



Everett Link Extension



What is an EIS?

The project is currently in the environmental review phase, which includes preparing an Environmental Impact Statement. The EIS evaluates the potential adverse or beneficial effects of each alternative to the physical, human, and natural environment and also proposes measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate significant adverse effects where appropriate.

The EIS will be published in two documents: a Draft EIS and a Final EIS. The Draft EIS will be available for public review and comment for at least 45 days. The Final EIS will address public, Tribe, and agency comments; will include any necessary revisions to correct technical errors; and will add any new information that became available since the Draft EIS was published.

Preparing the Draft EIS

The Draft EIS will describe how the alternatives might affect the natural and built environments during both construction and future operations. We are conducting a detailed evaluation including identifying potential property acquisitions, conducting fieldwork, and working with local jurisdictions to coordinate with their planning processes. Our current timeline estimates that the Draft EIS will be ready for public review in early 2026.

We'll prepare informational materials to explain key findings from the Draft EIS that will help you compare the alternatives. During the comment period, we'll ask you for feedback on the Draft EIS. Your input is a key part of the environmental review process and will help the Sound Transit Board understand what is important to you as they identify a preferred alternative for the Final EIS.

What will be studied in the EIS?

The EIS will comply with all applicable environmental laws, regulations, and executive orders relevant to the proposed project. Sound Transit proposes to address the following topics within the EIS:

- Acquisitions, displacements, and relocations.
- Air quality, including greenhouse gas emissions.
- Economics.
- Ecosystems.
- Electromagnetic fields.
- Energy.
- Environmental justice.
- Geology and soils.
- Hazardous materials.
- Historic, cultural, and archeological resources including Section 106 (National Historic Preservation Act) resources and process.
- Land use.
- Noise and vibration.
- Parks and recreational resources.
- Public services, safety, and security.
- Section 4(f) of U.S. Department of Transportation Act and Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.
- Social resources, community facilities, and neighborhoods.
- Transportation (traffic, freight, navigation, transit, non-motorized).
- Utilities.
- Visual and aesthetic resources.
- Water resources.

In evaluating these topics, the EIS will address direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of both the construction and the operation of the project and will propose measures to avoid, minimize, or mitigate significant adverse effects where needed, to inform decision makers, the public, Tribes, and agencies about the project.

Project timeline



How did we get here?

From 2021 to June 2023, this project was in the alternatives development phase — a period of technical analysis, community engagement, and advisory group recommendations to narrow down alternatives. Based on what we heard during this phase, the Sound Transit Board identified alternatives to study in the Draft EIS Environmental Impact Statement.

What is the public comment period?

The Draft EIS comment period is an important milestone to provide input and help shape what this project looks like in your community.



How and when to comment

You'll be able to share your comments* on the Draft EIS through a variety of formats, including:



Online



Phone



Mail & Email



Meetings**



Comment in 2026

Sound Transit expects to release the Draft EIS in early 2026, followed by a comment period.

We'll notify the community through various print and digital media.

* Comments can be made in any language. We will translate in-language comments received via any of the formats listed above.

** In-person activities are contingent on state and federal guidelines in effect when the Draft EIS is released.



Interpreter 800-823-9230

Español Tagalog русский язык
漢語 한국어 日本語 Tiếng Việt

401 S. Jackson St., Seattle, WA 98104
800-201-4900 / TTY: 711
Email: main@soundtransit.org
Website: soundtransit.org

Information in alternative formats:

800-201-4900 / TTY: 711

Email: accessibility@soundtransit.org

Questions?

Contact our Community Engagement team:
206-370-5533 or everettlink@soundtransit.org

Follow us:

