



Kent Station

Parking and Access Improvements



About the project

Sound Transit is improving access to Kent Station for drivers, bus riders, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

We are planning a new parking garage at East James Street and Railroad Avenue North and a new surface parking lot at Railroad Avenue and Smith Street. (See map on back.) Together, these facilities will add over 400 new parking stalls at the station.

The project design has changed since outreach to the community in 2018-2022. Rather than realign Railroad Avenue to make room for the new garage, we will build a narrower, four-level structure.

Bus layover facility

Sound Transit is also building a new bus layover space for King County Metro along Railroad Avenue North, east of the new garage where a passenger parking lot is now. The facility will have space for 10 or more buses, infrastructure for zero-emission charging, and a rest area for bus drivers. The facility will allow for King County Metro to provide additional transit service in the City of Kent and South King County by providing places for buses to park between trips.

Bicycle and pedestrian access

Sound Transit has added 14 new smart bicycle lockers (reservable by the hour) at Kent Station and funded pedestrian crossing improvements at 2nd Avenue North and James Street, constructed by the City of Kent in 2021. The improvements include a crosswalk, raised median, flashing beacon, and ramps.

Artwork

Artist RYAN! Feddersen will be creating an integrated artwork for the new garage. Feddersen, based in Tacoma and an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, specializes in creating compelling site-specific installations and public artworks that invite people to consider our relationships to history, culture, the land, and our non-human-kin.

About Sounder

The Sounder train travels between Lakewood and downtown Seattle each weekday, providing reliable and convenient connections to Kent and eight other stations along the route.



To learn more and subscribe to email updates:
soundtransit.org/kent-station-access



Current activities

In 2019, Sound Transit completed conceptual design and environmental analysis. However, we paused work on this project in 2020 due to financial uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and restarted in late 2021. In spring 2022, we gathered community input about the garage visual design to incorporate into the final designs.

The Sound Transit Board of Directors approved awarding the final design and construction contract to Absher Construction of Puyallup in October 2023. We expect construction to start in late 2024 and to open the garage in 2027.

Learn more about the project:

soundtransit.org/kent-station-access

Questions?

Contact the Community Engagement team

kentgarage@soundtransit.org or

206-398-5300

Follow us:   



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Passenger Care

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