



Edmonds and Mukilteo Stations

Parking and Access Improvements

Fall 2019 Outreach Summary



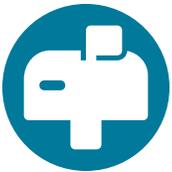
1,700+
online open house
visitors



499
completed surveys



60
attendees at two
open houses



7,100+
mailers sent to homes
and businesses



15,000+
email recipients



18,000
impressions on
Facebook and Twitter



320+
postcards handed
out at stations

Overview

Sound Transit is planning parking and access improvements for the Edmonds and Mukilteo Sounder stations so that more people can ride the Sounder train and enjoy a traffic-free commute. This project was approved by voters in 2016.

In spring 2019, Sound Transit conducted outreach to identify barriers to taking Sounder and to learn what types of improvements riders and the public would prefer. Feedback helped inform the development of a list of possible improvement projects for each station.

Sound Transit conducted a second round of public outreach in fall 2019 to present options to the public and gather feedback. Sound Transit hosted an online open house and survey from October 16 to November 4, 2019, and held two in-person open houses, on October 29 in Edmonds and October 30 in Mukilteo. The results from this outreach, which are summarized in this document, will be used to help determine which projects advance to the next stage.

With feedback from stakeholders, Sound Transit has added seven new potential projects in Mukilteo for evaluation (see descriptions on page 7).

More than 1,700 people visited the online open house, and 60 people attended the in-person open houses. A total of 499 people completed surveys (340 surveys were from Edmonds and 159 from Mukilteo). Open house materials are available [online](#).

The open houses were publicized through a variety of methods that included: a mailing to more than 7,100 local homes and businesses within a mile of the stations, local news coverage, email and social media promotion, as well as postcards handed out and posters displayed at the stations.

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Summary of Feedback

The open house materials (available at [SoundTransit.org/edmonds-mukilteo](https://www.soundtransit.org/edmonds-mukilteo)) included background information, evaluation criteria, and a description of each potential improvement project, of which there were 22 in Edmonds and 16 in Mukilteo. Survey respondents were asked to rate each potential project as “not important,” “important,” or “very important,” and could also make comments.

Overall, respondents from both communities identified bus transfer timing and some nearby parking options as most important, and remote parking options as least important. The following comments on those topics were characteristic:

Bus transfer timing:

“Being able to connect to a bus without having to wait for a long time, especially in winter in the dark, is very important.”

Nearby parking improvements:

“Any additional local parking would be welcome.”

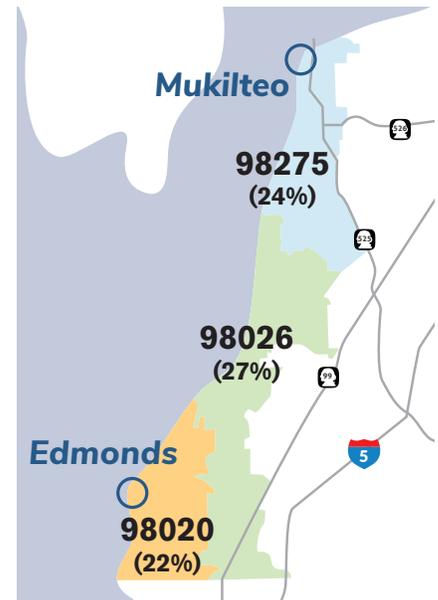
Remote parking lots:

“Remote lots are not helpful, because it adds so much time on to my already long commute (I need to take a bus in Seattle to get to work).”



Respondent Characteristics

Sound Transit received 340 survey responses for Edmonds and 159 for Mukilteo. Survey respondents most commonly identified their home zip code as one of the three nearest and between the two stations.



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Edmonds Feedback

There were 340 completed surveys for Edmonds, and 561 comments.

Of the 22 potential projects identified for Edmonds Station (see the full list [online](#)), the most highly rated by survey respondents were:

- ▶ Bus transfer timing improvements
- ▶ Parking at Washington State Ferries lot and Salish Crossing
- ▶ Station screening for wind and rain
- ▶ Downtown pedestrian lighting and crossing improvements

Edmonds Station

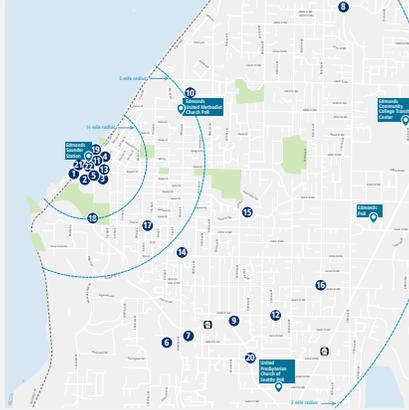
What we heard

During outreach in the spring of 2019, respondents who chose Edmonds as their station were asked to rank which type of access improvements they would prefer.

