

East Link Light Rail
Downtown Bellevue Workshop
November 18, 2009

Welcome!

Agenda

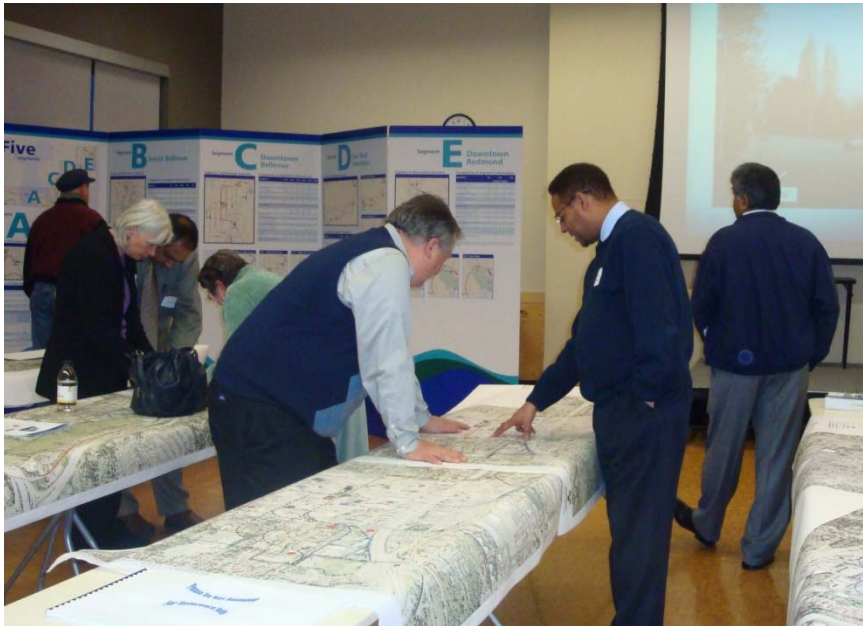
- Opening Presentation - 5:00 p.m.
 - I. Meeting Purpose (Katie Kuciemba)
 - II. Project Status Update (Don Billen)
 - III. East Link Preferred Alternative (Don Billen)
 - IV. Key Features for Downtown Bellevue (Sue Comis)
 - V. Workshop Format Overview (Katie Kuciemba)
- Workshop - 5:30 p.m.
- Adjourn - 7:00 p.m.

Meeting Purpose

- Learn about the East Link light rail system
- Talk to project staff
- Help us make East Link light rail the best it can be
- Provide specific feedback to inform the preliminary design of the project
- Review upcoming public involvement opportunities & next steps
- Submit comments and sign up for electronic updates

Project Status Update

Arriving at the Preferred Alternative



Mercer Island Open House

- Sound Transit published the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on December 12, 2008
- Hosted five public hearings in Seattle, Mercer Island, Bellevue and Redmond
- Preferred alternative identified by Sound Transit Board of Directors in May 2009

What's happening with East Link?

