About the project

Sound Transit is working to improve access to the Sumner Sounder station for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists and bus riders, including construction of a garage adding up to approximately 500 new parking spaces, along with sidewalk and lighting enhancements.

Sounder South runs 12 round trips between Tacoma Dome and King Street Station in Seattle, seven of which serve South Tacoma and Lakewood. Sounder also runs special service to select Seahawks, Sounders and Mariners games. Before the covid-19 pandemic, high ridership on Sounder mean parking at the Sumner lot filled early every weekday. Although ridership fell during covid, it has been rebounding in 2022, and we expect it to continue to grow in the future.

Benefits

› Allows hundreds more people to take the Sounder train and enjoy a fast and reliable commute.
› Improves access to special events like Seahawks, Sounders and Mariners games, through Sound Transit’s special event service.
› Improves pedestrian, bicycle and transit access and safety at the station.

Highlights

› New garage adding up to 500 parking spaces
› Sidewalk and lighting improvements
› A sidewalk and pedestrian/bicycle path on the Traffic Avenue/SR 410 interchange (completed in 2021).

Map on back ➔
Current activities

In 2019, Sound Transit worked with the city of Sumner on designing utilities, stormwater facilities and street improvements. We also updated the vision statement for how the garage should look, after getting additional feedback from the community. In 2020, we paused work on the project due to covid-19 related financial uncertainties.

We re-started work in late 2021, and released a Request for Qualifications in March 2022 to hire a design-build contractor. Construction is expected to begin in mid-2023.

Because the garage will be built where surface parking is located today, we are working with the City of Sumner to find locations for temporary parking, for commuters to use during the construction period.

Timeline

2014: Sound Transit Board identified preferred package of improvements
Feb 2016: Issued State Environmental Policy Act Checklist for public review
Spring 2016: Sound Transit Board selected project to be built

Access improvements

More parking
Sound Transit will build a new 4.5-story parking garage with up to 630 stalls at the current station parking lot, for a net increase of up to 500 stalls.

Better pedestrian and bicycle access
We also contributed funds to the city of Sumner to make walking and bicycling to the station safer:
- $5 million for a new sidewalk and pedestrian/bicycle path on Traffic Avenue at SR 410.

$2.5 million for sidewalk and lighting improvements in the station area.

Minimizing cut-through traffic
Traffic improvements, such as signage and traffic signals, will help manage the flow of vehicles entering and exiting the garage and deter traffic cutting through neighborhoods.

Questions?
Contact Community Outreach Specialist Melanie Mayock, 206-689-4877 or melanie.mayock@soundtransit.org.

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