



# ***Expanding your transit choices***



**2020 Progress Report**

***Snohomish  
County***

# ***Doubling your destinations within the next 5 years***

## **Snohomish County residents:**

During the next five years, Sound Transit is dramatically changing how we all get around the region.

From 2021 to 2024, we'll more than double your Link light rail destinations, opening new service to Northgate, Bellevue, Lynnwood, Federal Way, Redmond and the Hilltop neighborhood in Tacoma. Also by 2024, we'll launch new Stride bus rapid transit on I-405, SR 518, SR 522 and NE 145th, and open new parking and access improvements at Sounder stations.

At the same time, we're advancing other Link and Sounder projects described in this report, making it easier for you to get to work and home and to Seahawks games, college classes and Tacoma Dome concerts.

This progress report is just one way for us to stay in touch. For more information, check out our website, subscribe to updates and get involved with the projects that interest you most.



**Peter Rogoff, Sound Transit CEO**

 **[soundtransit.org/2020report](https://soundtransit.org/2020report)**


## **More inside:**


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- pg. 7** The system we're building, including timelines for new service
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*At Sound Transit we are connecting more people to more places to make life better and create equitable opportunities for all.*


# More transit for Snohomish County


**Link light rail**


**Lynnwood Link Extension**  
(in construction)


**Everett Link Extension**  
(planning starts 2020)


**Sounder trains**

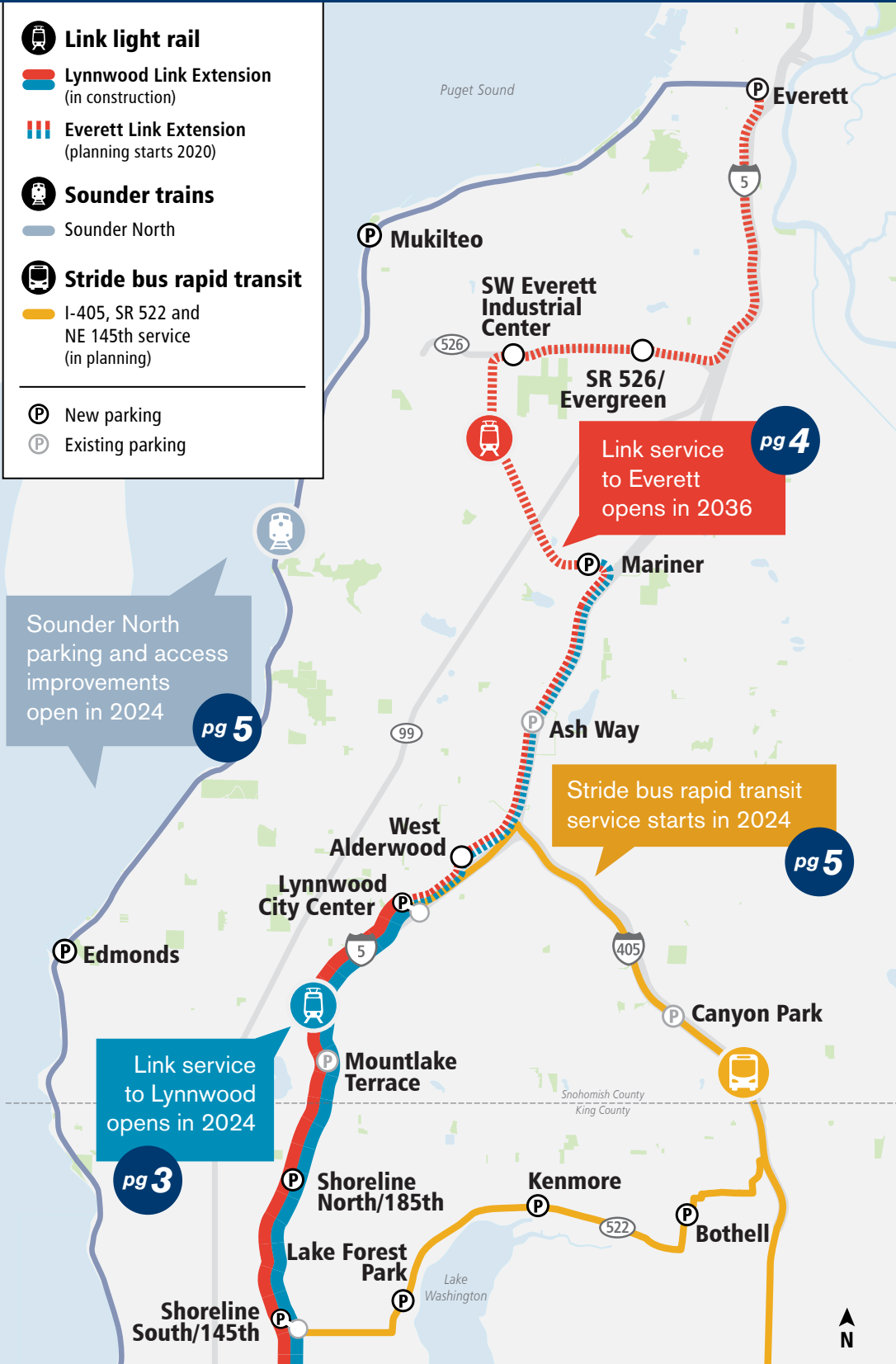
**Sounder North**

**Stride bus rapid transit**

**I-405, SR 522 and NE 145th service**  
(in planning)

**New parking**

**Existing parking**







# Light rail coming to Snohomish County



## Lynnwood to downtown Seattle in 28 minutes // Opens 2024

### Lynnwood Link Extension

- Continuing north from Northgate, light rail comes to Snohomish County.
- 4 new stations: Shoreline South/145th, Shoreline North/185th, Mountlake Terrace and Lynnwood City Center.
- 1,500 additional parking spaces, local transit routes as well as bike and walking paths connect riders to stations.



### 2019 progress

- U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell joined Governor Jay Inslee and others in September to celebrate the official groundbreaking of major construction.
- Began pre-construction work, including utility relocations and tree replacement program.



### 2020 look-ahead

Move into heavy construction with continued focus on managing tight budget and schedule.