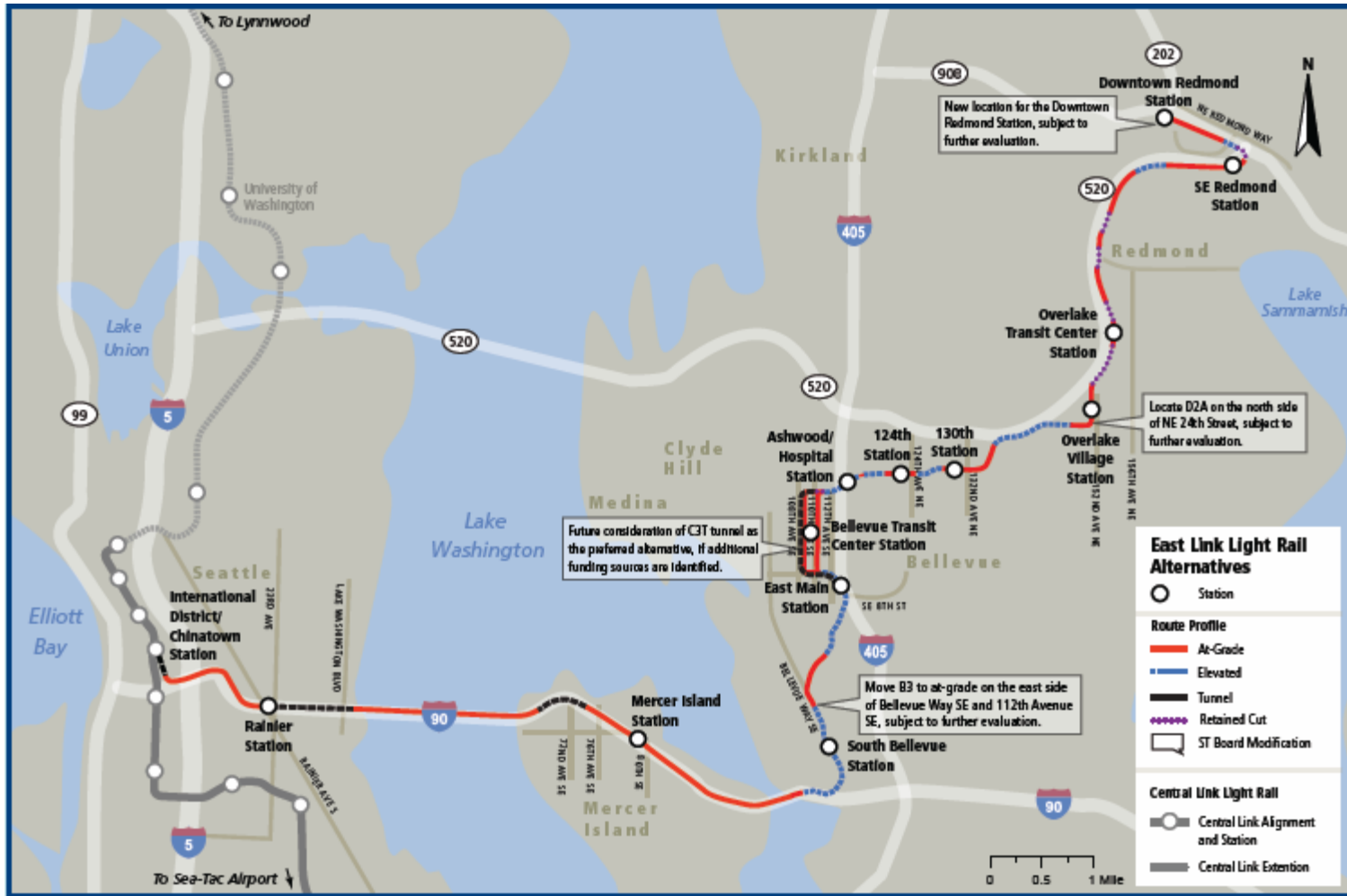


- Designing the East Link preferred alternative, including modifications recommended by the Sound Transit Board.
 - Preliminary engineering phase
- Collecting survey/geotechnical information
- Review timeline for Supplemental Draft EIS
- Preparing information for the Final EIS

East Link Timeline

- **2009-2010** – Preliminary Engineering
- **Mid-2010** – Supplemental Draft EIS published & public hearing/comment period
- **Fall 2010** - Final EIS published
- **Fall 2010** – Final Project Decision by Board
- **2011-2013** – Final Design
- **2013/2014** – Construction begins
- **2020/2021**- Service begins

East Link Preferred Alternative



Seattle & Mercer Island



- Light rail will run on the existing I-90 center roadway
- Stations: Rainier Avenue in Seattle and Mercer Island
- New HOV lanes will be constructed on the I-90 outer roadways

South Bellevue



- Trains will run from I-90 north along Bellevue Way SE and 112th Ave. SE
 - Subject to further evaluation, the route will be on the east side of Bellevue Way and 112th Ave. SE
- South Bellevue Station with 1400 spaces and Park-and-Ride

Bel-Red/Overlake Corridor



- Trains will serve the Bel-Red corridor, Overlake Village and Microsoft's campus
- 3 – 4 stations
- Alignment shifts to north side of NE 24th Street

Redmond



- Funding has not been approved for construction, however preliminary design and environmental study is funded
- Future route along State Route 520 and northern edge of Marymoor Park
- Stations: SE Redmond and terminal station near Redmond Town Center is under evaluation
- 1400 space Park-and-Ride

Key Features for Downtown Bellevue

C4A – Preferred Alternative



At-grade couplet with trains running south along 108th Ave. NE and north along 110th Ave. NE, turning east north of NE 12th St.

