Making it easier to walk, roll and bike in South Tacoma

Sound Transit is partnering with the City of Tacoma to build a better-connected network so more people can walk, roll, bike and take transit to South Tacoma Station and connect to neighborhood destinations. Whether you catch the train at South Tacoma Station or live or work in the area, these upgrades will make navigating these areas more safe and accessible for everyone.

What do you think about the proposed changes in your neighborhood? What should we consider going into the next phase of the project? Read on and share your feedback with us.

Building a more connected network

ALL IMPROVEMENTS

This map displays all potential improvements we’re studying. In 2021, we categorized the improvements we’re studying as either “Priority 1” or “Priority 2”.

Explore what interests you

Would you walk or roll (with a wheelchair, assistive mobility device, scooter or skateboard) more often if there were more sidewalks, curb ramps and improved crossings? Look for this walking and rolling icon.

Do you bike? Would you bike more if there were better bike facilities where you want to go? Look for this biking icon.

If you ride the bus to get around or want to see improvements at bus stops near you, look for the bus icon.

Join us!

Walking and biking tour Hosted by Downtown on the Go: Saturday, Nov. 12

- Bike tour: 10am-12pm. Meet at South Tacoma Station parking lot (on S. 60th Street between Washington and Adams).
- Walk tour: 1-3pm. Meet outside the South Tacoma Library (1201 S. 56th Street)
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Building a more connected network

Priority 1 Improvements

Priority 1 improvements were deemed higher priority by Sound Transit, city officials and the community.

These improvements connect more people to more places, with fewer gaps in.
Welcome

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What do you think about the proposed changes in your neighborhood? What should we consider going into the next phase of the project? Read on and share your feedback with us.

Building a more connected network

.priority 2 improvements

Priority 2 improvements would build out the network even more, but some are farther from the station area. There is unlikely to be funding for Priority 2 improvements unless we remove or modify Priority 1 improvements.

Explore what interests you

Would you walk or roll (with a wheelchair, assistive mobility device, scooter or skateboard) more often if there were more sidewalks, curb ramps and improved crossings? Look for this walking and rolling icon.

Do you bike? Would you bike more if there were better bike facilities where you want to go? Look for this biking icon.

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Sound Transit is partnering with the City of Tacoma to build a better-connected network so more people can walk, roll, bike and take transit to South Tacoma Station and connect to neighborhood destinations. Whether you catch the train at South Tacoma Station or live or work in the area, these upgrades will make navigating these areas more safe and accessible for everyone.

What do you think about the proposed changes in your neighborhood? What should we consider going into the next phase of the project? Read on and share your feedback with us.

Building a more connected network

This project will build upon existing and planned pedestrian, bicycle and transit networks in Tacoma, to help connect trails, transit and neighborhoods. This map shows the existing and funded bicycle facilities around the South Tacoma area. See the City of Tacoma's map.
Like many women, I only bike when I feel safe. Living in South Tacoma, there are very few routes that include connected, protected infrastructure...More people would bike if traffic was slower and there was more protected infrastructure.

—Sara Kiesler, South Tacoma resident

**Comment on the spotlight improvements**

The following four “spotlight improvements” will transform how streets look and feel. We want your feedback on the changes we’re proposing in these corridors, so please fill out the surveys below.

The icons in the map below show the type of upgrades we are planning—including walking and rolling, biking and bus improvements.

**SPOTLIGHT CORRIDORS**

Spotlight improvements (click on image to expand). Most of the spotlight improvements are Priority 1, but the S. 58th and 60th streets Edison neighborhood connections include some Priority 2 improvements.

**Comment on the spotlight corridors**

Choose from the areas below to view the proposed change and give your input!
Walking, rolling and biking path north of SERA Campus

Provide a connection for people walking, rolling, and biking from S. Tyler Street to South End Recreation and Adventure (SERA) Campus and South Tacoma Station by:

- Widening the south sidewalk on S. 56th Street from S. Tyler Street to S. Madison Street to an 8-foot-wide shared use path.
- Continuing the shared use path south along the city right of way (across from S. Madison Street) to the northern edge of SERA Campus.
- Following the northern border of SERA Campus and connecting via a bicycle boulevard and sidewalks on S. 58th Street to S. Adams Street.

