Federal Way Link Extension

Project Overview

Light rail is coming to South King County in 2024

Welcome to the Federal Way Link Extension (FWLE) online open house. We want to hear from you!

Light rail in South King County is coming closer to nearby. Before long, you'll see construction crews and equipment as Sound Transit builds the Federal Way Extension. The project is spring 2024.

This online open house and the upcoming in-person open houses offer you the opportunity to:

- Provide input on station names.
- Learn more about the construction.
- View conceptual images of stations.
- Ask questions and comment on topics.
- Understand how public feedback is incorporated.

Join us for an in-person open house

Wednesday, Nov. 13 | 4-6 p.m. Highline College | 2400 S. 240th St., Building 6, Des Moines, WA 98198

King County Metro RapidRide A Line as well as routes including 177 and 166 will take you to Highline College. Parking is available in the East and North parking lots. For directions, see this map.

Wednesday, Nov. 20 | 6-8 p.m. Federal Way Performing Arts Center | 31030 Pacific Hwy South/Mason Way S., Federal Way, WA 98003

The Federal Way Performing Arts and Events Center (PAEC) is located next to the Federal Way Transit Center where you can connect to Metro and Sound Transit buses. Parking is free and accessible at the PAEC. Get lost in the downtown.

Project staff will deliver a short presentation at 6:30 p.m. at both meetings.

The online open house covers much of the material you will see at the in-person open houses.

To plan your trip to these events, visit soundtransit.org/events or parcelandrail.org/events-transit-routes.

To request accommodations for persons with disabilities, including information in alternate formats, call 1-888-201-4845 / TTY Relay: 711 or email accessibility@soundtransit.org. To request a translator or interpreter, call 1-800-823-9230.

Sound Transit supports art at Link stations

Sound Transit's Sounder and Link stations are a vibrant place to connect and enhance the rider experience in the Federal Way Link Extension. The artists work selected by a panel of Sound Transit staff, community members and artists will be part of the infrastructure. Meet Ex-, will design and build FWLE's seven stations.

In addition to creating permanent installations, the Sound Transit Art Program (STart) is working with artists to develop temporary and pop-up programs to feature artistic expression in the community during construction.

Carina A. Del Rosario is the Sound Transit Art Program Manager. Carina is background in urban planning to her work collaborating with the community to develop temporary art opportunities along the entire FWLE during construction.

Carina A. Del Rosario will work with education leaders, community, engineering, art and staff (STB) consultants focused on the FWLE service area. Carina's goal is to integrate art into the design and construction process, engineering, the arts and mathematics as access points for guiding student discovery, dialogue and critical thinking. Carina is the founder of Orbit Dialpad, a collective of artists of color.

Sound Transit wants your input on proposed station names.

Click here.

Project Background

Growing transit options for a growing South Sound

Sound Transit's Federal Way Link Extension adds nearly eight miles and three new stations to the region's light rail system. The extension is part of Sound Transit's plan to build regional infrastructure fifteen (i.e., will design and build FWLE, plans exclusive Sound Transit).

Construction will begin in 2020. Riders will enjoy easy connections to Huntington, Bellevue and beyond when service begins in 2024.

Federal Way Link Extension facts

Opens 2024

Length
7.8 miles, three stations

Service
Every six to eight minutes in peak hours

Projected travel times
Federal Way Transit Center to Sea-Tac Airport: 15 minutes
Federal Way Downtown to Downtown Seattle: 41 minutes

Projected ridership
20,000-34,000 daily riders by 2030

New stations to include:

- Landscaped streets that will increase access to the stations.
- Bicycle lockers.
- Links to local pedestrian walkways for easy walking access.
- Bus connections.
- Parking garages.
- Kiss-and-ride and pick-up areas.
- Canopies that feature a Northwest Modern design and reflect the public's priorities, including glass that brings in natural daylight and does not impede the private passenger.
- Interior and exterior conceptual artwork inspired by the station area's history, surrounding environment and cultural influences.

