

# **North Corridor Transit Project**

*Extending mass transit from Northgate to Lynnwood*

Sound Transit Board of Directors

December 15, 2011

## 2010 - 2011: Alternatives Analysis

Develop, evaluate & narrow alternatives

**Public comment:**  
Early public scoping  
(Oct. 2010)

**Public comment:**  
Environmental scoping on  
narrowed alternatives  
(Oct. 2011)

ST Board identifies  
Environmental Impact  
Statement (EIS) alternatives

We are here

## 2012 - 2014: Environmental Review & Preliminary Engineering

ST identifies  
preferred  
alternative

Prepare draft EIS

**Issue draft EIS for  
public comment**

FTA grants permission  
to begin preliminary  
engineering

Prepare preliminary  
engineering & final EIS

Issue final EIS and  
ST selects project  
to be built &  
operated

FTA issues record of  
decision (ROD) and  
grants permission to  
begin final design

## 2015 - 2017: Final Design & Permitting

Obtain permits &  
acquire rights-of-way

Apply for FTA grant

Secure FTA grant

## 2017 - 2023: Construction & Service Startup

Test systems & service

Build project

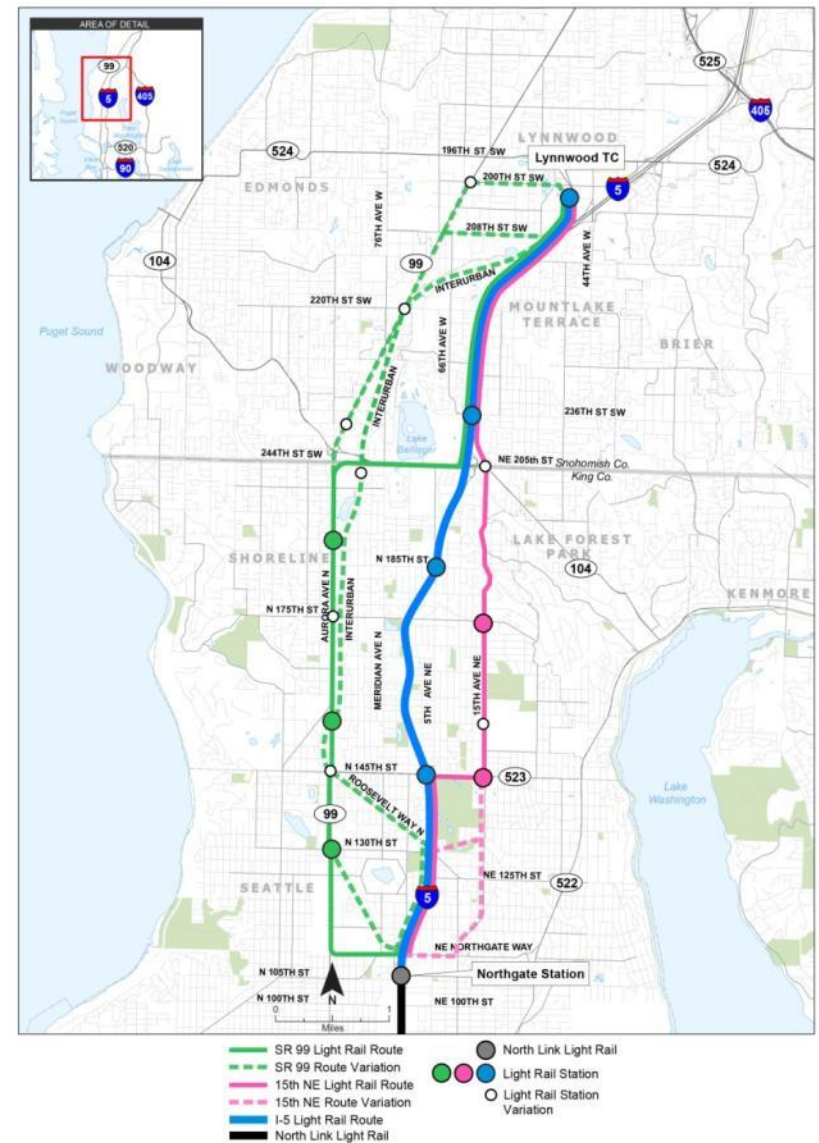
**2023: Target  
Start of Service**

FTA: Federal Transit Administration  
ST: Sound Transit

# North Corridor Project schedule



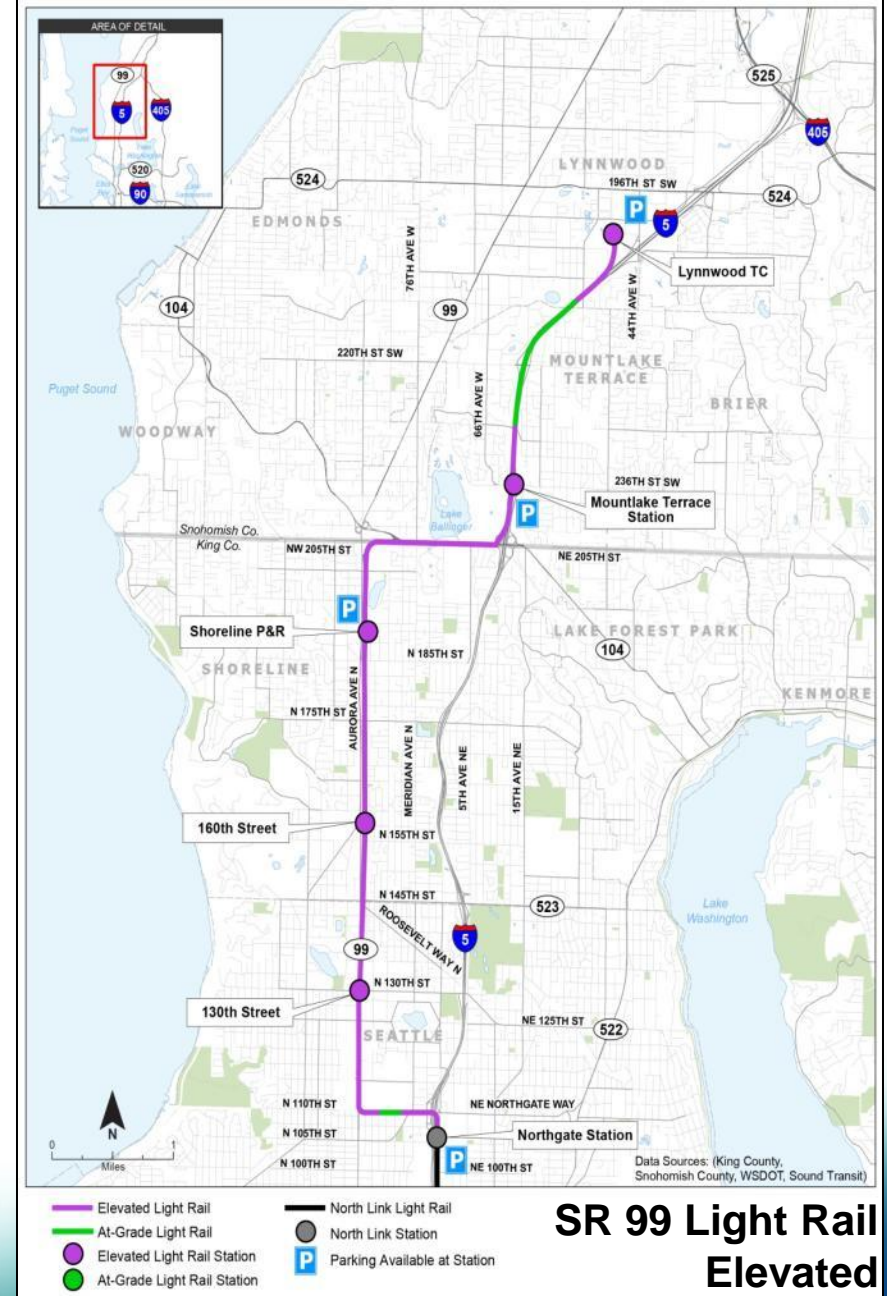
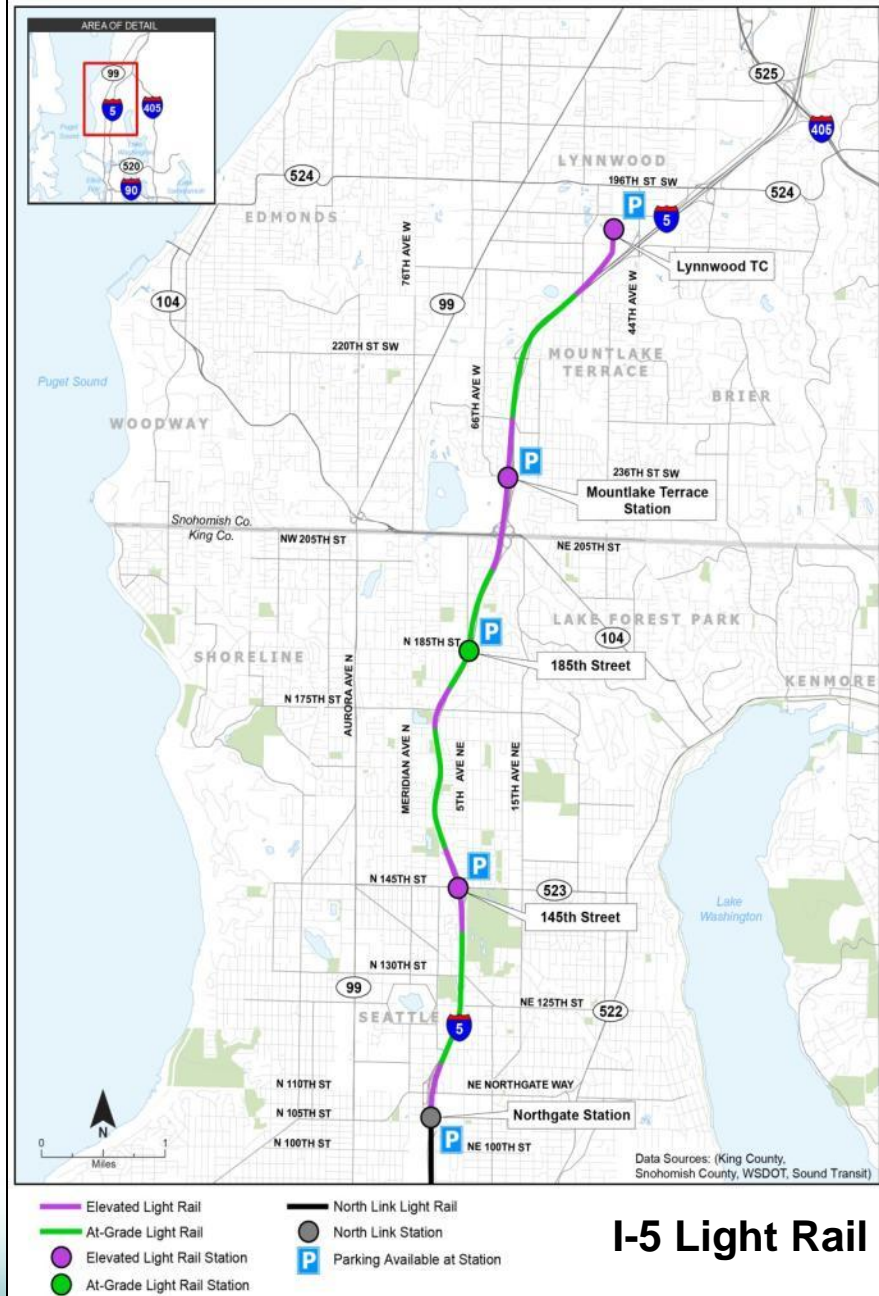
**Bus Rapid Transit**