The sidewalk on the south side of S. 56th Street would be widened into a shared use path for walking, rolling and biking, starting at the intersection with S. Tyler Street and moving east.

Comment on the walking, rolling and biking path north of SERA Campus

How do you feel about the changes proposed in the walking, rolling and biking path north of SERA Campus?

☐ I am excited
☐ I am not sure or have no opinion
☐ I have concerns

Which aspects of the changes do you like?

☐ Shared use path on S. 56th Street
☐ Shared use path on city right of way across from S. Madison Street
☐ Shared use path following the northern border of SERA Campus, transitioning to a bicycle boulevard and sidewalks on S. 58th Street
☐ None of the above
☐ Other (please specify in comment box below)

Does anything about the changes concern you?

☐ Shared use path
☐ ADA access
☐ Not enough protection for bicyclists
☐ None of the above
☐ Other (please specify in comment box below)
Do you have any comments or questions about the walking, rolling and biking path north of SERA Campus?

Would the proposed changes help you get to any of the following destinations?

- South Tacoma Station
- My home
- My work
- Local businesses
- Parks
- School
- None of these
- Other (please specify):

How do you use this area (within a 1/4 mile) today?

- Live nearby
- Work nearby
- Go to school nearby
- Go to appointments or businesses
- Visit nearby parks or community destinations
- Walk
- Roll (use a wheelchair or other assistive mobility device, skate or ride a scooter)
- Bike
- Drive
- Take transit
- None of these

Submit

Comment on the other improvements

Here are the eight other improvements we’re studying in South Tacoma. Compared to the spotlight corridors, these would involve smaller changes to how the street looks today, but could still make a big difference on mobility.
S. Adams Street connections

Improve access for people walking, rolling, biking and taking transit by:

- Completing the sidewalks and upgrading curb ramps to meet ADA standards on S. Adams Street from S. 56th Street to S. 66th Street.
- Improving bicycle and pedestrian mobility in the area by installing a shared use path or protected bike lanes on the west side of S. Adams Street, from S. 58th Street to S. 66th Street. We are studying the protected bike lanes and shared use path as two options, but may pursue a combination of the two.
- Enhancing the pedestrian crossing on S. 66th Street at the intersection with S. Adams Street with a crosswalk and pedestrian/bike activated signal.
- Upgrading the bus stops (serving Pierce Transit Route 53) at the intersection of S. 66th Street and S. Adams Street to include a bench and other improvements.

An overview of the proposed S. Adams Street connections improvements, including two options we’re studying. See next slide.

Comment on the S. Adams Street connections

How do you feel about the changes proposed in the S. Adams Street connections?

- I am excited
- I am not sure or have no opinion
- I have concerns
Which aspects of the changes do you like?

- [ ] Sidewalk and curb ramp improvements
- [ ] Two-way protected bike lane option
- [ ] Separated shared use path option
- [ ] Improved crossing at South 66th Street
- [ ] Upgraded bus stops
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] Other (specify in comment box below)

Does anything about the changes concern you?

- [ ] Not enough protection for bicyclists
- [ ] Loss of street parking
- [ ] ADA access
- [ ] None of the above
- [ ] Other (specify in comment box below)

Do you have any comments or questions about the S. Adams Street connections?

Would the proposed changes help you get to any of the following destinations?

- [ ] South Tacoma Station
- [ ] My home
- [ ] My work
- [ ] Local businesses
- [ ] Parks
- [ ] School
- [ ] None of these
- [ ] Other (please specify):
  
How do you use this area (within a 1/4 mile) today?

- [ ] Live nearby
- [ ] Work nearby
- [ ] Go to school nearby
- [ ] Go to appointments or businesses
- [ ] Visit nearby parks or community destinations
- [ ] Walk
- [ ] Roll (use a wheelchair or other assistive mobility device, skate or ride a scooter)
- [ ] Bike
- [ ] Drive
- [ ] Take transit
- [ ] None of these
S. 58th and 60th streets station area connections

Add pedestrian and bike connections near the station along S. 58th Street and S. 60th Street to S. Puget Sound Avenue. This makes it safer to walk, roll and bike to locations east of the station, including bus stops and businesses on South Tacoma Way, neighborhoods to the east, and bike facilities on Puget Sound Avenue.