Kent Station Link Light Rail Station
Sounder Commuter Rail
Sound Transit Express
Metro Bus
Pierce County Ride
Kent Station Parking Garage
Kent Station Transit Center
Kent Station Park & Ride
Kent Station Kiss & Ride
Kent Station Bicycle Locker
Kent Station Bicycle Shelter
Kent Station Bicycle Repair
Kent Station Bicycle Rental
Kent Station Bicycle Wash
Kent Station Bicycle Lockers

Other

What are you most excited about once the light rail is operational?

What are you most concerned about once the light rail is operational?

What are you most concerned about during construction?

How do you think you will use the Federal Way Link Extension?
Know that there will be bus and rail service at all stations. Please select all that apply.

- Commute to or from work
- Commute to or from school
- Noncommute work-related travel
- Travel to or from Sea-Tac Airport
- Recreational activities
- Errands/shopping
- Visit family or friends
- Medical needs
- Other (please specify)

Share

About the station naming policy and process

Sound Transit's facilities, including our stations, are the connection between our services and the communities we serve. It is important that Sound Transit station names represent neighborhoods and destinations.

Sound Transit goes through three phases when naming stations.

First, we go through an internal process to identify and evaluate potential names based on the following criteria. We completed the process for this project earlier this year. Names must:

- Reflect the nature of the environment: neighborhoods, street names, landmarks and geographical locations.
- Be brief and easy to read and remember.
- Comply with federal Americans with Disabilities Act guidelines and requirements.
- Be no more than 30 characters long.
- Avoid commercial references.
- Avoid names or words similar to existing Sound Transit station names. (E.g. Kent Station).

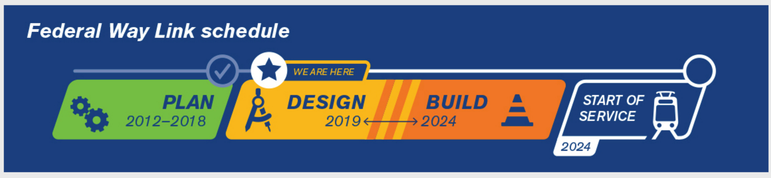
Second, we collect input from the public. We go to the public for input on potential names early in the design phase. This is where you weigh in!

Third, and finally, the Sound Transit Board considers the public input and makes the final decision about station names.

We anticipate the board will make a decision on station names in 2020. Be sure you are signed up for our newsletter to stay on top of the latest project developments.

Click here to weigh in on station names.

What's next?



Soon we will begin pre-construction work along the FWLE corridor. This includes relocating utilities and demolishing buildings and other structures along the route.

Sound Transit works with members of the public during construction. Learn more about our Good Neighbor commitment.

More opportunities to weigh in on transit in South Sound

Sound Transit is working to extend light rail to Tacoma.

The Tacoma Dome Link Extension (TDLE) will extend the regional light rail system nearly 10 miles between Federal Way and Tacoma, scheduled to open in 2030. This project includes four new light rail stations in south Federal Way, Fife, east Tacoma and the Tacoma Dome area.

We are also studying three sites for the Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF) that will be located in South King County, scheduled to open in 2026. The OMF South facility is critical to keeping the growing light rail system running. It will provide approximately 300 living wage jobs in South King County. Visit this site to learn more about these projects and participate in the online open house for TDLE and the OMF South.

Our commitment to the community

Sound Transit's Community Outreach mission is to represent Sound Transit interests in the community, and the community's interests in Sound Transit.

During construction, it is our job to keep community members informed of construction activities and project progress.

We are your point of contact for Sound Transit projects. We will continue to host neighborhood briefings and events through construction. You can request a briefing for your neighborhood, group or business by contacting:

Jefferson Rose
Community Outreach Specialist
(206) 370-5568
Email: fwle@soundtransit.org

Good neighbor commitments:

- Provide advanced notification of work activities.
- Maintain business and residential access.
- Maintain a clean work site.
- Minimize noise, dust and debris.
- Provide wayfinding signage.
- Maintain a 24-hour construction hotline 1-888-298-2395.

TO TOP

General questions? Contact Us

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Project Website

SOUNDTRANSIT

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