- Auto traffic will run one way in the opposite direction.
- Three stations: East Main, Bellevue Transit Center, Ashwood/Hospital Station
- Traffic Analysis Peer Review

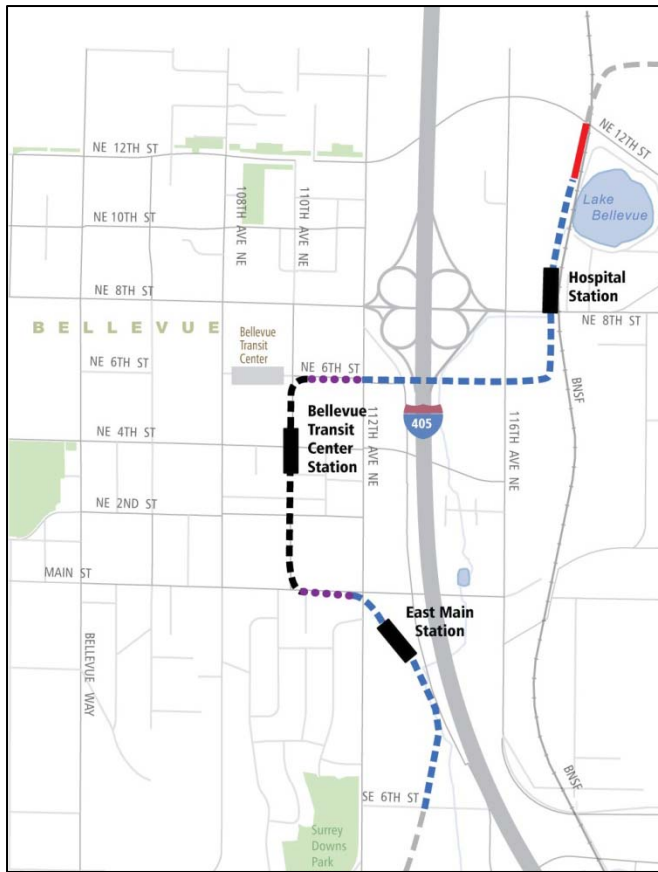
C3T – 108th Tunnel to NE 12th



A bored tunnel along 108th Ave. NE, turning east north of NE 12th Street.

- Ashwood/Hospital Station
- The Sound Transit Board will consider a tunnel if additional funding is found
- City of Bellevue to report potential value of additional tunnel funding sources on December 10th

