

# Smith Cove Station

Ballard Link Extension

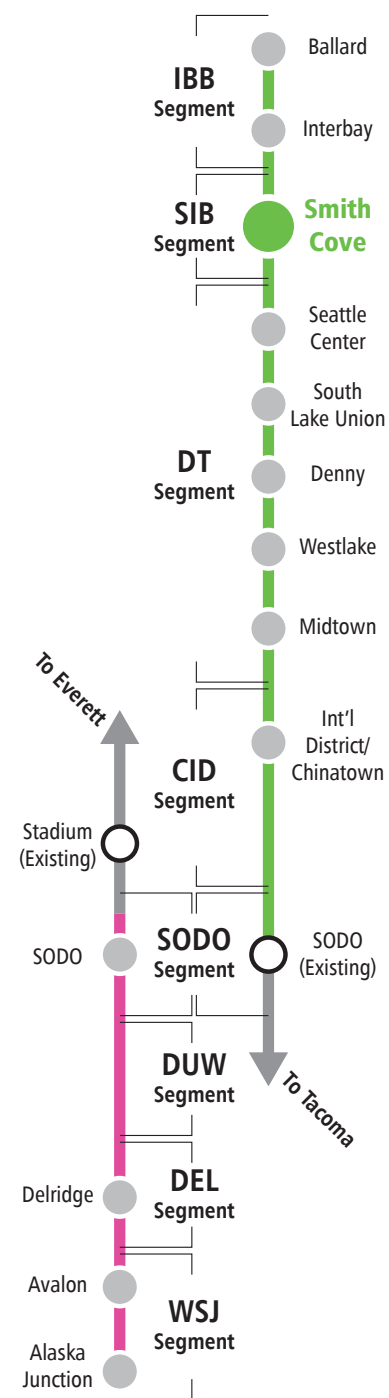
## Station area context

Bounded by Interbay and the Magnolia Bridge to the north, Smith Cove runs along the coastline between Elliott Bay Marina in the northwest to Myrtle Edwards Park in the southeast. The area north of Smith Cove, on the filled in tide flats, is home to Port of Seattle Piers 90 and 91 (including the Cruise Terminal), Elliott Bay Marina, Smith Cove Park, and Expedia International Headquarters.

The 25-acre Interbay Armory site north of the Magnolia Bridge, currently owned by Washington state, may eventually be redeveloped to include a mix of uses such as industrial, office, and makerspaces. The City of Seattle has studied

options for replacing the Magnolia Bridge but has yet to determine the bridge's type, size, or location. These projects, as well as the proposed light rail station, would transform the area in the future.

Based on feedback received at the Fall 2019 Neighborhood Forum, community members value the industry and jobs in the area, tourism generated by the cruise terminal, and the existing and planned bike connections.



What we heard so far

### NEIGHBORHOOD FEEDBACK

- 1 Integrate station with the surrounding neighborhood and with multiple modes of transportation
- 2 Interest in additional development/attractions in the neighborhood
- 3 Improve connections to and between public spaces and to the waterfront
- 4 Improve and enhance Elliott Bay Trail connection
- 5 Enhance connection to/from Queen Anne neighborhood
- 6 Design new Magnolia Bridge to support connectivity and development
- 7 Provide safe and convenient connection across Elliott Ave W and BNSF tracks
- 8 Capitalize on publicly-owned land to draw more jobs and people to the area



Neighborhood feedback gathered from in-person and on-line events during alternatives development 2018-2019.

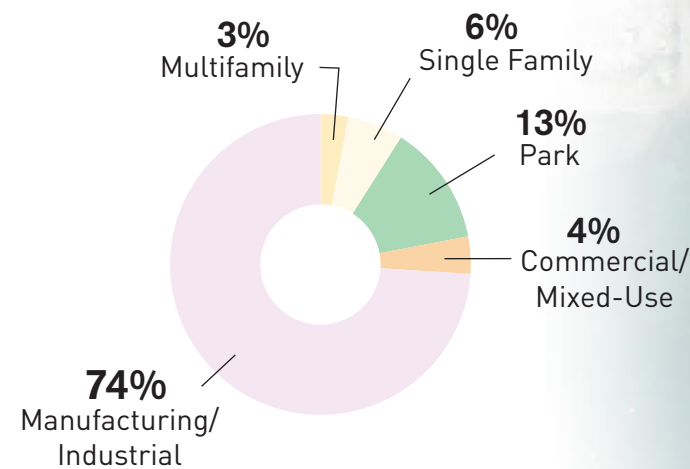


# Smith Cove Station

Ballard Link Extension

## Station area context

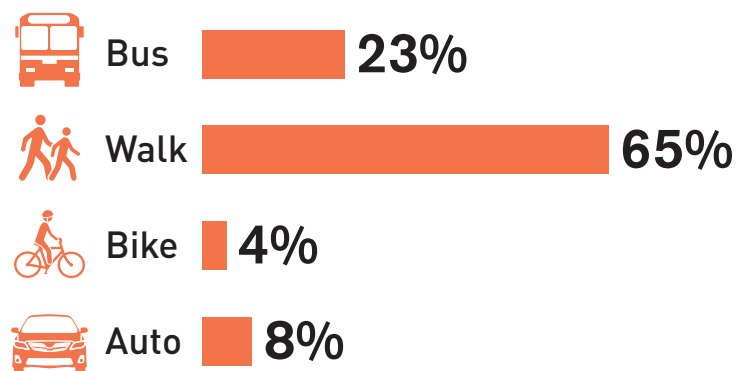
### Existing land use in the station area <sup>(1)</sup>



### Ridership/daily boardings <sup>(2)</sup>



### How people will travel to the station <sup>(2)</sup>



### Bike facilities within 10-minute bikeshed <sup>(3)</sup>



### Living and working in the station area 2040 <sup>(1,4)</sup>



### Planning and design priorities

Planning and design priorities can help frame how a station and station area will look and function

- Provide a well-integrated multi-modal system that connects the station to nearby employment hubs, including Pier 91, Expedia, and other businesses
- Create comfortable and convenient crossings and access along Elliott Ave W
- Address infrastructure barriers that limit access to nearby destinations
- Prioritize access for bikes, pedestrians, and bus transfers at the station
- Balance freight and vehicular movement on 15th Ave W and Elliott Ave W with multi-modal access to the station
- With other agencies, coordinate the multiple infrastructure investments planned near the station
- Coordinate development and land use proposals in the larger station area with the station design and associated potential transit oriented development

#### Footnotes:

1. Data based on combined 10-minute walkshed unless noted otherwise. Source: City of Seattle and Sound Transit.
2. Based on preferred alternative. Results for other alternatives are similar.
3. Bike facilities include multi-use trails, bike lanes, and neighborhood greenways within combined 10-minute bikeshed.
4. Based on PSRC future year forecasts and allocated to combined 10-minute walkshed.



# Smith Cove Station

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## Draft EIS station alternatives

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) contains three alternatives for the Smith Cove Station.



