (i.e., passengers boarding at SeaTac)
- Sounder commuters who transfer at IDS
- Riders with mobility needs
- Bicycle commuters
- Riders with limited English proficiency
- Occasional riders
- Regional stakeholders
- Neighborhood residents and businesses

# Connect 2020

## Communication tactics

### **PRE-CLOSURE**

*Feb-Sept 2019*

- Web page
- Blog posts
- Stakeholder briefings
- Community outreach
- Multilingual construction notices
- Rider alerts
- Agency coordination plans

### **AWARENESS**

*Oct-Dec 2019*

- Digital ride guide, translated and ADA accessible
- How to's:
  - Maps
  - Video
  - Infographics
- Paid media (advertising)

### **SINGLE-TRACKING**

*Jan-March 2020*

- In-person staff ambassadors
- Temporary signage
- Rider alerts:
  - Print
  - Digital

*Thank you.*



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