Subscribe for the latest news and project updates:



[soundtransit.org/subscribe](https://soundtransit.org/subscribe)

## Northgate to downtown Seattle in 14 minutes // Opens 2021

### Northgate Link Extension

- 3 new stations: U District, Roosevelt and Northgate.
- Tracks north of Northgate Station mark the start of the Lynnwood extension.
- Multiple connecting bus routes and more than 1,000 spaces at adjacent Northgate garages connect riders to station.

#### ✓ **2019 progress**

- Installed public art works, elevators and escalators at stations.
- Completed construction of Roosevelt Station.

#### ↶ **2020 look-ahead**

- Complete U District and Northgate stations.
- Install power and signal systems.

## Everett to downtown Seattle in 60 minutes // Opens 2036

### Everett Link Extension

- Continues light rail from Lynnwood to downtown Everett with six stations, including Ash Way and Mariner park-and-rides and the SW Industrial Center/Boeing plant.
- Additional parking at Mariner and Everett stations.

#### ✓ **2019 progress**

Early partnerships with Snohomish County and City of Everett.

#### ↶ **2020 look-ahead**

Start of public involvement and early planning.



Tracks leading to Northgate Station.

## Connect//2020

In January 2020, we began connecting our new Eastside light rail line to the existing line in downtown Seattle. Work will continue into March. In 2023, fast Link service extends to Mercer Island, Bellevue and Redmond. Learn about service changes during this time at [soundtransit.org/connect2020](https://soundtransit.org/connect2020).



## ***Building faster bus connections***



### **Lynnwood to Bellevue in 33 minutes // Starts 2024**

#### **Stride bus rapid transit on I-405, SR 522, NE 145th**

- Stride, a new BRT service, will offer fast, frequent and reliable bus travel to destinations on freeways and arterials north, east and south of Lake Washington.
- Buses run as often as every 10 minutes. Stations designed for fast arrivals and departures.
- Connects to Link light rail at Lynnwood, Shoreline, Bellevue and Tukwila.



#### **2019 progress**

- Revised plan to take advantage of I-405 Express Toll Lanes, cutting Lynnwood to Bellevue travel time by approximately 40%.
- Conducted community outreach to inform residents and gather comments.
- Performed preliminary fieldwork, technical analysis and environmental study.
- Started construction of Bothell SR 522 Business Access and Transit Lanes.



#### **2020 look-ahead**

- Preliminary engineering and complete Bothell SR 522 BAT lanes.
- Complete environmental reviews, begin final design of projects.