### Draft EIS alternatives

- Preferred alternative
- Other alternatives

### Route and station profiles

- Elevated
- At-grade
- Retained cut
- Tunnel
- Tunnel portal

## 1 Preferred Alternative

See P.174

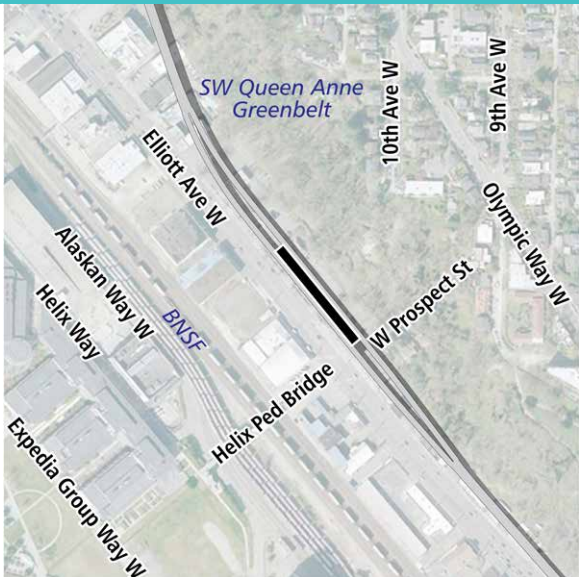


### Elevated Galer Street Station (SIB-1)

Elevated station on the west side of Elliott Ave W straddling W Galer St

## 2 Other Alternative

See P.180



### Elevated Prospect Street Station (SIB-2)

Elevated station on the east side of Elliott Ave W at W Prospect St

## 3 Other Alternative

See P.182



### Retained Cut Prospect Street Station (SIB-3)

Below-grade station on the east side of Elliott Ave W at W Prospect St



# Smith Cove Station

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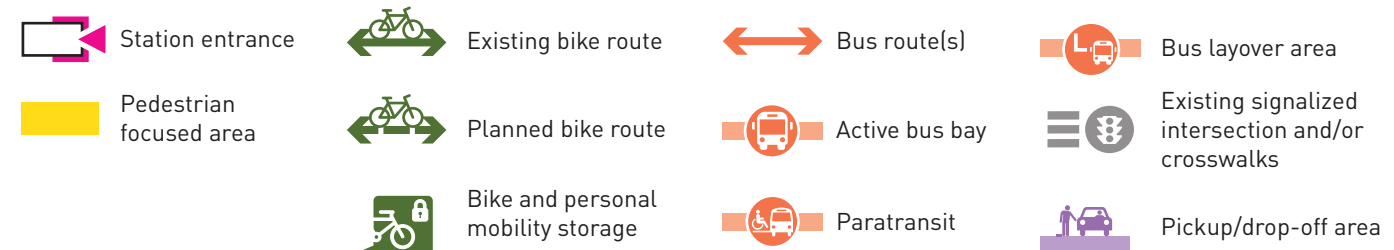
## Elevated Galer Street Station (SIB-1)

Preferred Alternative

## Station context plan

The Elevated Galer Street station alternative would serve residents of South Magnolia and West Queen Anne as well as Expedia campus employees and cruise terminal passengers. The immediate station area is dominated by auto-oriented uses along Elliott Ave W, which is a busy arterial and major freight corridor, but the station location on the west side of Elliott Ave W offers locals and tourists alike easy access to nearby destinations, such as Centennial Park and the popular Elliott Bay Trail.

Marine and railroad uses along with topography constrain the station area; however, the Expedia campus and the thriving commercial development north of the Magnolia Bridge could be joined by the potential redevelopment of the Interbay Armory site, creating a unique opportunity for this station to serve a wide range of users.



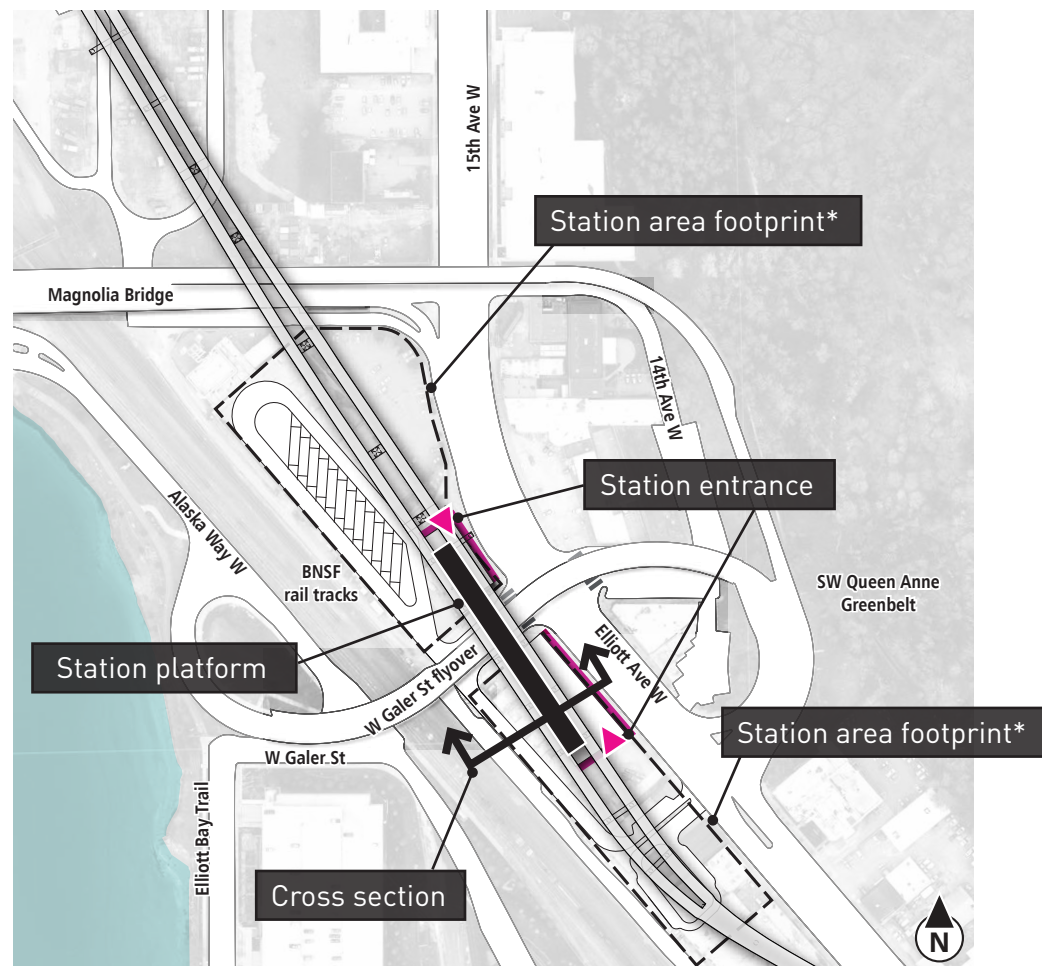


# Smith Cove Station

Ballard Link Extension

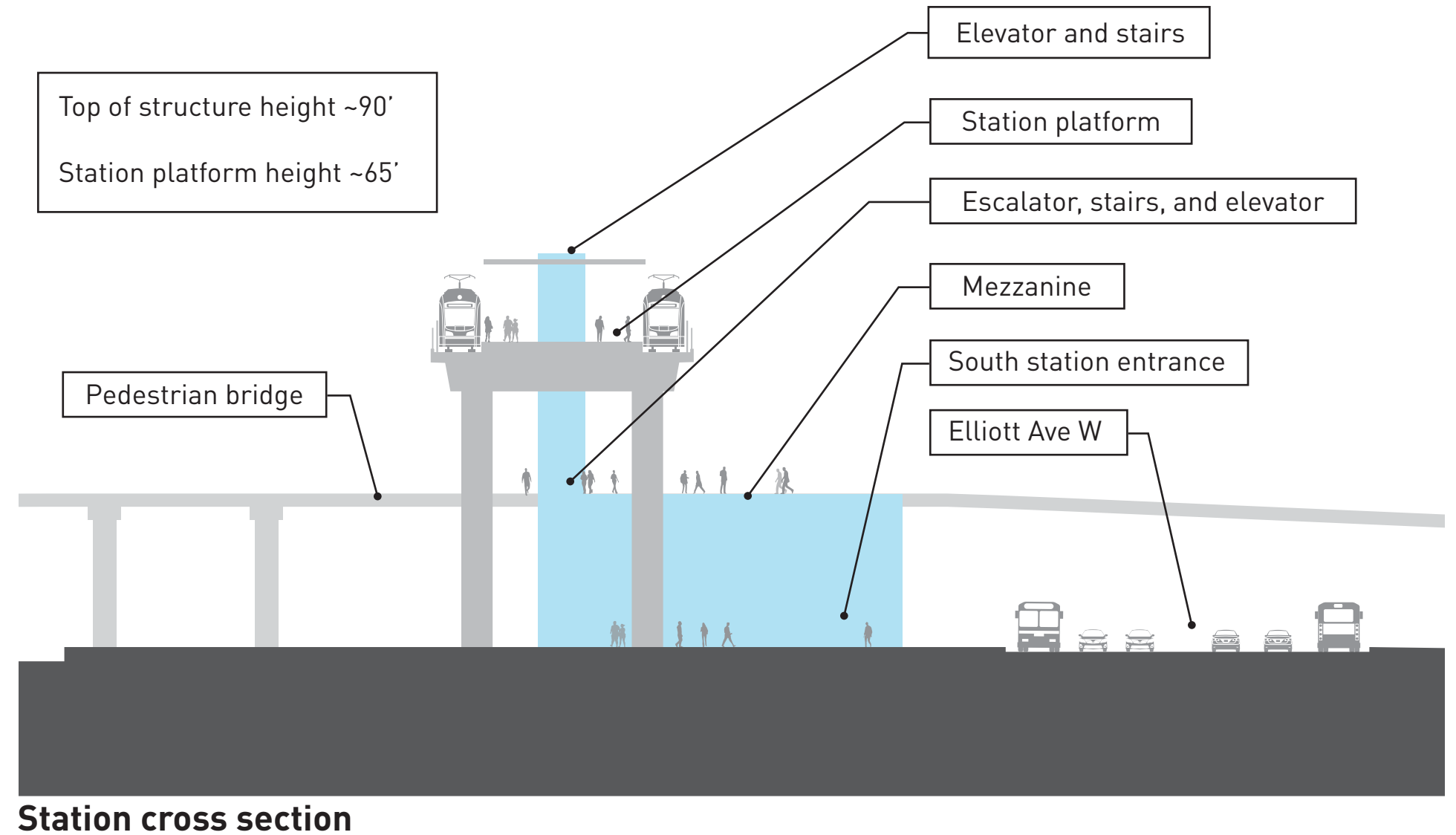
Elevated Galer Street Station (SIB-1)

## Looking inside the station



## Station site plan

\* The station area footprint is the approximate area that Sound Transit would maintain for light rail operations.



