



# West Seattle and Ballard

## Link Extensions

## Good things are coming your way

The West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions will provide fast, reliable light rail connections to dense residential and job centers throughout the region. In addition, a new downtown Seattle light rail tunnel will provide capacity for the entire regional system to operate efficiently. Both extensions are part of the regional light rail system expansion approved by voters in November 2016. The map on the right is our starting point, called the representative project – **let us know what YOU think!**

### West Seattle to downtown:

- › Adds 4.7 miles of light rail service from downtown Seattle to West Seattle's Alaska Junction neighborhood.
- › Primarily on an elevated guideway with a new rail-only fixed span crossing of the Duwamish River.
- › Includes 5 light rail stations (3 new and 2 expanded) at Alaska Junction, Avalon, Delridge, SODO and Stadium.
- › Connects to existing Link service, continuing north to Lynnwood in 2024 and Everett in 2036.
- › Open for service in 2030.

### Ballard to downtown:

- › Adds 7.1 miles of light rail service from downtown Seattle to Ballard's Market Street area, including a new downtown Seattle rail-only tunnel.
- › Includes both tunneled and elevated alignments and a rail-only movable bridge over Salmon Bay.
- › Includes 9 light rail stations (7 new and 2 expanded) at International District/Chinatown, Midtown, Westlake, Denny, South Lake Union, Seattle Center, Smith Cove, Interbay and Ballard.
- › Connects to existing Link service, continuing south to Tacoma in 2030.
- › Open for service in 2035.

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### What is the representative project?

The representative project shown above is Sound Transit's starting point for developing alternatives to the general route and station locations for the new Link light rail extensions. These are not final, and we're working with the public to develop alternatives, or variations, to the representative project. The Sound Transit Board is expected to identify the preferred route and station locations in April 2019. A final decision on the project to build will be made after completion of environmental review in 2022.

# West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions



## Public feedback

Your job is to share your ideas, concerns and questions about this project by:

- ▶ Participating in neighborhood forums, open houses or other in-person or online events.
- ▶ Sharing project information with your community.
- ▶ Getting involved in the project in one of the many ways listed on the back of this handout.



## The Stakeholder Advisory Group

This is a comprehensive group made up of members of the public who represent their community within the project corridor. Advisory group members:

- ▶ Highlight specific issues and trade-offs in the corridor.
- ▶ Make recommendations at key milestones.



## The Elected Leadership Group

This is a comprehensive group of elected officials who represent the project corridor and make recommendations to the Sound Transit Board. Leadership group members:

- ▶ Appoint Stakeholder Advisory Group members.
- ▶ Work with project staff to understand and evaluate tradeoffs.
- ▶ Recommend a preferred alternative.

# Planning: 2017–2022

## 1 Representative projects and alternatives development

### ST3: Our starting point

The Sound Transit 3 (ST3) Plan included representative projects that established the transit mode, approximate route, number of stations and general station locations. These were critical in developing detailed project budgets and schedules and are the starting point for alternatives development.

### Early scoping

The project officially kicked off in October 2017. The early scoping period, which included community and online open houses, took place between Feb. 2 and March 6, 2018. Early scoping activities included collecting public feedback and intensive work by the stakeholder advisory and elected leadership groups as well as other community members throughout the project corridor. In response to early scoping, the project team developed the first round of alternatives to carry forward into more detailed technical analysis.

### Alternatives screening

The alternatives developed following early scoping will be studied, refined and narrowed down through April 2019, when the Sound Transit Board is expected to identify a preferred alternative and other alternatives to study in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). You can learn more about these alternatives on our website: [soundtransit.org/wsblink](https://soundtransit.org/wsblink).