### **More parking options at Edmonds and Mukilteo // Opens 2024**

#### **Edmonds and Mukilteo Stations Parking and Access Improvements**

- Funding for improvements that could include additional parking, better bike and transit connections and convenient pick-up and drop-off areas.



#### **2019 progress**

Gathered public input on preferred improvements at open houses.



#### **2020 look-ahead**

Environmental review of potential projects.



# Planting 4 new trees for each tree removed

I-5 commuters are seeing many signs of Lynnwood Link construction. Trees were removed along the route to make room for the support columns and tracks that will breeze riders from Lynnwood to downtown Seattle in a reliable 28 minutes.

We'll replace the 5,300 removed trees with more than 20,000 trees and are committed to maintaining the health of these new trees for 13 years. While most will be planted along the route, we're planting many more trees at places like Ronald Bog in Shoreline, where Sound Transit is also performing wetlands mitigation.



## Fly over the light rail route from Northgate to Lynnwood.



- 1 Open the Camera app on your phone.
- 2 Hover over QR code for 2-3 seconds.
- 3 Click notification to play video.

[soundtransit.org/snohomish](https://soundtransit.org/snohomish)



## Helping you make your connection

In 2019 Sound Transit announced recipients of the first round of System Access Fund grants for projects that make it easier and more convenient to get to transit. With funding totaling more than \$40 million in this initial round of grants, we are partnering with local cities and counties to help pay for a safe walking and biking route from Everett Station to Downtown Everett and other local projects.

Getting around is getting easier

2021

**Link to Northgate**  
A 7-minute ride takes you from Husky Stadium to the new NHL practice facility at Northgate.

2022

**Tacoma Link to Hilltop**  
Grab lunch in the Stadium District between classes at UW Tacoma.

**P More parking**  
New garages at Puyallup (opens 2022) and Sumner (opens 2023) make it easier to leave the car behind and relax your way to work on Sounder.

2023

**East Link to Redmond Technology**  
Ride from Northgate to the Microsoft campus, or hop on at Bellevue's new Spring District neighborhood or Mercer Island and cross Lake Washington to downtown Seattle or the U District.

2024

**Extending Link north, south, east**  
Ungrip the steering wheel and fly by traffic on your way north to Lynnwood, south to Federal Way and east to Downtown Redmond.

**Stride on up to new bus rapid transit**  
No schedule needed to get you to destinations on I-405, SR 518, SR 522 or NE 145th St. Step off a Stride bus and onto Link light rail at Shoreline, Lynnwood, Bellevue or Tukwila.

**P More parking**  
Lots more parking plus new bike and pedestrian paths give you more connections to transit at North Sammamish as well as Kent, Auburn, Edmonds and Mukilteo Sounder stations.







## ***Transit gives you choices***

Link light rail, Sounder and bus rapid transit (BRT) provide fast, reliable and traffic-free transportation choices. More people each year are letting go of the steering wheel and instead choosing to:



- ✓ **Read the sports section**
- ✓ **Binge watch that new series**
- ✓ **Save money for vacation**
- ✓ **Breathe deeply and enjoy the view**
- ✓ **Leave the air cleaner**

## **Our region leads the nation in transit ridership growth**

With 28 new light rail stations and new BRT service opening in just the next five years, ridership will continue to grow dramatically.