## Station cross section

Cross section is an approximate representation of station configuration for illustrative purposes only. Station architectural and landscape design is not complete.



# Smith Cove Station

Ballard Link Extension

Elevated Galer Street Station (SIB-1)

## Walking, biking, and rolling to the station

Ideas and recommendations for potential improvements by agencies or partners to best serve passengers walking and rolling to the station.



- Station entrance
- Potential transit oriented development (TOD)
- Pedestrian focused area
- Existing bike route
- Planned bike route
- Bike and personal mobility storage
- Existing signalized intersection and/or crosswalks

- 1 Consider a multi-use trail under the guideway to connect the station with the potential Interbay Armory site redevelopment
- 2 Explore the opportunity to widen sidewalks and provide pedestrian refuge islands under the Galer Street Flyover
- 3 Partner with the city to lengthen the walk signal for pedestrians and add a Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon to the crosswalk at the free right-turn lane
- 4 Prioritize adding sidewalks, crosswalks, curb ramps, landscaping, and pedestrian lighting along Elliott Ave W
- 5 Explore opportunities to provide shared bike and scooter parking areas along planned and existing bike connections

Partner to create new east-west connections for pedestrians and cyclists at W Wheeler St and W Garfield St

Partner to create a multi-use trail east of the BNSF tracks connecting people to the station

Explore access improvements west of the station and over the BNSF tracks for pedestrians heading to the cruise ship terminal

Explore an enhanced connection to Upper Queen Anne neighborhood through the Galer to Blaine (GTB) trail

Consider wider sidewalks along Elliott Ave W/15th Ave W with a buffer from traffic, and add landscaping and lighting between Magnolia Bridge and W Mercer Place



Urban design treatments under guideway



Elliott Bay Trail just west of the station



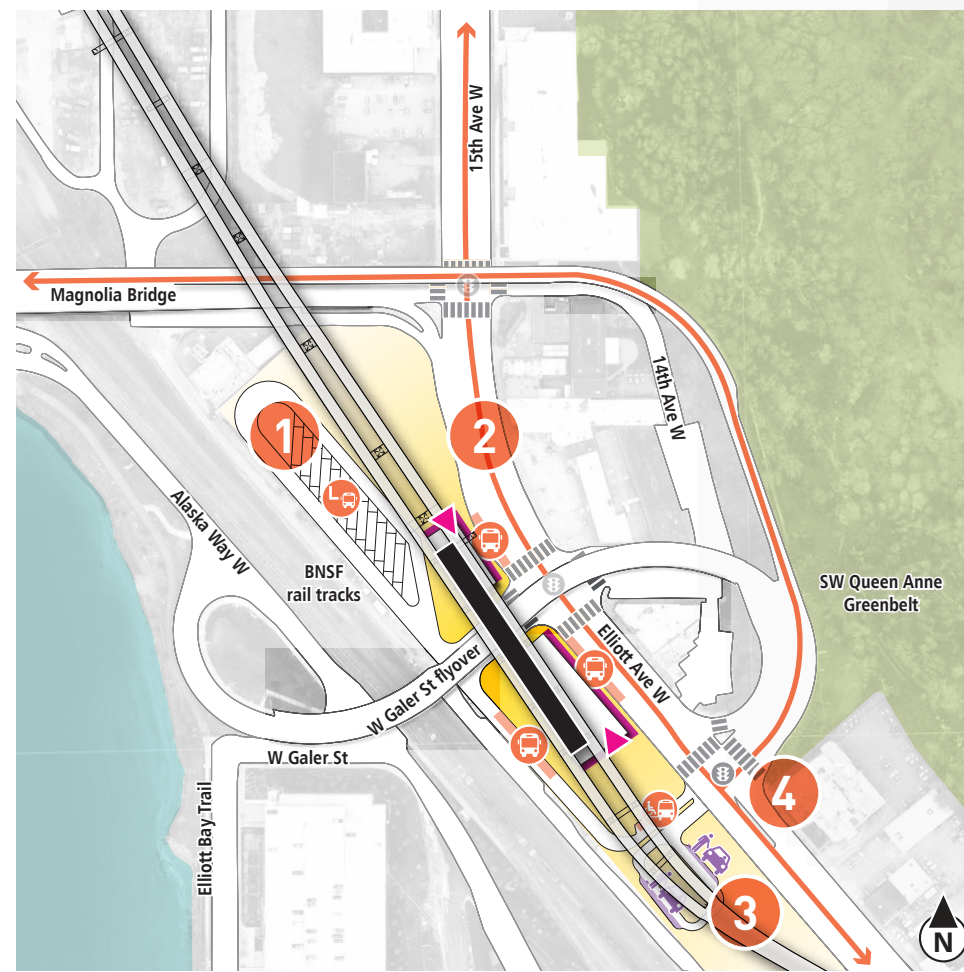
# Smith Cove Station

Ballard Link Extension

Elevated Galer Street Station (SIB-1)

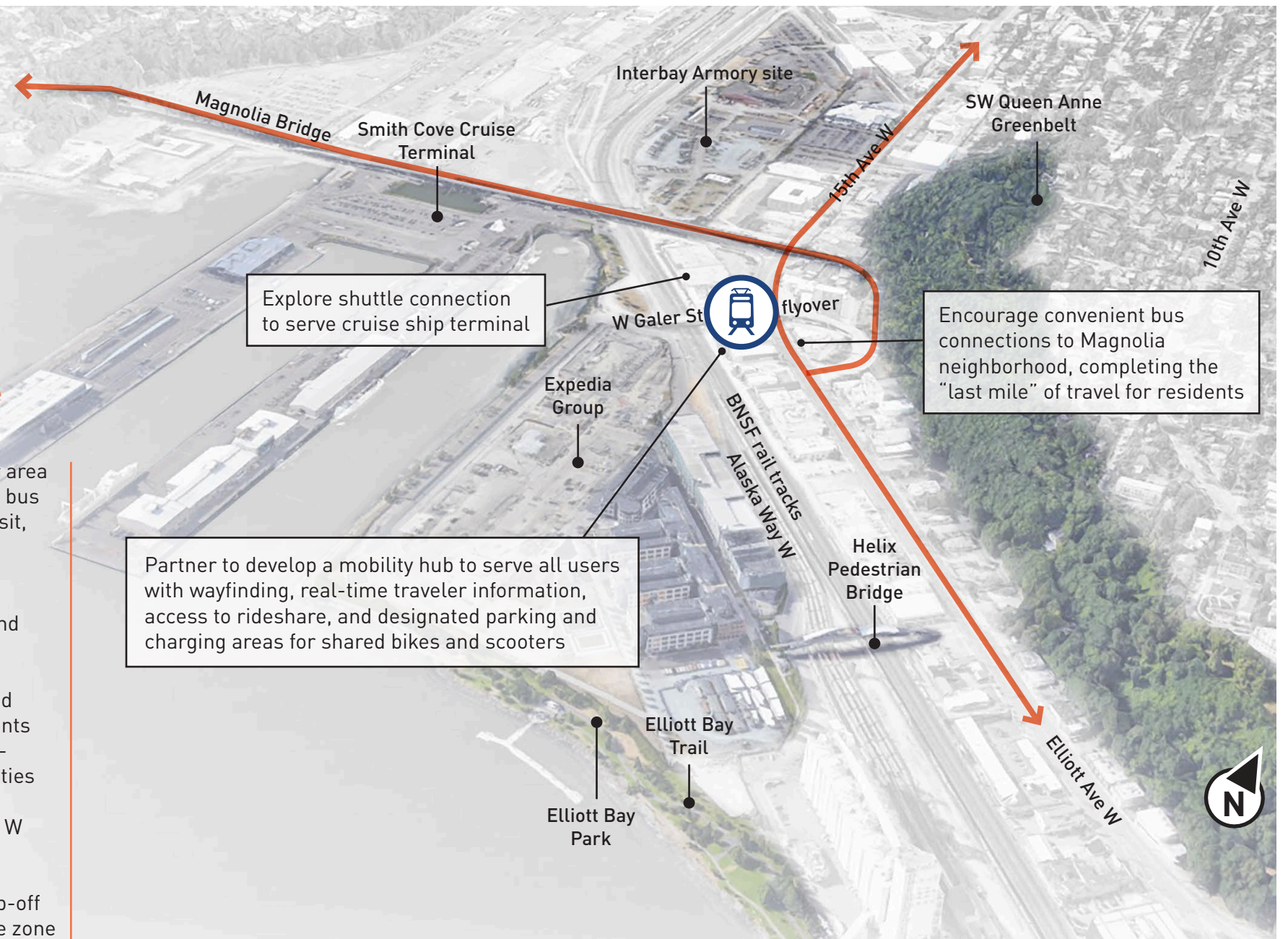
## Connecting to the station

Ideas and recommendations for potential improvements by agencies or partners to integrate buses and other pickup/drop-off needs.