To complement the City of Tacoma’s investments on S. 58th Street, improvements would include:

- Providing sidewalks on the south side of S. 58th Street from the station to South Tacoma Way.
- Providing protected bike lanes on S. 58th Street from the station to South Tacoma Way.
- Including bike and pedestrian priority at the signal on South Tacoma Way.
- Improving the bike and pedestrian crossing at S. Puget Sound Avenue by providing a crosswalk and pedestrian/bike activated signal.

S. 60th Street improvements would include:

- Adding protected bike lanes on the north side of S. 60th Street, from S. Adams Street to South Tacoma Way and transitioning to a bike boulevard to S. Puget Sound Avenue.
- Installing a pedestrian/bike activated light at South Tacoma Way and adding curb extensions.
- Improving the bike and pedestrian crossings of South Tacoma Way and S. Puget Sound Avenue by providing a crosswalk and pedestrian/bike activated signal.

Protected bike lanes would line both sides of S. 58th Street and would end at the Sounder station to the west and across the S. Puget Sound Street intersection to the east. Sidewalks would be added to the south side of S. 58th Street from the station to South Tacoma Way while on-street parking would be available on the east side of S. 58th Street between S. Washington Street and South Tacoma Way.

Comment on the S. 58th and 60th streets station area connections

How do you feel about the changes proposed in the S. 58th and 60th streets station area connections?

- I am excited
- I am not sure or have no opinion
- I have concerns

Which aspects of the changes do you like?
☐ Sidewalks
  ☐ Protected bike lanes
  ☐ Bike and pedestrian signal priority
  ☐ Improved bike and pedestrian crossings
  ☐ None of the above
  ☐ Other (please specify in comment box below)

**Does anything about the changes concern you?**

☐ Not enough protection for bicyclists
☐ Loss of street parking
☐ ADA access
☐ Changes to signals or traffic flow
☐ None of the above
☐ Other (please specify in comment box below)

Do you have any comments or questions about the S. 58th and 60th streets station area connections?


**Would the proposed changes help you get to any of the following destinations?**

☐ South Tacoma Station
☐ My home
☐ My work
☐ Local businesses
☐ Parks
☐ School
☐ None of these
☐ Other (please specify):


**How do you use this area (within a 1/4 mile) today?**

☐ Live nearby
☐ Work nearby
☐ Go to school nearby
☐ Go to appointments or businesses
☐ Visit nearby parks or community destinations
☐ Walk
☐ Roll (use a wheelchair or other assistive mobility device, skate or ride a scooter)
☐ Bike
☐ Drive
☐ Take transit
☐ None of these
S. 58th and 60th streets Edison neighborhood connections

To complement the City of Tacoma's investments on S. 58th Street, Sound Transit's improvements would include:

- Add pedestrian and bike connections along S. 58th Street and S. 60th Street in neighborhoods east of the station near Edison Elementary School.
- Making sidewalk, curb ramp and bike boulevard improvements from S. Lawrence Avenue to S. Fife Street.

If funding allows, Priority 2 improvements on S. 60th Street would include:

- Adding protected bike lanes on the north side of S. 60th Street, from S. Adams Street to South Tacoma Way and transitioning to a bike boulevard to S. Puget Sound Avenue.

On S. 58th Street, we're looking at sidewalks and curb ramps starting at S. Lawrence Street (north side of the street) and sidewalks (both sides of the street) and a bicycle boulevard starting at the connection with the Water Flume Line Trail at S. Alder Street.

Comment on the S. 58th and 60th streets Edison neighborhood connections

How do you feel about the changes proposed in the S. 58th and 60th streets Edison neighborhood connections?

- I am excited
- I am not sure or have no opinion
- I have concerns

Which aspects of the changes do you like?

- Sidewalk and curb ramp improvements
- Bike boulevards
- Better connection to Water Flume Line Trail
- None of the above
- Other (please specify in comment box below)

Does anything about the changes concern you?

