



December 2023

Planning King Street Station pedestrian connections for Sounder passengers

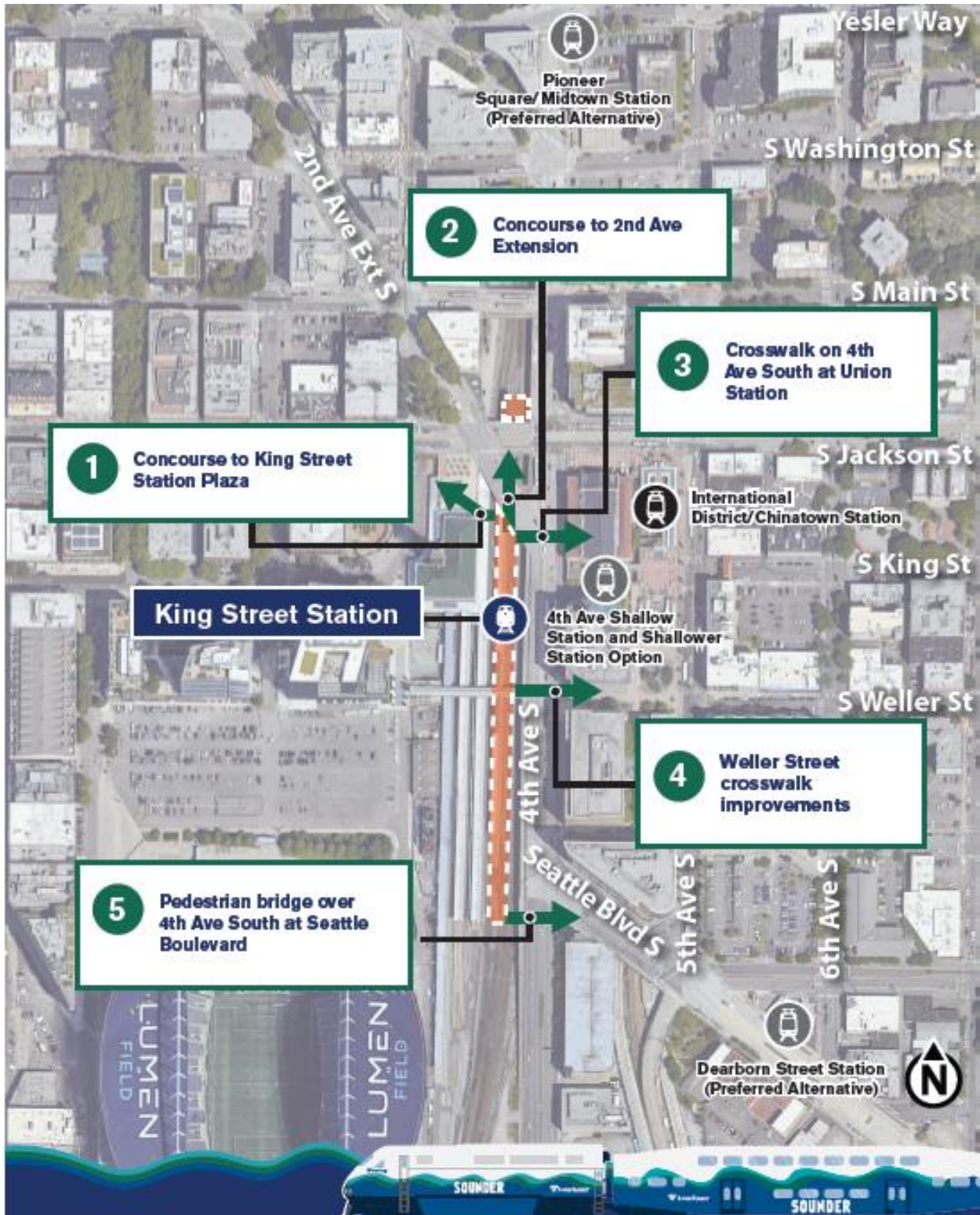
What's the latest?

The project is still in the planning and early design phase. This year, we've been doing more architectural, engineering, environmental, and design work to better define the concepts we identified last year (see below). A major part of our current work is exploring potential **points of pedestrian connection** from the surrounding streets to the new concourse level at King Street Station.

Here are the potential pedestrian connections we're studying (see map next page):

1. **Concourse to King Street Station Plaza** — Walkway from the concourse to provide an access point to the north or west.
2. **Concourse to 2nd Ave Extension** — Walkway from the concourse to provide an access point on 2nd Ave Extension to the 4th Ave South and Jackson Street intersection.
3. **Crosswalk on 4th Ave South at Union Station** — Crosswalk on 4th Ave South closer to Union Station and the International District/Chinatown Station; may connect to walkway from the concourse to 4th Ave South.
4. **Weller Street crosswalk improvements** — Improvements to the existing crossing of 4th Ave South, such as extending the curbs (for a shorter crossing distance) and adjusting traffic signal timing.
5. **Pedestrian bridge over 4th Ave South at Seattle Boulevard** — This would potentially connect to the new bridge over the tracks (see project overview below) from the longer platform and provide an access point to the east.

King Street Station Platform Area Improvements



These potential connections are preliminary and subject to change. We will have more detailed information to share next year.

What to expect in 2024

We will continue design and engineering work and identify potential environmental effects of these connections — for example, effects on visual or historic resources and traffic configurations. These efforts will help us determine which pedestrian connections are feasible.

Additionally, Sound Transit is updating the Strategic Plan for Sounder South, considering whether to prioritize potential new trips before longer trains and platforms. (See the Strategic Plan outreach content [here](#).) We anticipate the Sound Transit Board will take action on this in spring of 2024. If longer platforms for 10-car trains are deprioritized, we still plan to extend the King Street Station platform to the south to allow for another entrance/exit point.