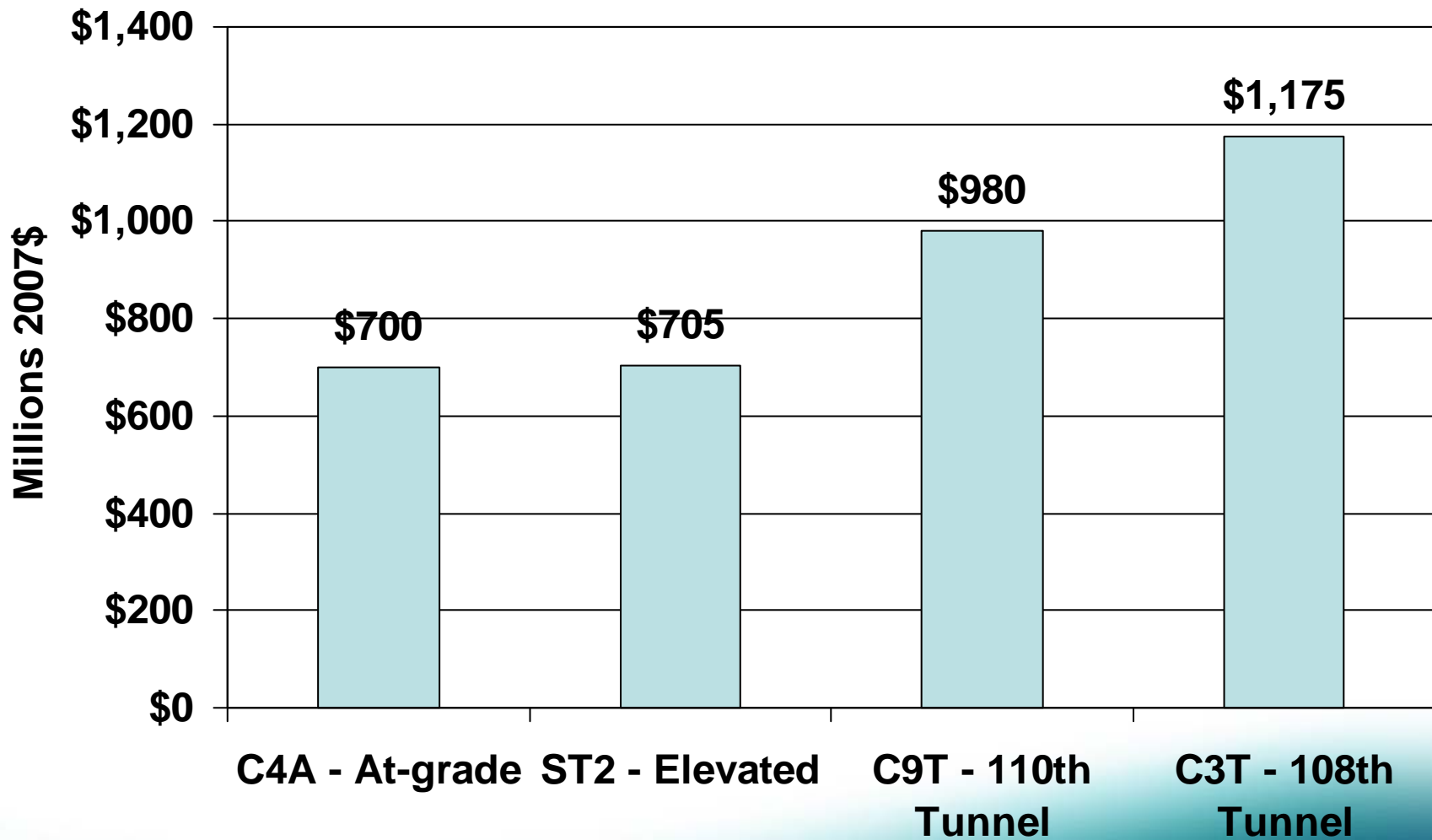
C9T- 110th Tunnel Alternative



A cut-and-cover tunnel along 110th Ave. NE turning east along NE 6th St. with an elevated alignment over I-405 (Hospital Station at NE 8th)

- Presented to Sound Transit Board
- \$980 million (2007\$) as proposed
 - Would add ~\$30 million to start tunnel at East Main Station

Cost of Downtown Bellevue Alternatives



Outside Expert Review

At-Grade Peer Review

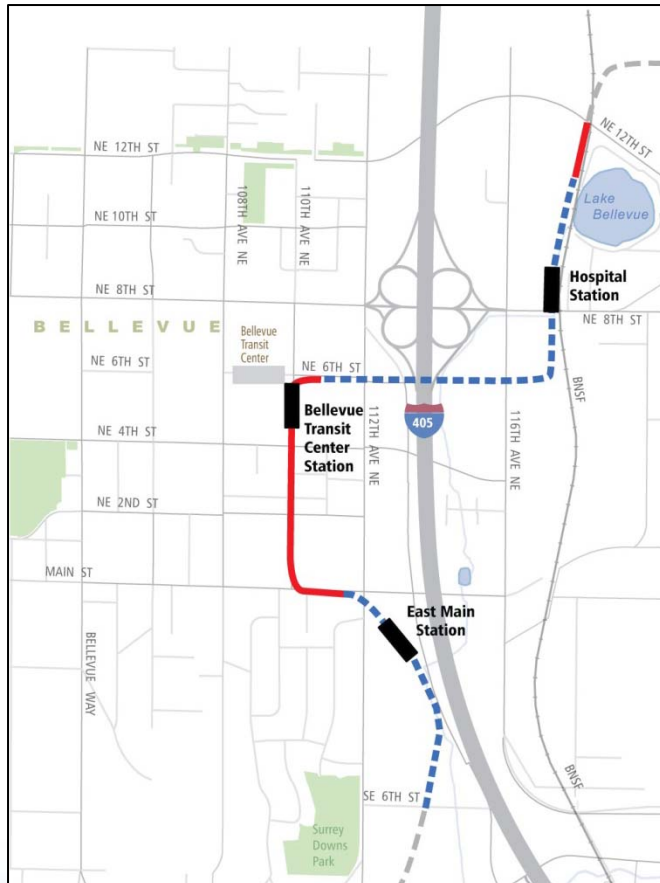
- Panel jointly selected by Sound Transit and City of Bellevue (met in mid-October)
- Detailed review of design and modeling assumptions
- Panel will meet again in January to review updated modeling