- Not enough protection for bicyclists
- ADA access
- None of the above
- Other (please specify in comment box below)
Do you have any comments or questions about the S. 58th and 60th streets Edison neighborhood connections?

Would the proposed changes help you get to any of the following destinations?

- South Tacoma Station
- My home
- My work
- Local businesses
- Parks
- School
- None of these
- Other (please specify):

How do you use this area (within a 1/4 mile) today?

- Live nearby
- Work nearby
- Go to school nearby
- Go to appointments or businesses
- Visit nearby parks or community destinations
- Walk
- Roll (use a wheelchair or other assistive mobility device, skate or ride a scooter)
- Bike
- Drive
- Take transit
- None of these

Submit

Comment on the other improvements

Here are the eight other improvements we’re studying in South Tacoma. Compared to the spotlight corridors, these would involve smaller changes to how the street looks today, but could still make a big difference on mobility.
The other improvements include a mix of Priority 1 and Priority 2 improvements (click image to expand)

**Explore the improvements**

Choose from the areas below to learn more about the improvements and fill out the survey with your feedback.

**Station accessibility and safety**

We are studying options for upgrading accessibility and safety upgrades at the station, such as:

- Adding a public address (PA) system and installing additional tactile pavers and retrofitted curb ramps to help guide people with disabilities through the station area.
- Adding a shelter for the ADA train boarding ramp, for people with disabilities and those who use mobility devices such as wheelchairs or walkers.
- Improving the railroad crossing between the station and nearby parking lot, with the addition of a crossing bar and other changes.
- Increasing security cameras at the station and in the parking lot.
### Share your feedback on other improvements

What do you think of these improvements?

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Would you like to comment on any of the potential improvements?

- [ ] Station accessibility and safety
- [ ] Station area improvements
- [ ] Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
- [ ] S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard
- [ ] Bike lanes
- [ ] Protected bike lanes
- [ ] S. Washington Street sidewalks
- [ ] SERA Campus shared parking

### Project overview

**How did you get these ideas for safer walking and bicycling?**

In 2021, we assessed current conditions for walking, rolling, bicycling, and taking transit to and from South Tacoma Station. The assessment identified gaps and

**I don’t see many people biking in South Tacoma today. Will anyone use the proposed bike...**
Station area improvements

Improvements in the area around the station, including:

- Completing sidewalks and upgrading curb ramps within a half-mile of the station.
- Providing traffic-calming, landscaping, and signage improvements on South Tacoma Way between S. 56th Street and S. 60th Street.
- Improving station wayfinding, such as posting signs on South Tacoma Way, to improve awareness of the station.

If funding allows, it could include these Priority 2 improvements within a quarter mile of the station:

- Bike/pedestrian priority at signals and bike detection at intersections, making it easier for pedestrians and bicyclists to cross.
- Installing street lighting on priority streets.

Share your feedback on other improvements

What do you think of these improvements?

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Would you like to comment on any of the potential improvements?

☐ Station accessibility and safety
☐ Station area improvements
Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements

This could include changes to traffic signals and bus stops for Pierce Transit's Route 3, including:

- Adding transit signal priority on South Tacoma Way at S. 66th Street, S. 58th Street, and S. 56th Street. This means changing the traffic signal to recognize approaching buses and giving them an early green light.
- Relocating a bus stop to better connect to the proposed pedestrian crossing, which would include a crosswalk and pedestrian/bike activated signal, at South Tacoma Way and S. 60th Street.
- Upgrading the bus stops near the station to include a bench and other improvements.

Share your feedback on other improvements

What do you think of these improvements?

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Would you like to comment on any of the potential improvements?

