



Sounder South Capacity Expansion

Summer 2019

Project Overview

Ridership on Sounder South is increasing steadily, and this is expected to continue as the region grows. To help meet growing demand, in 2016 voters approved the Sounder South Capacity Expansion program and an extension to DuPont. The goal of the program is to expand Sounder capacity and improve rider experience.

Improvements could include:

- > Additional daily trips.
- > Station updates to accommodate longer trains and more riders.

Any additional service would require negotiation with BNSF, the railroad that owns most of the tracks used by Sounder.

Timeline

The first step of the capacity expansion program is creation of a strategic plan to identify projects, service and completion dates. Planning for the first round of projects could begin as early as 2020, and all expansion program improvements will be complete by 2036.

Stay tuned for public input opportunities coming in fall of 2019.

For more information

Contact Community Outreach Specialist Melanie Mayock, at 206-689-4877 or Melanie.Mayock@soundtransit.org or visit soundtransit.org/sounder-capacity.

Projects will be implemented on a rolling basis through 2036.



Map on back →

Sounder South commuter trains today

- > 13 weekday round trips.
- > Three round trips added in the last three years.
- > Trains every 20 minutes during weekday peak hours.
- > Service to select Seahawks, Mariners and Sounder games and other special events.
- > Average of nearly 16,500 weekday boardings in 2018.

Station improvements already on the way

P New parking garages planned for Puyallup, Sumner, Auburn and Kent stations will add a total of approximately 2,150 new parking spaces by 2023, along with walking, bicycling and bus improvements.

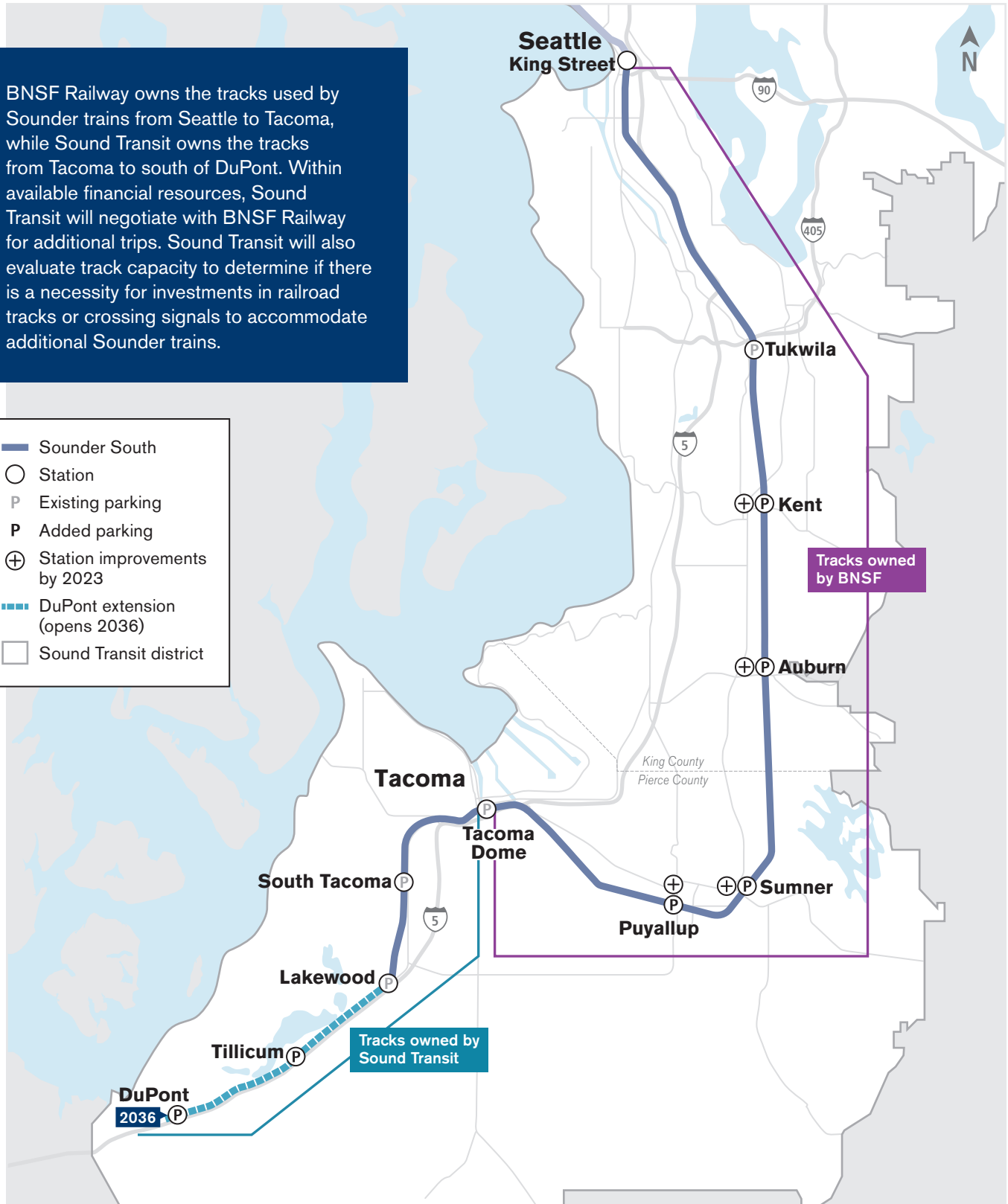
Steady ridership growth

Ridership on Sounder South has grown nearly 30 percent since 2014, with peak period trains now carrying an average of more than 875 people.

Year	Sounder South average weekday boardings
2014	12,694
2018	16,416

BNSF Railway owns the tracks used by Sounder trains from Seattle to Tacoma, while Sound Transit owns the tracks from Tacoma to south of DuPont. Within available financial resources, Sound Transit will negotiate with BNSF Railway for additional trips. Sound Transit will also evaluate track capacity to determine if there is a necessity for investments in railroad tracks or crossing signals to accommodate additional Sounder trains.

- Sounder South
- Station
- P Existing parking
- P Added parking
- ⊕ Station improvements by 2023
- - - DuPont extension (opens 2036)
- Sound Transit district



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Information in other languages

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