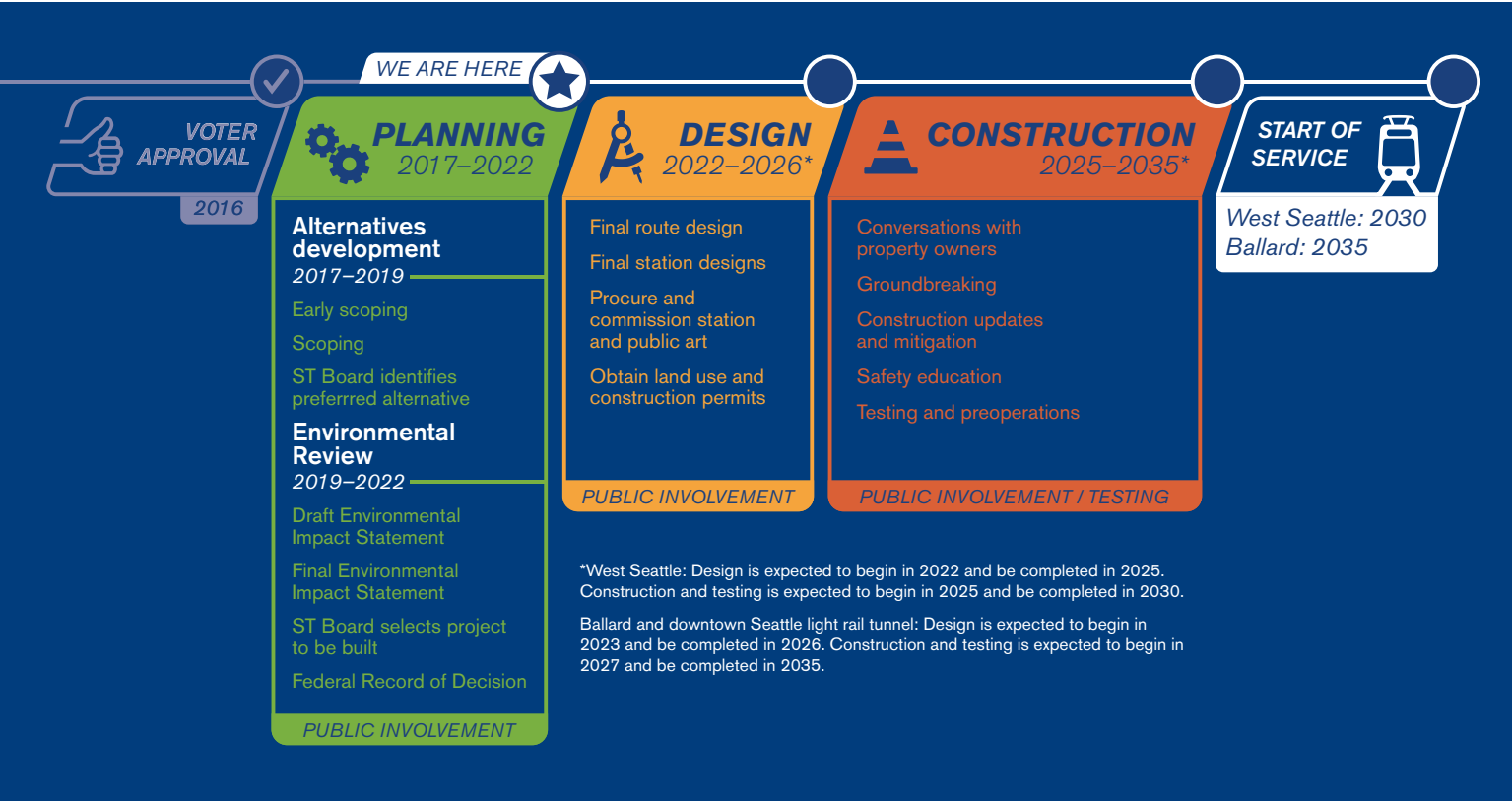


## 2 Identifying a preferred alternative

At the end of the alternatives development phase, the Sound Transit Board will identify a preferred alternative, including route and station options. Next, the environmental review process will further evaluate the preferred alternative, as well as other alternatives. The final decision on the project to be built will not be made until after the Final EIS is issued.

To get to a preferred alternative, we are reaching out to the public and asking for feedback throughout the alternatives development process. There are a variety of ways you and your community can get involved and be heard, like participating in neighborhood forums, following us on social media and visiting our website. You can also track the work and progress of the stakeholder advisory and elected leadership groups, which provide feedback and make recommendations to the Sound Transit Board as alternatives move through further evaluation and analysis.

### Project timeline



Para información acerca del proyecto llame al: 1-800-823-9230 // 프로젝트에 관한 정보는 다음으로 연락하십시오: 1-800-823-9230  
Звоните 1-800-823-9230, чтобы получить информацию о проекте. // 要瞭解項目資訊，請致電：1-800-823-9230

For information in alternative formats, call 1-800-201-4900 / TTY Relay: 711 or email [accessibility@soundtransit.org](mailto:accessibility@soundtransit.org).







## Get involved

Alternatives development is an important time to engage. It's during this phase that route, station locations, the preferred alternative and other alternatives to study during the environmental review process will be identified.

In response to the public's request to build these projects quickly, we've established an aggressive planning and environmental analysis timeline that relies on early and lasting community consensus on a preferred alternative.

There are many ways to get involved with this project – we hope to hear from you online or meet with you at one of our events!

## Equity and inclusion

Sound Transit is committed to inclusively engaging communities along the project corridors, including those in historically underrepresented communities. We recognize this project will bring both benefits and impacts to many who live and work in the area. During environmental review, we will work to identify and analyze such benefits and impacts with the goal of reaching out, translating and delivering projects that best serve the needs of all.