- Station entrance
- Potential transit oriented development (TOD)
- Pedestrian focused area
- Bus layover area
- Active bus bay
- Paratransit
- Existing signalized intersection and/or crosswalks
- Pickup/drop-off area
- Bus route(s)

- 1 Refine bus layover area to better integrate bus bays and paratransit, and to provide convenient station access for people walking, rolling, and biking
- 2 Balance freight and vehicular movements with need for high-performance facilities for buses and bus riders on 15th Ave W and Elliott Ave W
- 3 Refine pickup/drop-off area and rideshare zone and consider shared use with potential cruise ship shuttle services
- 4 Assess the need for speed and reliability improvements for buses at Elliott Ave W and the W Galer St Flyover ramp



Mobility hub with amenities for cyclists, pedestrians, bus passengers, and light rail passengers



Pickup/drop-off loops can be integrated with plazas that include landscaping, lighting, and seating



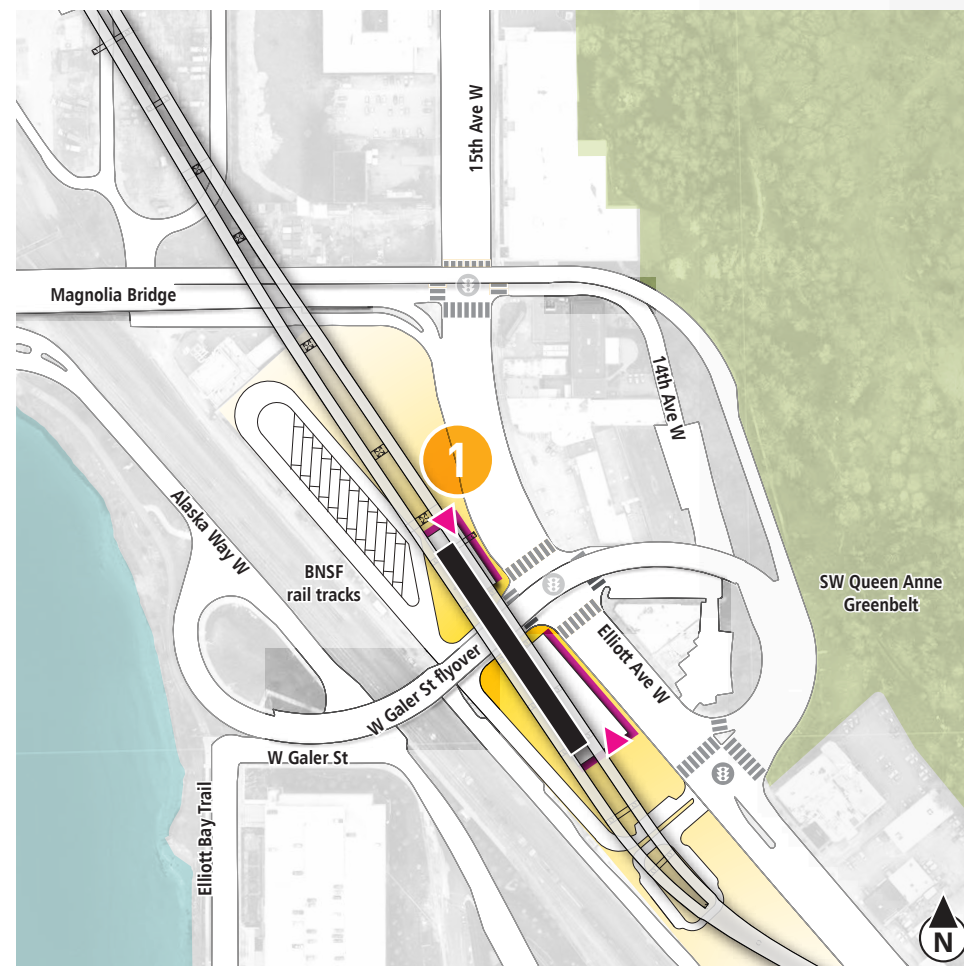
# Smith Cove Station

Ballard  
Link Extension

Elevated Galer Street Station  
(SIB-1)

## Living and working near the station

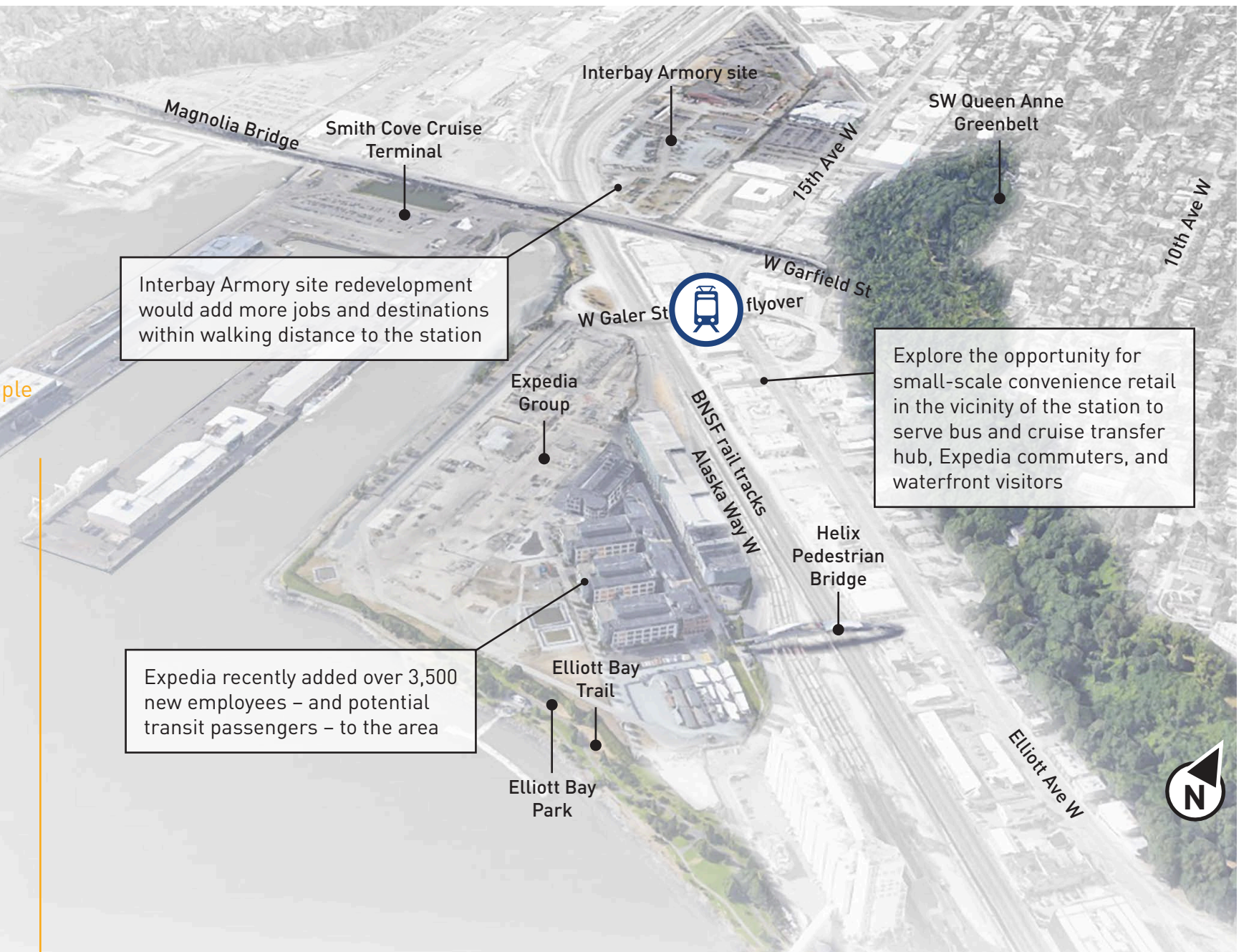
Ideas and recommendations for potential improvements by agencies or partners to support people living and working near the station.



