



Everett Link Extension

Community Guide to Scoping

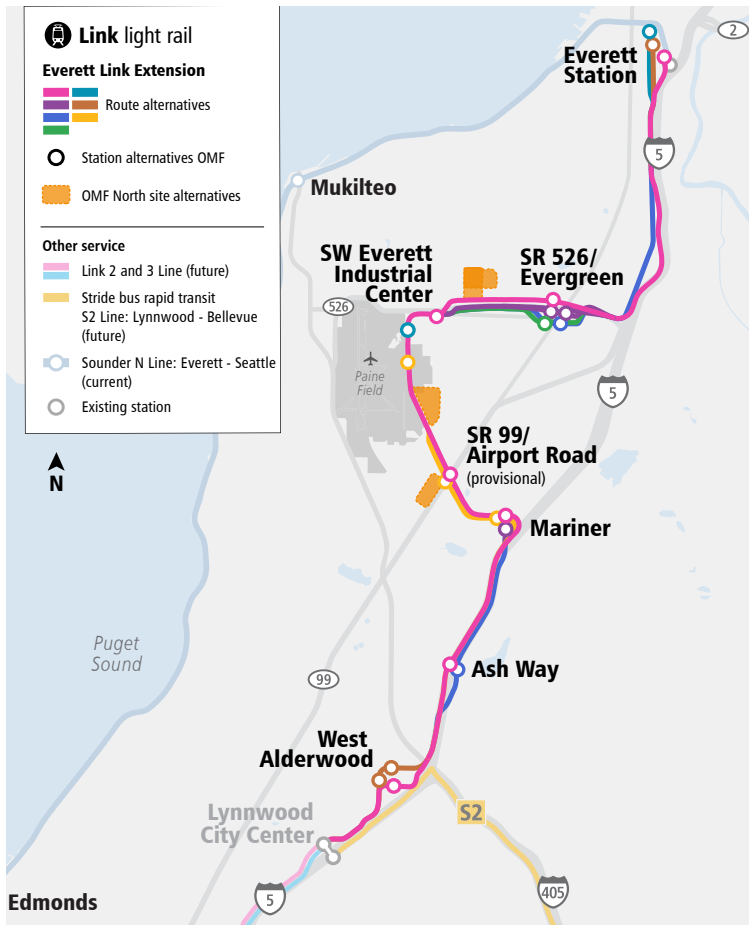
Scoping provides an opportunity to learn about and comment on the Everett Link Extension project in anticipation of the environmental impact statement (EIS) process. During this time, Sound Transit is seeking input from the public, Tribes and agencies. Scoping is occurring in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). Sound Transit is the lead agency under SEPA. Input on alternatives to study in the EIS and the content of the analysis is welcome.

Based on feedback gathered through the alternatives development process and the scoping comment period, the Sound Transit Board will identify alternatives to study in the EIS including a preferred alternative for the route and stations. The alternatives that Sound Transit will study in the Draft EIS will undergo detailed analysis, with future opportunities for public comment. The EIS process will likely take about five years to complete.

Draft purpose and need statement

The purpose of the Everett Link Extension is to expand the Link light rail system from the Lynnwood City Center Link Station to the Everett Station area and provide an operations and maintenance facility in order to:

- Provide high quality, rapid, reliable, accessible and efficient light rail transit service to communities in the project corridor as defined through the local planning process and reflected in the ST3 Plan.
- Improve regional mobility by increasing connectivity and capacity in the Everett Link Extension corridor from the Lynnwood Transit Center to the Everett Station area to meet projected transit demand.
- Connect regional centers as described in adopted regional and local land use, transportation and economic development plans and Sound Transit's Regional Transit Long-Range Plan.
- Implement a system that is technically and financially feasible to build, operate and maintain.
- Expand mobility for the corridor and region's residents, including explicit consideration for transit-dependent, low-income and minority populations.
- Encourage equitable and sustainable growth in station areas through support of transit-oriented development and multimodal integration in a manner that is consistent with local land use plans and policies, including Sound Transit's Equitable Transit Oriented Development Policy and Sustainability Plan.
- Encourage convenient, safe and equitable non-motorized access to stations, such as bicycle and pedestrian connections, consistent with Sound Transit's System Access Policy and Equity and Inclusion Policy.
- Preserve and promote a healthy environment and economy by minimizing adverse impacts on the natural, built and social environments through sustainable and equitable practices.
- Provide an operations and maintenance facility with the capacity to receive, test, commission, store, maintain and deploy vehicles to support the intended level of service for system-wide light rail system expansion.
- Develop an operations and maintenance facility that supports efficient and reliable light rail service and minimizes system operating costs.



Scoping comments will be accepted through March 10

- Provide input on route, station, and operations and maintenance facility site alternatives we should keep studying.
- Provide input on areas of the natural and built environment to evaluate in the Draft EIS.
- Provide input on the Purpose and Need Statement.
- Please note that scoping comments are public record. If you provide personal information, it may be publicly available or published in future project documents.

How to submit your feedback

- Online at everettlink.participate.online
- At a virtual public meeting
Tuesday, Feb. 7, 5:30–7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, March 1, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

Information at: everettlink.participate.online

- In person, at a public meeting:
Wednesday, Feb. 15, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
 Cascade High School cafeteria
 801 E. Casino Rd. Everett, WA 98203
- By email everettlinkcomments@soundtransit.org
- Leave a voicemail at **425-492-7218**
- Send a letter to Everett Link Extension
 Kathy Fendt
 Sound Transit
 401 S. Jackson St.
 Seattle, WA 98104

The project is needed because

- Chronic roadway congestion on Interstate 5 and State Route 99 — two primary highways connecting communities along the corridor — delays today's travelers, including those using transit, and degrades the reliability of bus service traversing the corridor, particularly during commute periods.
- These chronic, degraded conditions are expected to continue to worsen as the region's population and employment grow.
- Puget Sound Regional Council (the regional metropolitan planning organization) and local plans call for high-capacity transit in the corridor consistent with Puget Sound Regional Council's VISION 2050 and Sound Transit's Regional Transit Long-Range Plan.
- Snohomish County residents and communities, including transit-dependent residents and low-income or minority populations, need long-term regional mobility and multimodal connectivity, as called for in the Washington State Growth Management Act.
- Regional and local plans call for increased residential and/or employment density at and around high-capacity stations and increased options for multi-modal access.
- Environmental and sustainability goals of the state and region, as established in Washington state law and embodied in Puget Sound Regional Council's VISION 2050 and Regional Transportation Plan, include reducing greenhouse gas emissions by prioritizing transportation investments that decrease the vehicle miles traveled.
- The current regional system lacks an operations and maintenance facility with sufficient capacity and suitable location to support the efficient and reliable long-term operations for system wide light rail expansion, including the next phase of light rail expansion in Snohomish and King Counties.
- New light rail maintenance and storage capacity needs to be available with sufficient time to accept delivery of and commission new vehicles to meet fleet expansion needs and to store existing vehicles while the new vehicles are tested and prepared.



Interpreter 800-823-9230

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