Connections to other projects

In March 2023, the Sound Transit Board identified a Station North of CID (Pioneer Square/Midtown Station) and a Station South of CID (Dearborn Street Station) as the preferred alternative for the Ballard Link Extension in the Chinatown-International District. The Board also directed further study of the CID 4th Ave Shallower Alternative as part of the environmental review process. A new BLE Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is expected to be completed in late 2024 and a final EIS in early 2026. The ST Board will then select the project to be built.

In addition, the [Ballard Link Extension](#) team and the City of Seattle are working on a South Downtown Hub planning effort to improve accessibility through the Chinatown-International District and Pioneer Square neighborhoods and to nearby transit stations and transfer points.

We will continue coordinating with the Ballard Link Extension team and the City of Seattle about how plans for this area will come together. If needed, we will adjust our plans for King Street Station pedestrian connections. Learn more about BLE or the South Downtown Hub by viewing materials from the [November 15 community workshop](#).

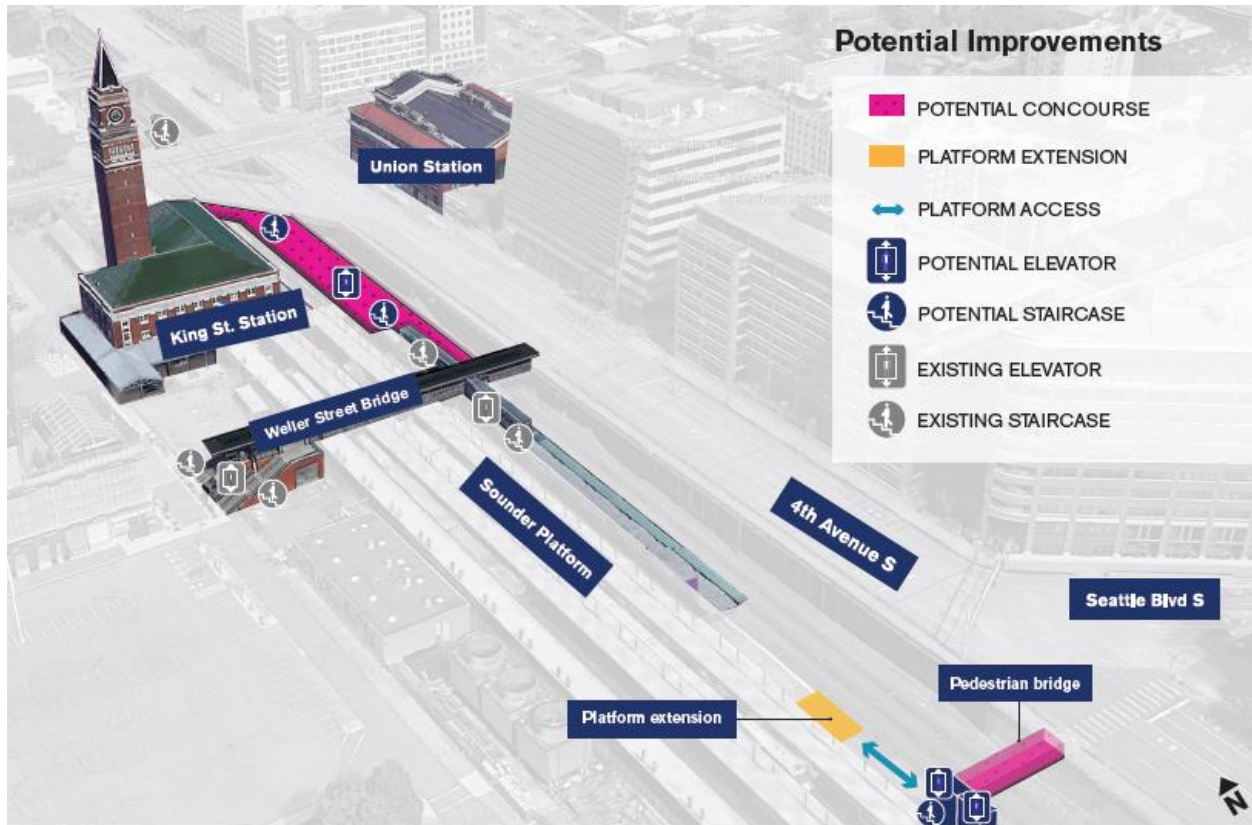
Project overview

In 2022, we shared information about potential improvements to King Street Station along with a survey that requested feedback on three key elements:

- **More stairs and elevators** — This will make it easier to get to and from the platform, help reduce crowding, and improve accessibility and overall rider experience.
 - Add one elevator and two staircases north of Weller Bridge.
 - Add two elevators and a staircase at a new south entrance /exit with a pedestrian bridge over the tracks connecting to 4th Ave South. (We are also studying a potential bridge over 4th Ave South — see the potential pedestrian connections on above map).
- **Concourse** — A potential new upper level of the station will be constructed directly above the Sounder platform to provide access for the new staircases and elevators.
- **Longer platform** — Extending the Sounder platform to the south will allow the addition of another entrance/exit to the platform and serve longer trains and more riders in the future.

King Street Station Platform Area Improvements

The feedback we received from riders and the public was generally favorable to all concepts. Read the [engagement summary](#) for more details.



These are the potential improvements introduced last year. We are continuing to study these improvements and tackling additional work in the planning and early design phase of the project.

Stay tuned for more information about King Street Station in 2024! In the meantime, feel free to reach out to us with questions:

- **Email:** melanie.mayock@soundtransit.org
- **Call:** 206-689-4877