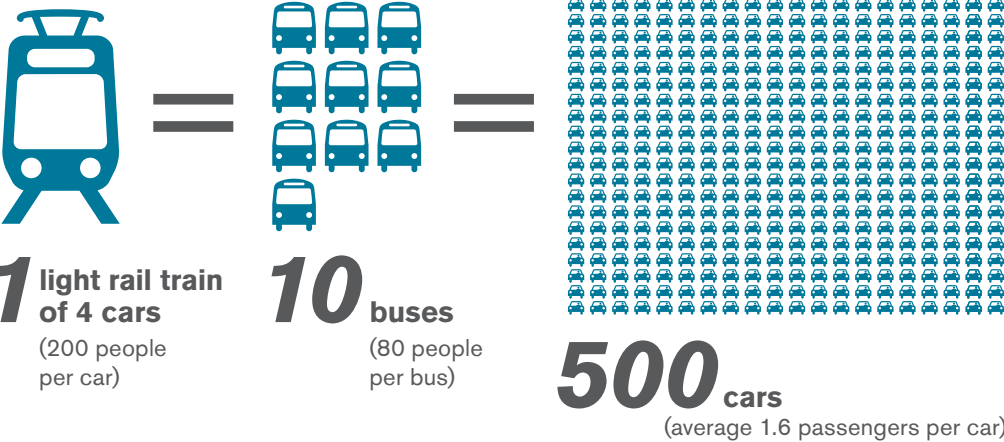


# Transit benefits everyone

Whether you use Sound Transit services or not, the growing network of light rail, Sounder trains, ST Express buses and BRT lines coordinating with local bus service improves your daily travel. Given a reliable, comfortable alternative to driving, hundreds of thousands of people choose transit every day, helping make travel easier for those who need to drive.

## Trains can move more people in less space

Link trains arrive every 4–6 minutes during peak hours.



# How to ride

 [soundtransit.org/how-to-ride](https://soundtransit.org/how-to-ride)

## Plan

Use our mobile-friendly Trip Planner to see where to catch your ride and find schedules for your trip.

## Pay & Ride

To ride **Link** or **Souder**, use the ticket machines at the station to buy:



### **ORCA card**

It's the easy way to pay for multiple rides on Sound Transit and other local transit services.

Buy a pass for unlimited rides or load cash value to pay as you go and save on transfers.



### **Single ticket**

Pay with cash or card to purchase a single ticket.

To ride an **ST Express bus**



### **ORCA card**

Tap your ORCA card when boarding.



### **Exact change**

Pay with exact change when boarding.

To ride **Link**, **Souder** and **ST Express bus**



### **Transit GO Ticket app**

Buy your single ticket anywhere with the Transit GO Ticket app.

Don't forget to activate your ticket before boarding and show your screen to the fare enforcement officer if asked.

## Senior or disabled reduced fare

The Regional Reduced Fare Permit (RRFP) is available for those over the age of 65 and riders with disabilities. Apply for an RRFP card at an ORCA customer service office. The card is free.

## ORCA LIFT for income-qualified riders

If you qualify, you can save up to 66% on Sound Transit and many other local transit services with an ORCA LIFT card registered to your name. It works just like a regular ORCA card. Go online to learn how to qualify. Apply for a card at an ORCA customer service office.





## ***Ride tip***

When riding Link or Sounder trains, tap your ORCA card on a yellow card reader at the start and end of your trip. ORCA calculates the cost of your trip and deducts that amount from your account. On buses, tap the reader by the driver. No need to tap off a bus ride.

## **Connecting to light rail is easy**

### ***Catch a bus to the train***

Sound Transit is coordinating with King County Metro and Community Transit to get you to light rail stations when new service starts at Northgate in 2021, on the Eastside in 2023, and in Shoreline and Lynnwood in 2024. Check the Trip Planner for your most direct route.

### ***Park your bike or car***

- All Sounder and Link stations have bicycle racks, lockers or cages.
- Parking for cars is available at Northgate, Shoreline South/145th, Shoreline North/185th and Lynnwood City Center stations. Go online to learn more.

### ***Safely walk, bike or get dropped off***

Bike and walking trails as well as pick-up and drop-off locations offer easy ways to access transit. Scope out your local station online.