EDMONDS RESPONDENTS' TOP PRIORITIES

- 1 Parking and vehicle access
- 2 Transit connections
- 3 Pedestrian improvements
- 4 General station amenities
- 5 Bicycle improvements





Evaluated Improvement Projects

- 1 Port of Edmonds gravel lot
- 2 Harbor Square parking lot
- 3 City of Edmonds lot on the SE corner of W Dayton St and 2nd Ave S
- 4 Washington State Ferries parking lot adjacent to station
- 5 Salish Crossing parking lot
- 6 Remote parking at Old Woodway Campus
- 7 Remote parking at SR 104 and 100th Ave W
- 8 Remote parking at 76th Ave W and Olympic View Dr
- 9 Remote parking at Westgate Chapel
- 10 Remote parking at Edmonds Grace Lutheran Church
- 11 Additional on-demand secure bike lockers
- 12 228th St SW bike and pedestrian connection
- 13 Downtown pedestrian lighting improvements
- 14 100th Ave W and 9th Ave S bicycle improvements
- 15 Bowdoin Way bicycle improvements
- 16 80th Ave W bicycle improvements
- 17 Pine St and SR 104 pedestrian improvements
- 18 SR 104 pedestrian improvements
- 19 Additional bus bays at Edmonds Station
- 20 SR 104 bus improvements
- 21 Wind and rain screening at Edmonds Station
- 22 Bus transfer timing improvements



Overview map of potential Edmonds projects, from Open House materials.

Feedback themes by topic

Parking locations

Two potential projects that would offer parking near Edmonds Station received strong support: the Washington State Ferries parking lot and the Salish Crossing parking lot, with favorable ratings (“important” or “very important”) from 79% and 69% of respondents, respectively.

However, some respondents expressed concern about the impact of more Sounder parking on local businesses or ferry riders.

Other nearby parking locations received lower support, with 67% for Port of Edmonds gravel lot, 62% for Harbor Square parking lot, and 48% for the City of Edmonds lot at Dayton and Second Avenue South.

“We need more parking. This seems like a cost effective option while still being reasonably close to the station.”

(Regarding Washington State Ferries lot)

“Concerned for the effect this will have on the growing and thriving retail/restaurant area that has developed.”

(Regarding Salish Crossing lot)

Sound Transit received the most comments by far, 133, about the City of Edmonds lot on the southeast corner of West Dayton Street and Second Avenue South, with about 90% of comments opposing the project. Most were concerned this would adversely impact ArtWorks, a community gathering place for artists.

After considering public feedback and the other parking options available, Sound Transit is no longer recommending this project be considered for further evaluation.

Remote parking facilities received the least support, with fewer than 30% of respondents giving favorable ratings for any of the five remote parking locations evaluated by Sound Transit. Comments indicate that many people find these locations inconvenient:

“This is an important community resource worth much more to the users than 25 parking spots.”

“More parking is important, but this is very far away and would create some difficulties with shuttling, adding too much time to commutes.”

(Regarding Old Woodway Campus parking)

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Wind and rain screening at Edmonds Station

Eighty-five percent of respondents ranked this project favorably, with many observing the inadequacy of current shelter:

“Great idea! I switch to the 405 bus in the fall, when the weather gets windy and rainy to avoid showing up to work drenched.”

Others questioned how shelters would be located:

“Keep in mind people stand in line at the door entries. So adding canopies and windscreens at the back of the platform does not help riders.”

Bus projects

As stated above, bus transfer timing improvements were widely supported (rated favorably by 89% of respondents). Other potential projects to improve bus connections were also rated favorably by majorities: 69% for SR 104 bus improvements and 66% for additional bus bays at Edmonds Station.

“Currently the 416 is a very unreliable bus — its schedule is frequently off, mostly due to the difficulty pulling onto 104.”

However, several comments expressed concerns about these two potential projects — that in-lane bus stops on 104 could impact vehicle traffic, and that more bus bays could affect parking.

“104 is already so busy with traffic increasing all the time, this could make things worse, especially in the summer when the ferry traffic backs up.”

Bike and pedestrian projects

Downtown pedestrian lighting and crossing improvements were rated favorably by 80% of respondents.

“Each of these is a difficult crossing and improvement is needed.”

Some residents voiced concerns about 228th Street bike and pedestrian connection and potential adverse impacts.

“I have already seen an increase in traffic & speeding now that 228th St crosses Hwy 99. I am concerned about further increase in traffic & speeding. It was a quiet neighborhood when I moved in 20 years ago. I now hear cars constantly. I am in favor of a multi use path as we do need sidewalks, but we do not need designated bike lanes...”