- Station entrance
- Potential transit oriented development (TOD)
- Pedestrian focused area

- Existing signalized intersection and/or crosswalks

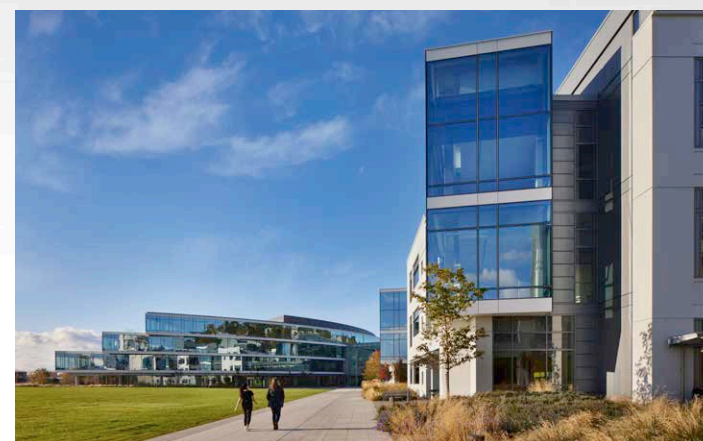
- Constrained site size, land features and geometry limit opportunities for future development integrated with the station



Interbay Armory site redevelopment would add more jobs and destinations within walking distance to the station

Explore the opportunity for small-scale convenience retail in the vicinity of the station to serve bus and cruise transfer hub, Expedia commuters, and waterfront visitors

Expedia recently added over 3,500 new employees – and potential transit passengers – to the area



Expedia campus near the station



Pier 91 and Cruise Ship Terminal



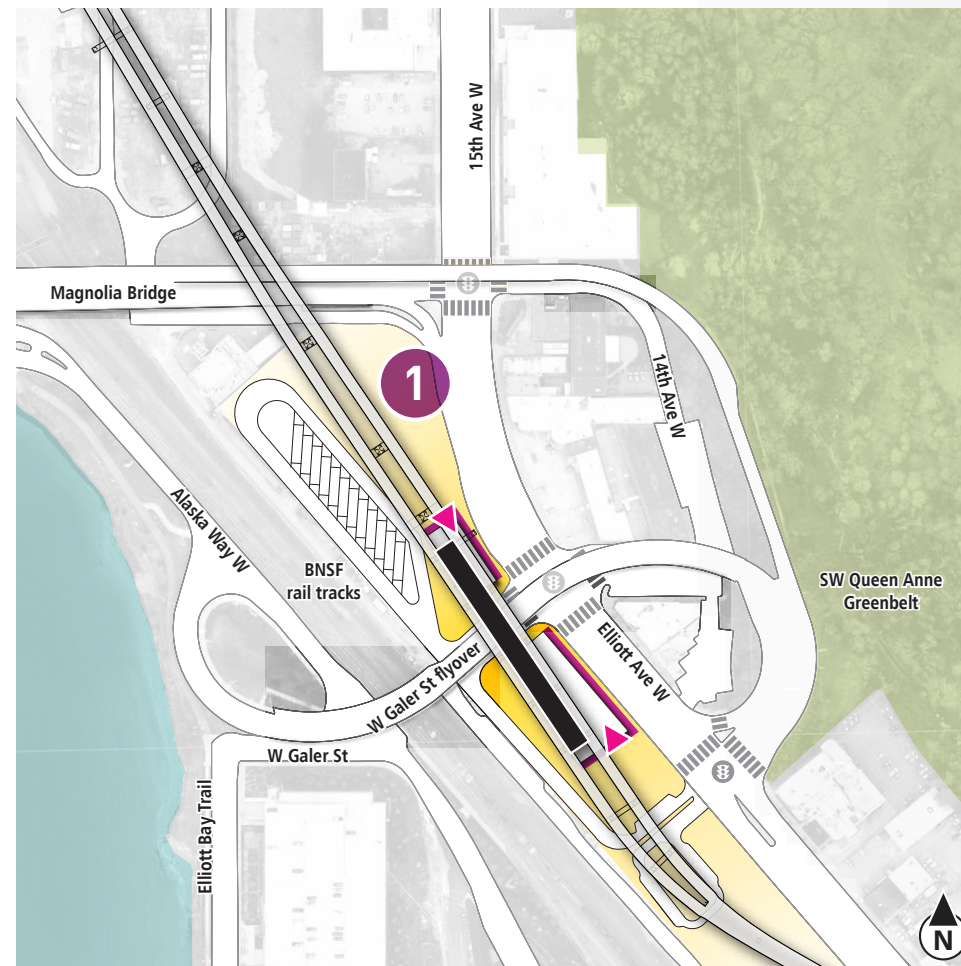
# Smith Cove Station

Ballard  
Link Extension

Elevated Galer Street Station  
(SIB-1)

## Enjoying public space near the station

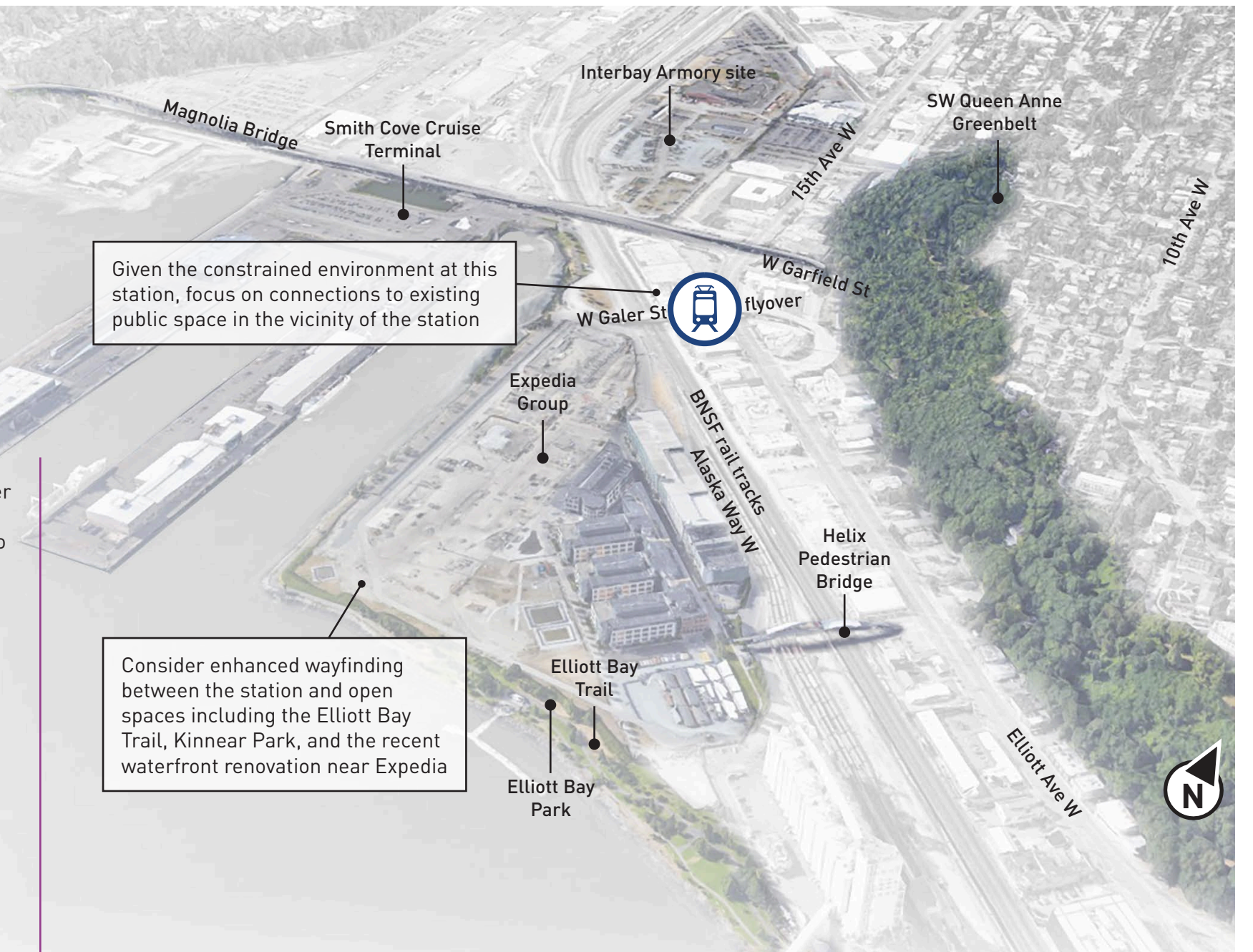
Ideas and recommendations to enhance and activate community public spaces - such as parks, plazas, and amenities - in partnership with others.