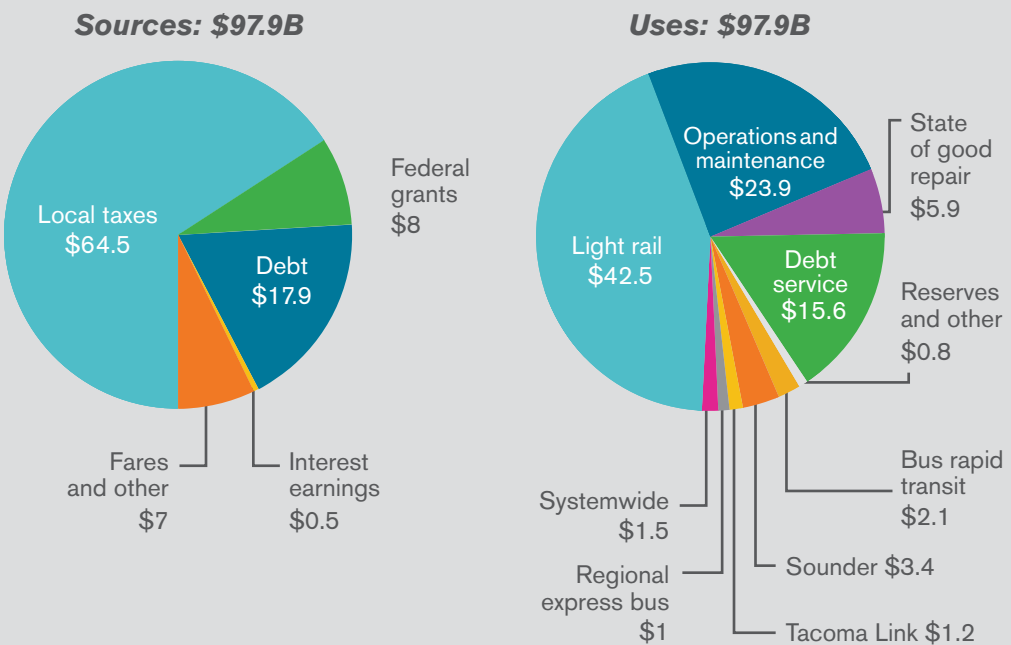
Community Transit is planning frequent connections to Lynnwood City Center Station.



# Voter-approved transit funding

Paying for transit construction, operations and maintenance takes a combination of local taxes approved by voters, as well as grants, proceeds from debt, fares and other miscellaneous sources. Local tax sources include Sales and Use Tax, Motor Vehicle Excise Tax, Property Tax and Rental Car Tax.

## Funding sources and uses: 2017–2041 (in billions)



## 2020 Sound Transit Board of Directors

### ★ Snohomish County representatives

**Kent Keel**, Chair,  
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**Dow Constantine**, Vice Chair,  
King County Executive

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**Dave Upthegrove**, King County Councilmember

**Pete von Reichbauer**,  
King County Councilmember

**Victoria Woodards**, Tacoma Mayor

## Pressures on project costs

The region's hot construction market is increasing costs of labor, land and materials. As a result, Sound Transit has updated its financial plan to assume higher rates of inflation. Despite recent cost increases, projects remain on timelines consistent with voter-approved plans.

## Background on Motor Vehicle Excise Tax collections

Initiative 976, adopted last November, seeks to reduce certain state and local vehicle license taxes. The initiative allows, and state law requires, Sound Transit to continue collecting its current voter-approved Motor Vehicle Excise Tax and its Rental Car Tax until all bond and other debts secured by the taxes are repaid. The initiative seeks to have Sound Transit accelerate repayment of these bonds and other debts, at which point the Sound Transit MVET could be reduced or eliminated.

At the Sound Transit Board's direction, the agency will continue to monitor recent litigation initiated by other jurisdictions to determine whether I-976 is constitutional and enforceable, and will evaluate legal issues specific to Sound Transit.

To repay its bonds and debts early, Sound Transit would have to collect additional taxes and divert revenues from transit projects in order to pay the cost of bond defeasance, refinancing or retirement. In addition, early bond and debt repayment in order to eliminate a projected \$7.2 billion in MVET and Rental Car Tax revenue would require cutting or significantly delaying projects and services described in this report.

As of printing this report in mid-January, the agency is also defending against two other lawsuits that seek to reduce or eliminate Sound Transit's MVET. Updates on developments related to the MVET, including further information on implications if agency revenues were reduced, is available at [soundtransit.org/MVET](https://soundtransit.org/MVET).

## Benefit of sound financial management

Because of our history of strong financial management and clean audits, Sound Transit enjoys one of the highest bond ratings of any transit agency in the country, allowing us to obtain loans at lower interest rates, which saves taxpayer dollars.

## Tax rollback

After the voter-approved capital projects in ST3, ST2 and Sound Move are completed and all debt is retired, Sound Transit will implement a tax rollback to a level necessary to pay for permanent operations, including system operations and maintenance, fare administration, capital replacement, and ongoing systemwide costs and reserves.





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Узнайте как расширяется ваша транзитная система.

Alamin kung paano lumalawak ang inyong transit system sa mas maraming mga lugar.

Tìm hiểu về việc hệ thống giao thông công cộng của quý vị đang mở rộng tới nhiều địa điểm hơn như thế nào.

了解公共交通系統如何擴展至更多地方。



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