Other comments expressed the need for more and better bicycle connections:

“Edmonds needs more North-South bicycle lanes to protect riders. This is a highly needed asset to the community.”

(Regarding 100th Avenue West and Ninth Avenue South bicycle improvements)

Note that three potential bicycle projects—100th Avenue West and Ninth Avenue South, Bowdoin Way, and 80th Avenue West—have all been awarded funding by the Sound Transit System Access Fund. These projects will be built by the City of Edmonds and funded by Sound Transit and are no longer under consideration in this project.



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Mukilteo Feedback

There were 159 completed surveys for Mukilteo, with 240 comments.

Of the 16 potential projects identified for Mukilteo Station, the most highly rated were:

- ▶ Bus transfer timing
- ▶ City of Mukilteo parking
- ▶ Adaptive signal improvements at SR 525 and Fifth Street
- ▶ SR 525 multimodal pedestrian bridge
- ▶ Bus stop improvements

Mukilteo Station

Sounder riders can get to Mukilteo Station by walking; bicycling; taking Community Transit route 113 or Everett Transit route 18; taking the ferry from Clinton; getting dropped off; carpooling; or driving alone. Sound Transit provides 63 parking spaces at the station, where on average there are 163 boardings each weekday.

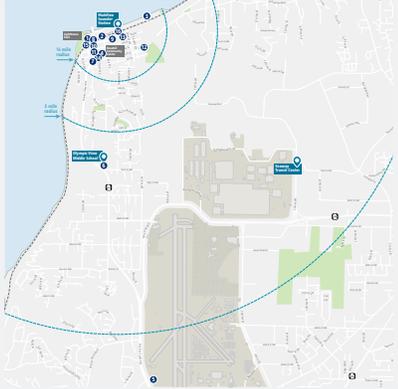
Washington State Ferries is relocating the Mukilteo ferry terminal by 2020, which will improve access to Mukilteo Station.

What we heard

During outreach in the spring of 2019, respondents who chose Mukilteo as their station were asked to rank which type of access improvements they would prefer.

MUKILTEO RESPONDENTS' TOP PRIORITIES

- 1 Pedestrian improvements
- 2 Transit connections
- 3 Parking and vehicle access
- 4 Bicycle improvements
- 5 General station amenities



Evaluated Improvement Projects

- 1 Lighthouse Park parking lot
- 2 City of Mukilteo parking adjacent to Mukilteo Station
- 3 Tulalip parking development
- 4 Remote parking at Rosehill Community Center parking lot
- 5 Remote parking at Paine Field
- 6 Remote parking at Olympic View Middle School parking lot
- 7 Adaptive Signal Control system at 5th St and SR 525
- 8 SR 525 multimodal pedestrian bridge
- 9 Mukilteo Station pedestrian bridge
- 10 Pedestrian improvements at 2nd St and SR 525
- 11 SR 525 sidewalk between 2nd St and 3rd St
- 12 5th St bicycle and pedestrian improvements
- 13 On-demand secure bike lockers
- 14 Old Town bus stops
- 15 New SR 525 bridge over BNSF tracks
- 16 Bus transfer timing improvements



Overview map of potential Mukilteo projects, from Open House materials.

Feedback themes by topic

Nearby parking locations

Sound Transit evaluated three locations for added parking close to the station: near Lighthouse Park, at City of Mukilteo on-street spaces along Park Avenue and First Street, and on land owned by the Tulalip Tribes. Of these three options, the City of Mukilteo location was rated most highly (“important” or “very important” by 80% of respondents), while Lighthouse Park was favored by 65% of respondents and Tulalip only by 40%.

Many comments stated that any new parking should be located near the station so that it's convenient for riders:

“Very important option given that the parking is typically full after the 2nd train and non Muk residents can't park in the vicinity now.”

However, other survey respondents expressed concerns about additional parking or vehicles on the waterfront.

“Bringing more vehicles to the waterfront is not a long-term solution.”

Some expressed concerns about the lack of available spaces at Lighthouse Park, particularly in the summer, while others stated that Tulalip land is not available. (Sound Transit is no longer considering the Tulalip land as an option since the tribe decided not to pursue a parking facility midway through this project.)

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Partnerships for shared parking

Several comments urged Sound Transit to work with other agencies on joint parking arrangements.

“This new station is supposed to be multi-modal so please PARTNER with WS Ferries and Community Transit to provide parking for train, bus, AND ferry users.”

Remote parking

Three remote parking locations were included in the list of potential projects: at Rosehill Community Center, at Paine Field, and at Olympic View Middle School. None of the three were rated highly by survey respondents, with favorable ratings from 44% for Rosehill, 39% for Paine Field, and 26% for Olympic View. Comments on these projects described the locations as too far from the station to be convenient:

“I think it is too far from the station to be worth it.”