**Light Rail**

# Initial alternatives





# Best performing alternatives

# SR 99 v. I-5 Light Rail: Performance

Measure	SR 99 Elevated LRT	I-5 At-Grade/Elevated LRT
Length / stations / vehicles	10.2 miles / 5 / 42	8.5 miles / 4 / 32
Frequency	4/10 minutes peak/off-peak	4/10 minutes peak/off-peak
Travel time: Lynnwood-Northgate	18 minutes	14 minutes
2030 daily riders	48,000 per day	52,000 per day
2030 new riders / hrs saved	3.9 M / 3.8 M per year	4.5 / 4.6 M per year
TOD & economic development potential	<i>Stronger along the line Weaker for V2040 centers</i>	<i>Weaker along the line Stronger for V2040 centers</i>
Property impacts	<i>High commercial Low residential</i>	<i>Low commercial Moderate residential</i>
Traffic impacts	<i>Minor impacts</i>	<i>Minor improvements</i>
Construction impacts	<i>Moderate; long duration</i>	<i>Low-moderate; long duration</i>
Environmental impacts	<i>Moderate (e.g. noise, visual)</i>	<i>Moderate (e.g. wetlands)</i>

# SR 99 v. I-5 Light Rail: Costs

Measure	SR 99 Elevated LRT (mid-2010\$)	I-5 At-Grade/Elevated LRT (mid-2010\$)
Capital cost	\$2,010 - \$2,310 M	\$1,420 - \$1,640 M
Difference v. I-5 LRT	\$590 - \$670 M	---
Difference v. ST financial plan*	\$470M over to \$770 M over	\$120 M under to \$100 M over
Cost per new passenger in 2030	\$41 - \$46	\$25-\$29

\* 2011 TIP estimate funded in ST financial plan = \$1,540 M (mid-2010\$)

# Environmental scoping

- Shared Alternatives Analysis results
- Scoping period 9/30 – 10/31
- 3 public meetings: North Seattle, Shoreline, Lynnwood
  - Mailer to 100,000+ households; website; ads
  - Over 240 participants
- 1 agency scoping meeting – 13 agencies
- Online “Tech Talk” forum – 50+ participants
- 69 written comments submitted by individuals
- 16 letters from agencies; 5 from organizations

# What we heard about alternatives

- Strong preference for light rail over bus
- Strong support for more work on I-5 light rail alternatives:
  - Seattle, Shoreline, Mountlake Terrace, Edmonds, Lynnwood, Everett
  - Community Transit
  - Shoreline Chamber, Snohomish County Tomorrow, SCCIT, Economic Development Alliance, Aurora Merchants
  - Over 1/3 of individuals who commented on alternatives
- Limited support for and some opposition to more work on SR 99 alternatives



# What we heard about issues

- I-5: noise, traffic, wetlands, parks, visual impacts
- SR 99: business, construction, cost impacts and lower performance
- Adequate parking supply
- Growth pressures around stations
- Make TOD and environmental benefit key purposes of the system
- Maintain flexibility for future I-5 road improvements

# Next steps

- Board narrows range of alternatives to consider in the Draft EIS, approves Phase Gate 2 and amends consultant contract to add DEIS work – December
- Refine, screen and vet DEIS alternatives – Early 2012
- Board identifies alternatives to advance – Spring 2012
- Prepare DEIS – 2012
- Publish DEIS and Board identifies alternative to advance to PE – 2013