- Station entrance
- Potential transit oriented development (TOD)
- Pedestrian focused area

Existing signalized intersection and/or crosswalks

- Explore opportunities for public space closer to the station and under the guideway to establish a stronger street-level presence



Elliott Bay Park walking distance to the station



Kinnear Park near the station



# Smith Cove Station

Elevated Prospect Street (SIB-2)

Other Alternative

Ballard Link Extension

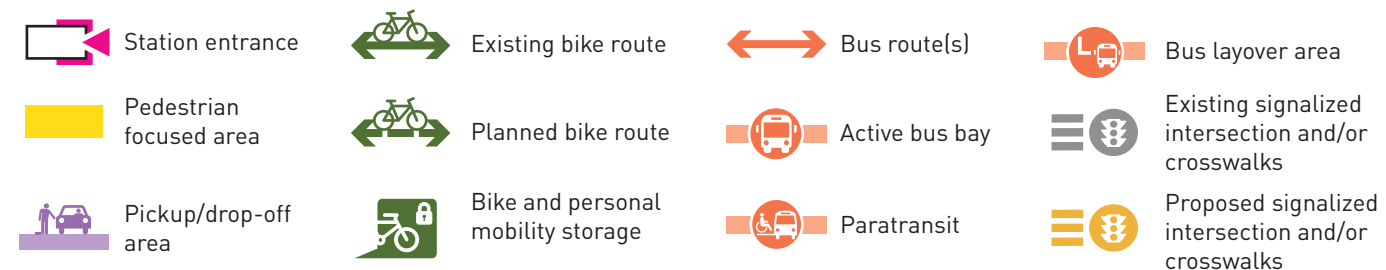
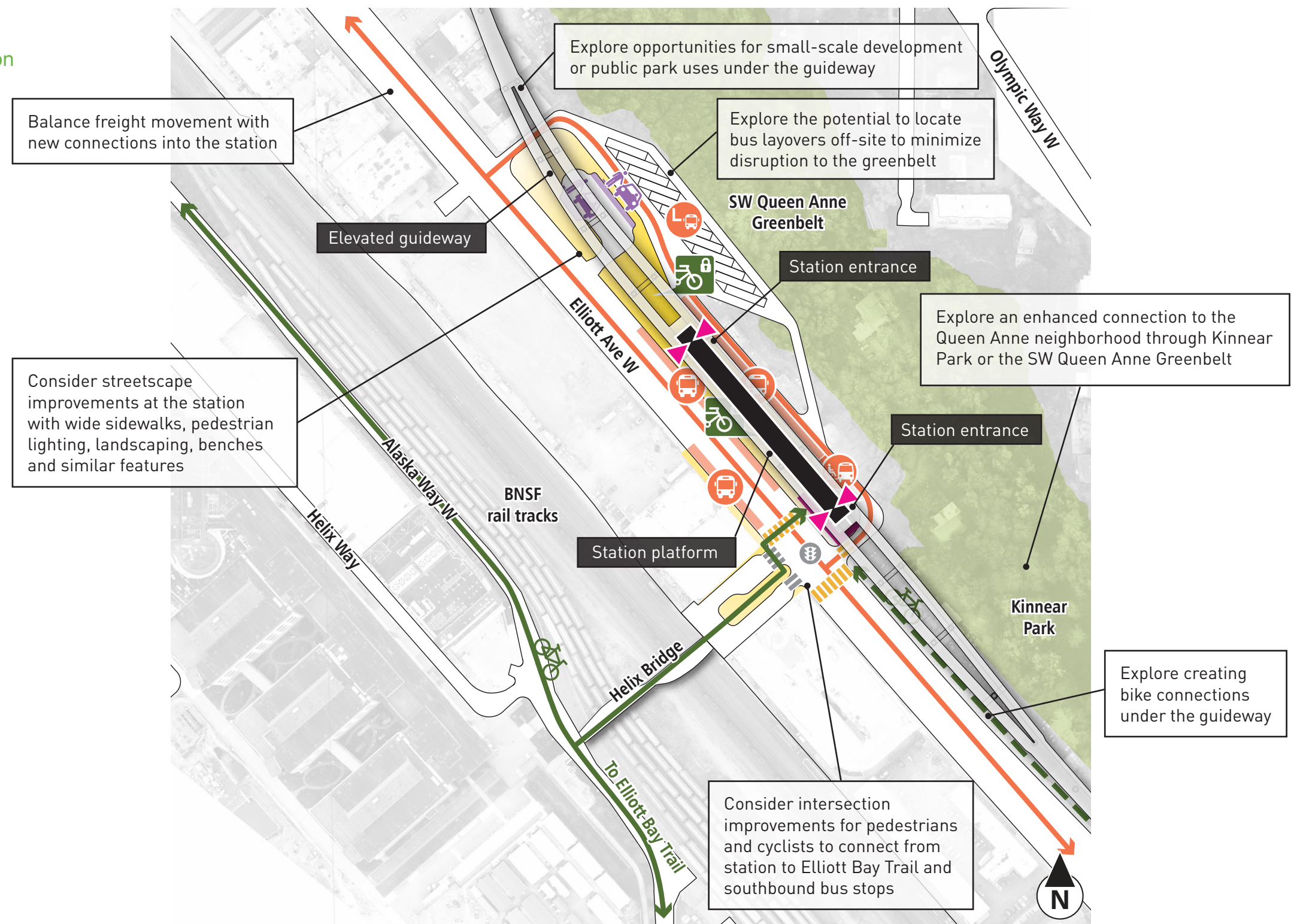
## Station context plan

The Elevated Prospect Street Station alternative, located between Elliott Ave W and the SW Queen Anne Greenbelt, would serve residents of South Magnolia and West Queen Anne. Though the immediate station area is dominated by auto-oriented uses on Elliott Ave W, the Helix Bridge over Elliott Ave W would connect pedestrians and cyclists to the Expedia campus and Centennial Park.

There is potential to develop a bike connection to the station under the guideway from Mercer Place, and it may be possible to provide connections to Queen Anne through Kinnear Park, expanding the bikeshed and pedestrian connections to the station.

The constrained site conditions at this location would result in few opportunities for development near the station.

*This station alternative was not identified as preferred by the Sound Transit Board. This page summarizes ideas and recommendations that are unique to this alternative as well as those that apply to all alternatives.*