“Way too far away to be used.”

However, the remote parking options also received positive comments, generally from people in favor of keeping additional parking away from the waterfront.

“Yes, please provide a new lot away from the beautiful Mukilteo waterfront, with bus connections.”

Pedestrian and bicycle projects

Many comments supported better pedestrian connections to the waterfront, including new bridge options across the BNSF tracks.

“Already an unsafe bridge for all who cross it. Something needs to be done to improve pedestrian and bike access.”

The SR 525 multimodal pedestrian bridge (new stand-alone bridge over the railroad tracks adjacent to the existing SR 525 bridge) was rated favorably by 72% of respondents, while the “New SR 525 bridge over BNSF tracks” (replacing the SR 525 bridge) was rated favorably by 64% of respondents.

Comments on some pedestrian and bike improvement projects were mixed.

“I ride my e-bike every day to the train station and currently I have to go odd routes to dodge the busy 5th Street traffic.”

Bus projects

Many respondents voiced strong support for bus improvements, including both transfer timing and constructing new bus stops in Old Town.

“It would be SO GREAT if I could walk up to the speedway from my house and catch a timely bus down to the train station without adding an hour to my commute.”



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New Mukilteo Projects Under Consideration

Based on feedback from stakeholders, Sound Transit is evaluating seven new potential improvement projects in Mukilteo, described below. Please send any comments or questions about these potential projects to Sound Transit (emsounder@soundtransit.org) by January 10.



A Mukilteo Waterfront Promenade

This project would construct a waterfront walkway from Edgewater Beach Park to an undeveloped City property commonly known as Japanese Gulch Creek Park (which is at the east end of the Washington State Ferries project site).

B Second Street Streetscape Improvements

This project would construct sidewalks with planting strips on Second Street from SR 525 to Loveland Avenue to fill sidewalk gaps and meet the City's current street frontage standard as defined in the City's Downtown Business District Subarea Plan. The project would also include lighting, landscaping, and pedestrian amenities like seating. No additional right-of-way is required and there would be no impacts to on-street parking.

C SR 525 Bicycle Improvements (Fifth Street to 76th Street Southwest)

This project would construct a buffered southbound bicycle lane along SR 525 from 5th Street to 76th Street SW. Due to constraints along SR 525 between 5th Street and Park Avenue, alternative facilities would be constructed Downtown, including: safety improvements at 5th Street / Lincoln Avenue, neighborhood greenway improvements on Lincoln Avenue from 5th Street to 3rd Street, and widening the sidewalk in Totem Park to connect to 2nd Street.

D SR 525 Bicycle Improvements (76th Street Southwest to 92nd Street Southwest)

This project would construct buffered northbound and southbound bicycle lanes along SR 525 from 76th Street Southwest to 92nd Street Southwest to connect to the North Fork Trailhead. This would require widening of SR 525 and reconstruction of the existing sidewalks.

E Remote Parking at Saint John Mission Church

This project would explore options to lease about 50 spaces from Saint John Mission Church, which is located about a half-mile walk from the station.

F Parking Improvements near Mukilteo Station

Sound Transit would work with property owners near the station to provide parking at a proposed privately-funded parking structure where the current ferry holding lanes are located.

G Pick-Up/Drop-Off Enhancements

This project would evaluate the operations of the new pick-up/drop-off area for the Sounder Station, currently under construction as part of the Washington State Ferries project to reconstruct the Mukilteo Ferry terminal and identify any additional pick-up/drop-off options needed and feasible near the station.

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Other Feedback Themes

Comment themes outside the scope of this project included:

Desire for more trains

“I believe that more trains, both ways, morning and evening would have the biggest positive effect on ridership.”

Concerns with permit parking

“I fully disagree with the additional paid permit parking at the Edmonds station. For me to pay for parking on top of my commuter fees would make it not financially feasible to continue with public transportation and put a burden on my monthly budget.”

See our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for more information on these topics.

Next Steps

Sound Transit will consider this community feedback and share it with City Councilmembers and Sound Transit Board members to help determine which projects will advance to environmental review and conceptual design. This feedback will be considered alongside the technical analysis related to ridership, environmental impacts, and access improvements. Action by the Sound Transit Board to advance a set of projects to the next phase is planned for March. After conceptual design and environmental review is complete, the Sound Transit Board will select the project to be built for each station, which in this case is a number of specific parking and access improvements.



To stay informed:

- ▶ Contact Melanie Mayock, Community Outreach Specialist: melanie.mayock@soundtransit.org or 206-689-4877
- ▶ Visit the project website: soundtransit.org/edmonds-mukilteo
- ▶ Sign-up for project updates by email: soundtransit.org/subscribe