☐ Station accessibility and safety
☐ Station area improvements
☐ Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
☐ S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard
☐ Bike lanes
☐ Protected bike lanes

If you have any additional comments or ideas, please enter them here: [Comment field]
The other improvements include a mix of Priority 1 and Priority 2 improvements (click image to expand)

**Explore the improvements**

Choose from the areas below to learn more about the improvements and fill out the survey with your feedback:

- Station accessibility and safety
- Station area improvements
- Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
- S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard
- Bike lanes
- Protected bike lanes
- S. Washington Street sidewalks
- SERA Campus shared parking

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**S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard**

This would provide bicycle boulevards along S. Fife Street, completing gaps in the City’s bicycle plans around the station area. The bike boulevard would run from S. 74th Street to S. 48th Street, and on S. 48th Street to S. Oakes Street. A final stretch continues to the north on S. Oakes Street, from S. 48th Street to S. 47th Street.
We’ve proposed a bicycle boulevard for S. Fife Street (see other improvements map above). What’s a bicycle boulevard? Bike boulevards are neighborhood streets that have low traffic speeds and volumes that allow people of all ages and abilities to safely bike. Things like signs, pavement markings, traffic calming and intersection improvements can be used to make the street safer for everyone.

[Image location: Portland, OR]

### Share your feedback on other improvements

**What do you think of these improvements?**

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Would you like to comment on any of the potential improvements?

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- [ ] Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
- [ ] S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard
- [ ] Bike lanes
- [ ] Protected bike lanes
The other improvements include a mix of Priority 1 and Priority 2 improvements (click image to expand)

Explore the improvements

Choose from the areas below to learn more about the improvements and fill out the survey with your feedback:

- Station accessibility and safety
- Station area improvements
- Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
- S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard
- Bike lanes
- Protected bike lanes
- S. Washington Street sidewalks
- SERA Campus shared parking

Bike lanes

The proposed bike lanes would complete gaps in the City's [bicycle plans](#) on key corridors connecting to the station area.

- On S. Puget Sound Avenue between S. 54th Street and S. 56th Street.
- On Sprague Avenue between South Tacoma Way and S. 37th Street, and west on S. 37th Street to S. Steele Street.
- On S. 35th Street between S. Pine Street and S. Sprague Avenue.
A bike lane is a part of the roadway designated for bikes by painted lines or other markings separating it from the motor vehicle travel lanes. [Image location: Tacoma, WA – S. Tyler Street]

### Share your feedback on other improvements

What do you think of these improvements?

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Would you like to comment on any of the potential improvements?

- [ ] Station accessibility and safety
- [ ] Station area improvements
- [ ] Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
- [ ] S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard
- [ ] Bike lanes
- [ ] Protected bike lanes
Protected bike lanes

The proposed protected bike lanes would complete gaps in the City’s bicycle plans, in key corridors around South Tacoma.

Protected bike lanes in Priority 1 include:

- On South Tacoma Way, between S. 47th Street and S. Pine Street.
- On S. Washington Street, between S. 54th Street and S. 47th Street, and east on S. 47th Street to South Tacoma Way
- On S. Pine Street, between Center Street and S. 47th Street

If funding allows, protected bike lanes in Priority 2 include:

- Upgrading existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes on S. 66th Street, between Lakewood Drive West and Tacoma Mall Boulevard. Some might be bike boulevards.
- Upgrading existing bike lanes to protected bike lanes on S. Tyler Street, between S. 74th Street and S. Wright Avenue.
- Connecting to the existing shared use path on the south side of S. 47th Street from South Tacoma Way to the Tacoma Mall Transit Center

Protected bike lanes are usually built on roads with higher speed limits and traffic volumes. A protected bike lane has some form of physical separation between bicyclists and motor vehicle travel lanes, like parked cars, bollards (seen here), or curbs, but the bike lane is still part of the roadway. Some protected bike lanes could affect street parking or require reduced lane widths; this will be determined by further study. [Image location: Denver, CO]
**S. Washington Street sidewalks**

If funding allows, this Priority 2 improvement would add sidewalks on South Washington Street from S. 56th Street to S. 58th Street.

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**Share your feedback on other improvements**

**What do you think of these improvements?**

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**Would you like to comment on any of the potential improvements?**

- [ ] Station accessibility and safety
- [ ] Station area improvements
- [ ] Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
- [ ] S. Fife Street bicycle boulevard
- [ ] Bike lanes
- [ ] Protected bike lanes
- [ ] S. Washington Street sidewalks
- [ ] SERA Campus shared parking

Submit
SERA Campus shared parking

This Priority 2 improvement would upgrade existing SERA Campus parking, at S. Adams Street and S. 60th Street, to provide approximately 200 stalls for riders. This would require a shared parking agreement with Metro Parks Tacoma and include an ADA pathway, between the parking area and S. Adams Street. Due to the potentially high cost, this improvement would mean multiple walking and cycling improvements likely could not be funded.