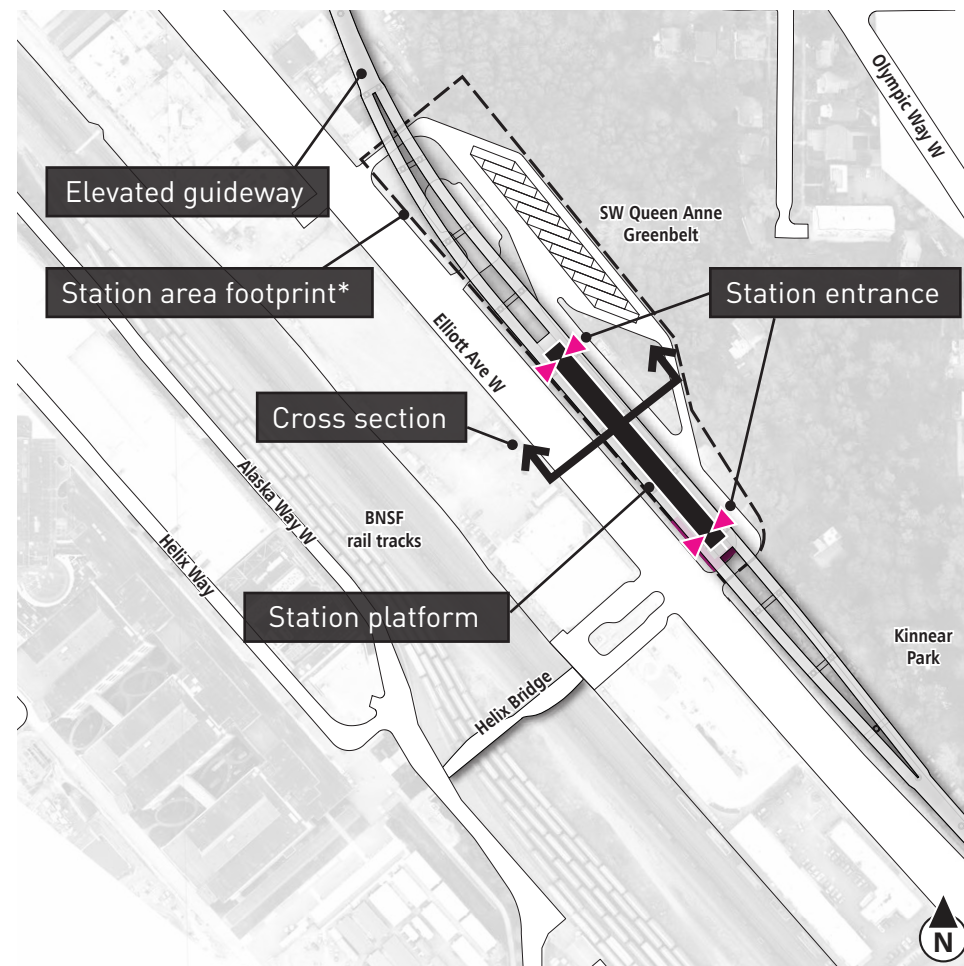


# Smith Cove Station

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Link Extension

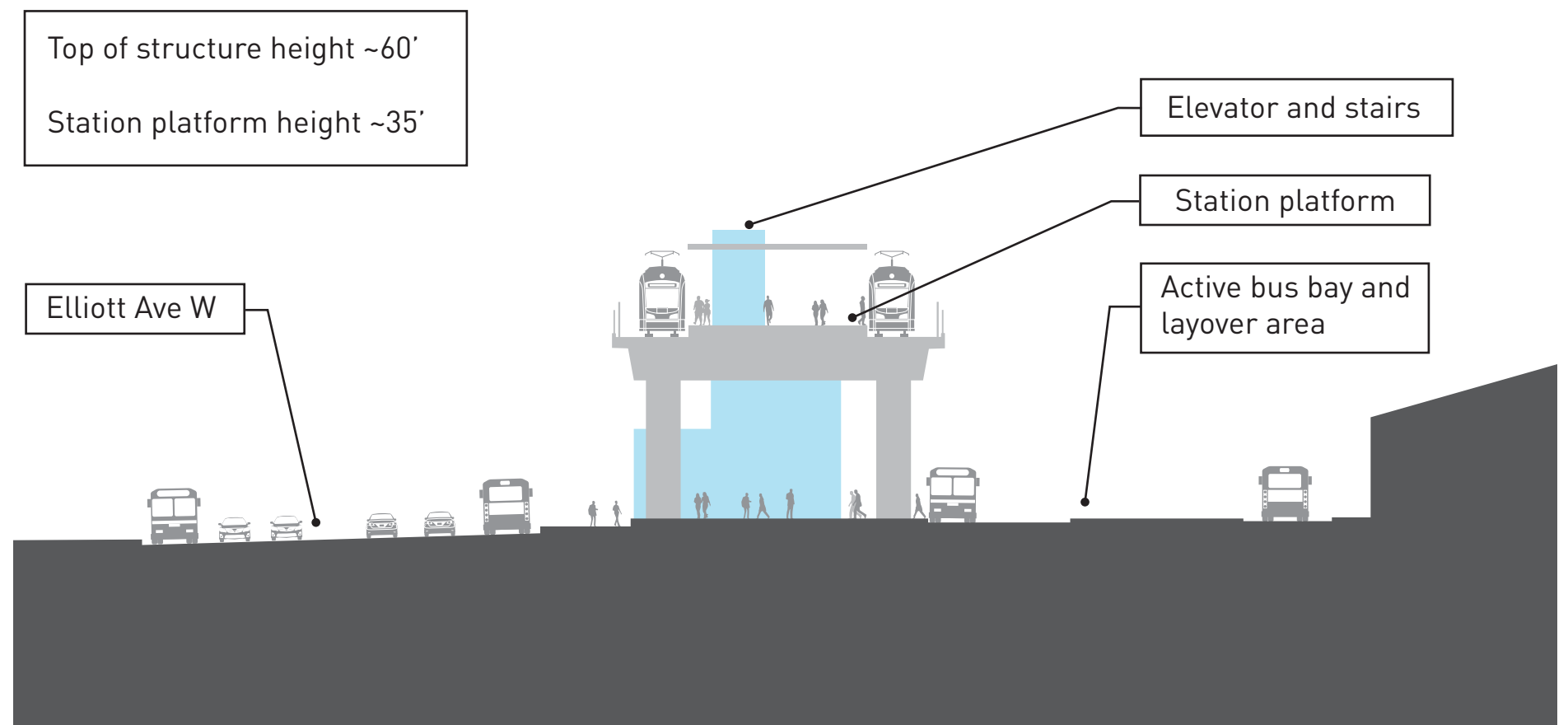
Elevated Prospect Street  
(SIB-2)

## Looking inside the station



### Station site plan

\* The station area footprint is the approximate area that Sound Transit would maintain for light rail operations.



### Station cross section

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Station architectural and landscape design is not complete.



# Smith Cove Station

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Retained Cut Prospect Street Station (SIB-3)

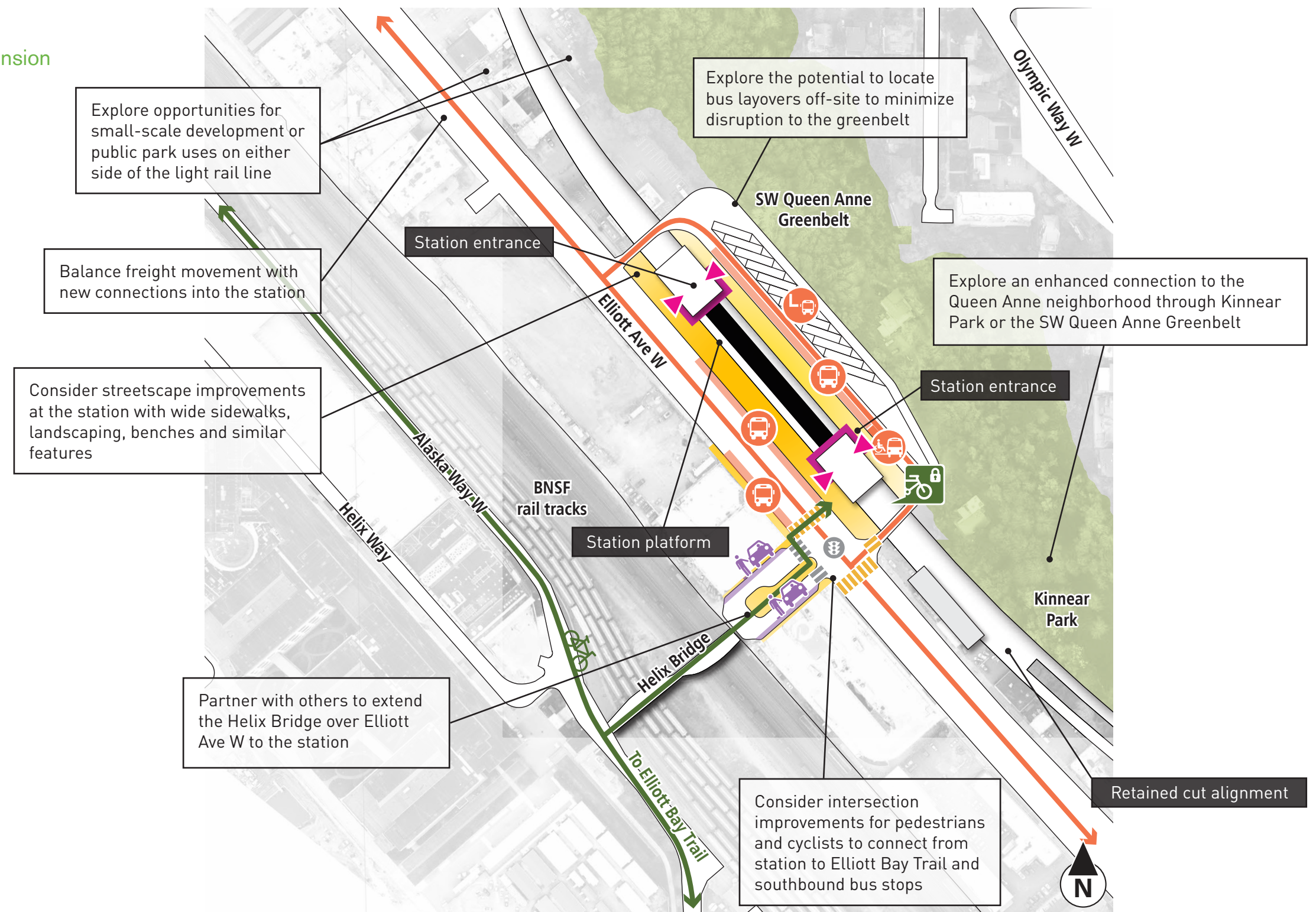
Other Alternative

## Station context plan

The Retained Cut Prospect Street station alternative would serve residents of South Magnolia and West Queen Anne. The Helix Bridge, crossing over Elliott Ave W, would connect pedestrians and cyclists to the Expedia campus and Centennial Park. The immediate station area is dominated by auto-dependent uses along Elliott Ave W—a busy arterial and major freight corridor—and the SW Queen Anne Greenbelt to the east of the station.