Value Analysis Workshop

- Presented with all at-grade, elevated, and tunnel alternatives reviewed with Board (met in late-October)
- Included City of Bellevue and WSDOT participation

Both groups suggested a hybrid at-grade alternative

Potential New At-Grade Alternatives

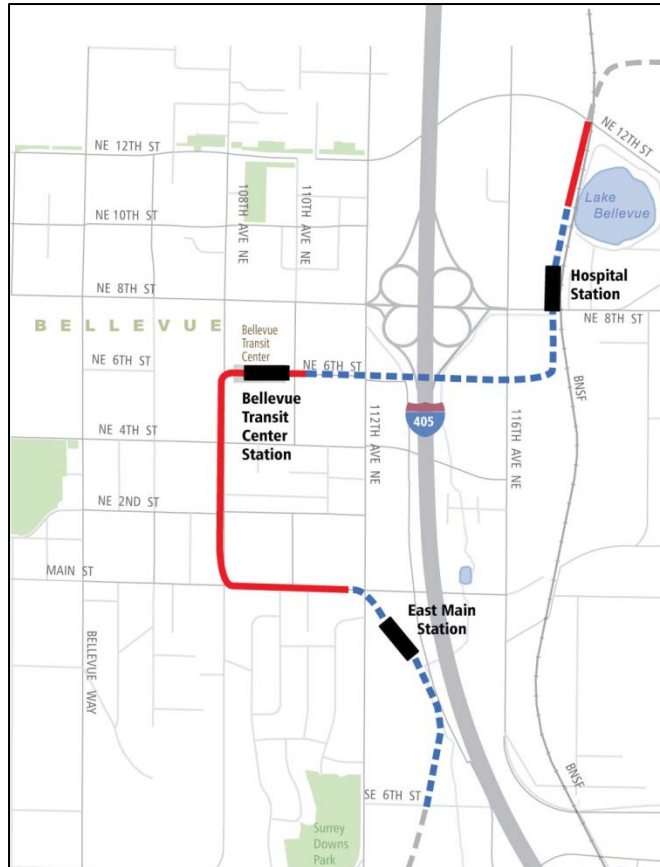


C9A:

An at-grade alignment running along 110th Ave. NE, turning east along NE 6th St with an elevated alignment over 405 (Hospital Station at NE 8th)

- Hybrid alternative suggested by Peer Review and recommended by Value Analysis Workshop participants
- Reduces number of intersections and eliminates crossing of NE 8th
- Serves Hospital Station preferred by City of Bellevue

Potential New At-Grade Alternatives



C11A:

An at-grade alignment running along 108th NE, turning east along NE 6th St with an elevated alignment over 405 (Hospital Station at NE 8th)

- Hybrid alternative suggested by Peer Review participants
- Downtown Bellevue Station location at current Bellevue Transit Center

Downtown Bellevue – Next Steps

- City of Bellevue presents to Sound Transit Board on potential value of additional tunnel funding options (December 10th)
- Sound Transit staff will continue downtown outreach
 - Business and neighborhood consultation
 - Conclude outreach by end of January
- Board re-evaluates downtown preferred alternative in 1st quarter of 2010



Workshop Format

- Review project information at display stations
- Discuss your comments at stations with staff
- Share your feedback with staff and/or by writing comments in your workbook
- Submit any written comments in your workbook tonight or by mail or e-mail

We Want to Hear from You!

- Neighborhood workshops (Fall 2009)
- Community and stakeholder briefings (ongoing)
- Supplemental Draft EIS public comment period (mid-2010)
- Project corridor open houses (Spring 2010)
- Project update mailings (ongoing)
- E-mail and web site updates (ongoing)



Questions?

Contact Katie Kuciemba,
Community Outreach Specialist
206-398-5459 or
katie.kuciemba@soundtransit.org
eastlink@soundtransit.org