Share your feedback on other improvements

What do you think of these improvements?

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Would you like to comment on any of the potential improvements?

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☐ Station area improvements
☐ Pierce Transit Route 3 bus improvements
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☐ Bike lanes
☐ Protected bike lanes
☐ S. Washington Street sidewalks
☐ SERA Campus shared parking

Submit
How did you get these ideas for safer walking and bicycling?

In 2021, we assessed current conditions for walking, rolling, bicycling, and taking transit to and from South Tacoma Station. The assessment identified gaps and potential improvements to make it easier to access the station and get around the neighborhood. We did not do this alone! We started with more than 35 ideas drawn from city, county and transit agency plans, as well as Sounder riders and other community members during our spring outreach.

We evaluated each possible idea using criteria based on our goals. We took our work back to the community in fall of 2021 to get your feedback. Based on our analysis and community feedback, we identified some improvements to carry forward—those are what you see today. Read the report from our first phase of the project for more information.

Now, we’re refining the possible improvements and starting early design work. This will help us evaluate potential environmental impacts and financial limitations.

**Goals**

We have 5 goal areas for the project:

- **Affordability**
  - Ensure the package of improvements is consistent with the Sound Transit Financial Plan.

- **Environment**
  - Harmonize access improvements with the natural and built environment and surrounding communities.

- **Access**
  - Providing and improving connections between multiple transportation modes particularly for underserved communities.

- **Partnership**
  - Enhancing the overall connections between the station to the surrounding neighborhood in partnership with the city and stakeholders.

- **Passenger experience**
  - Enhancing the experience of passengers at the station with an emphasis on underserved communities.
**Evaluation criteria**

In our early analysis in 2021, we put greater emphasis on the three equitable access criteria below to determine which improvements to continue to study.

1. Would this improvement benefit underserved communities?
2. Does it address a major barrier to access?
3. Is it close to the station?

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**What do we mean by underserved communities?**

To work toward a more equitable transportation network, Sound Transit is focusing on historically underserved communities through this project— including people of color, immigrants, people with limited English proficiency, people with low incomes, and people with disabilities.

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**Next steps**

We’ll summarize your feedback and share the collected replies with our partners at the City of Tacoma and on our project website. We’ll take the community’s response into consideration as we finalize designs and prioritize upgrades.

The project’s early design work will inform our environmental review, where we study how a proposed change will affect the natural and built environment. This process will help us and the City decide on possible changes to our plans. The goal is to manage human and environmental resources for the benefit of current and future generations. This phase of the project is expected to be completed in 2024.

**Stay tuned for another comment opportunity next year**

We’ll share project updates next summer to let you know how design and environmental review is progressing. Also, we will have a better idea about estimated costs for the improvements and seek your feedback for which improvements we should prioritize.

**Project timeline**

![Project timeline](image)

*We are here*

**PLANNING 2021-2024**

- Develop and screen possible improvements
- 2022-2023: Conceptual engineering and environmental review
- 2024: Sound Transit Board selects the project to be built

**DESIGN 2023-2025**

- Final design
- Establish agreements with local jurisdictions

**CONSTRUCTION 2025-2031**

- Groundbreaking
- Construction updates

**OPEN TO PUBLIC**

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**Stay engaged!**

Get upcoming project news and public involvement opportunities by signing up for our project email updates below.

[Sign up!](link)

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**Questions? Contact us:**

Melanie Mayock
Questions? Contact us:

Melanie Mayock
Phone: 206-689-4877
Email: melanie.mayock@soundtransit.org
Visit the South Tacoma Station Access Improvements Page

Need assistance online or at an in-person event?

Accessibility Inquiries:
Phone: 800-201-4900, TTY Relay 711
Email: main@soundtransit.org
Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Additional services:

General Rider Inquiries:
Phone: 888-889-6368, TTY Relay 711
Email: main@soundtransit.org
Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Call or text Security 24/7: 206-398-5268

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