There is potential to provide connections to Queen Anne through Kinnear Park, expanding the bikeshed and connections to the station. The constrained site conditions at this location would likely result in the station performing as a simple, functional transit hub, and there are few opportunities for development or other enhancements near the station.

*This station alternative was not identified as preferred by the Sound Transit Board. This page summarizes ideas and recommendations that are unique to this alternative as well as those that apply to all alternatives.*



- Station entrance
- Existing bike route
- Bus routes
- Bus layover area
- Pedestrian focused area
- Bike and personal mobility storage
- Active bus bay
- Paratransit
- Pickup/drop-off area
- Existing signalized intersection and/or crosswalks
- Proposed signalized intersection and/or crosswalks

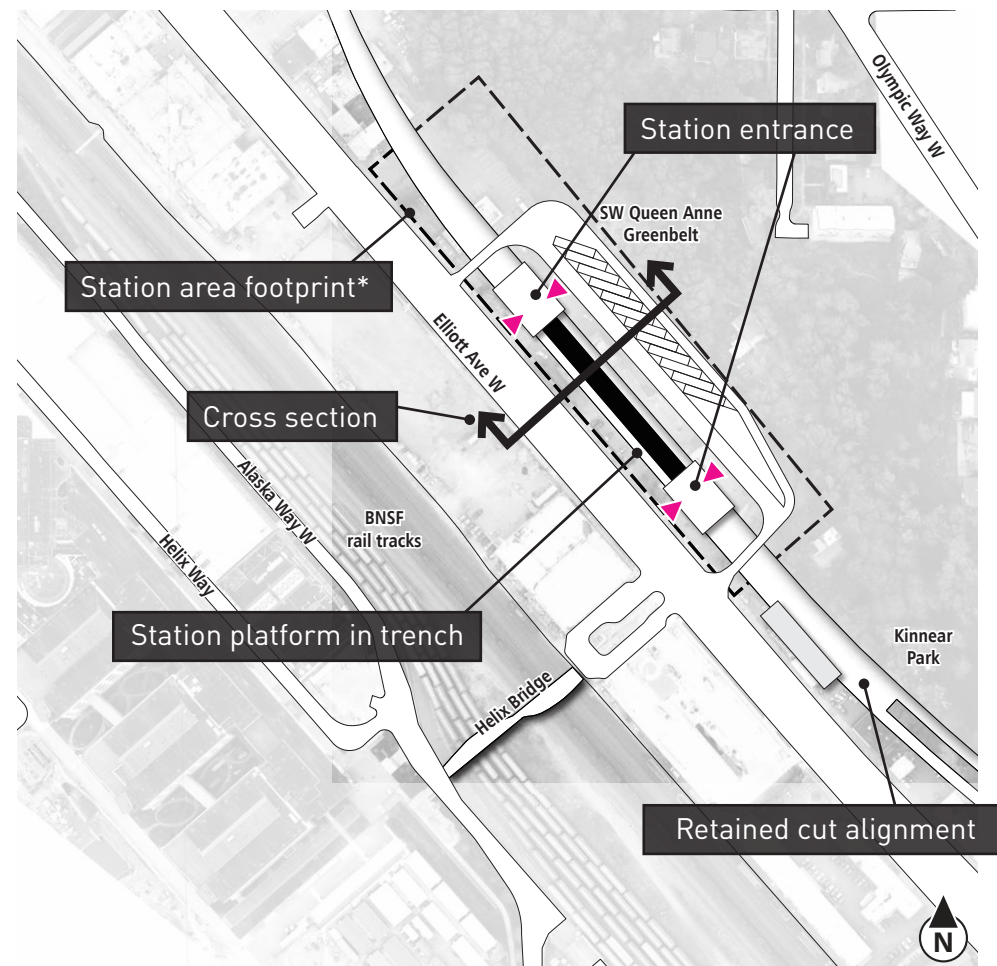


# Smith Cove Station

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Link Extension

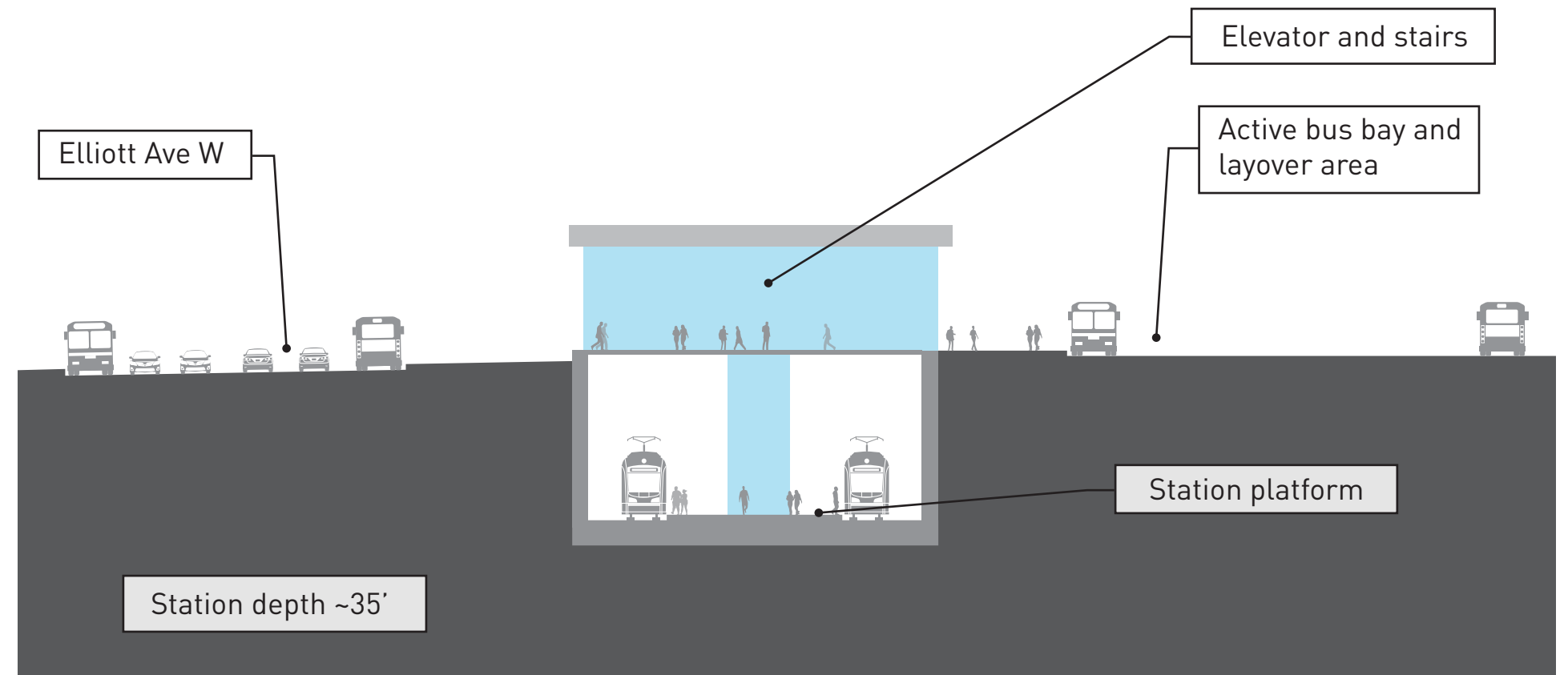
Retained Cut Prospect  
Street Station (SIB-3)

## Looking inside the station



### Station site plan

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### Station cross section

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