

2026 Service Plan Part 2

Resolution No. R2026-04

Rider Experience and Operations Committee

3/5/2026



Why we are here

Ask the Rider Experience and Operations Committee to *recommend* **Resolution No. R2026-04** *for approval* at the March Sound Transit Board Meeting.

Resolution No. R2026-04

Adopts Part Two of the 2026 Service Plan and approves major service changes to ST Express routes

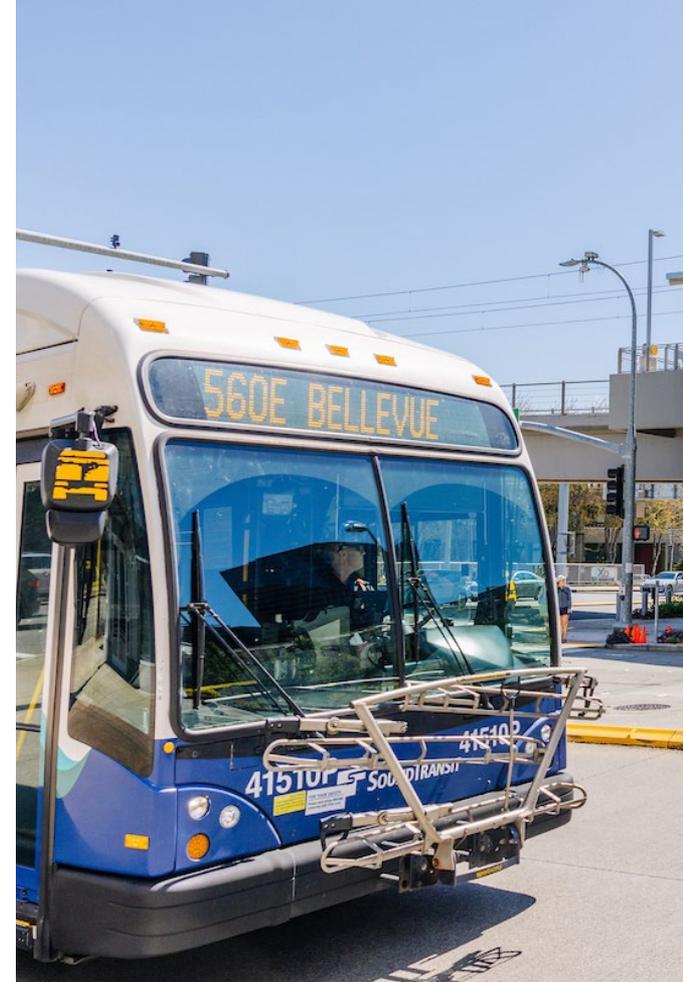
Presentation overview

- 2026 Service Plan overview and timeline
- ST Express proposals by route
- Engagement summary
- Title VI analysis results
- Resolution & next steps



2026 Service Plan overview

- Part 1 included minor rail service changes to be implemented starting this spring.
- Part 2 includes major and minor changes to ST Express that improve regional connections and leverage the 1 Line extension to Federal Way and 2 Line Crosslake connection.
- **ST Express service changes approved by the Board would begin fall 2026.**



Part 2 of the 2026 Service Plan proposes ST Express changes that:

- *Leverage the taxpayer investment in mobility improvements of Link light rail openings: geography, frequency, span, capacity*
- *Together with partner transit agencies, provide more frequent, all-day, all-week connections*
- *Coordinate service changes with transit partners to ensure regional connectivity and coverage*

2026 Service Plan timeline



2025

Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec



Link and Sounder (Part 1)



Public updates



Sounder N Line survey



Board update



ST Express (Part 2)



ST Express Survey (April)



ST Express engagement

2026

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug



Rail service change implementation



ST Express engagement



Board action



ST Express service change implementation (Fall 2026)

ST Express Proposals

513 Seaway – Lynnwood

▶▶▶ Peak Only  249 Avg. Daily Boardings
(Pre LLE)

Proposal:

Add bidirectional service, remove stop at Eastmont P&R.

Route 513 would run in both directions during its hours of operation.

It would also no longer serve Eastmont P&R.



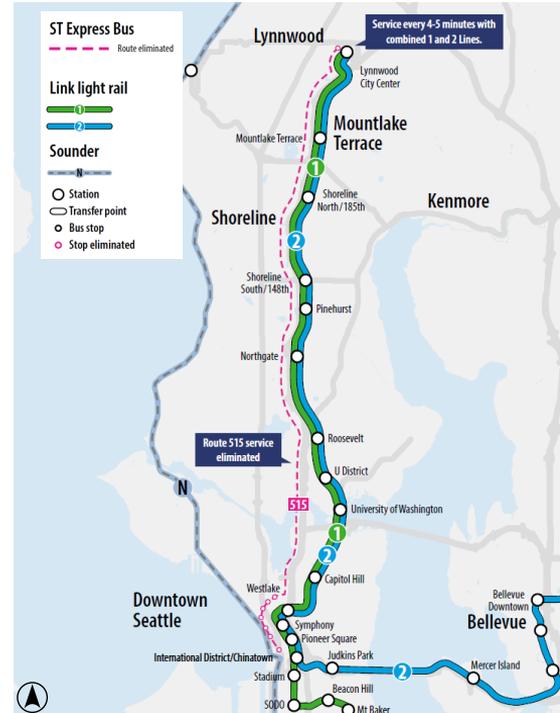
515 Lynnwood – Seattle

▶▶▶ Peak Only 👤👤👤 893 Avg. Daily Boardings

Authorized: Discontinue Route

The Board authorized this action in Resolution No. R2024-03.

Route 515 would be **replaced by more frequent 1 Line and 2 Line service**. Riders would be able to use new overnight services when Link is not running.



522 Woodinville – Roosevelt

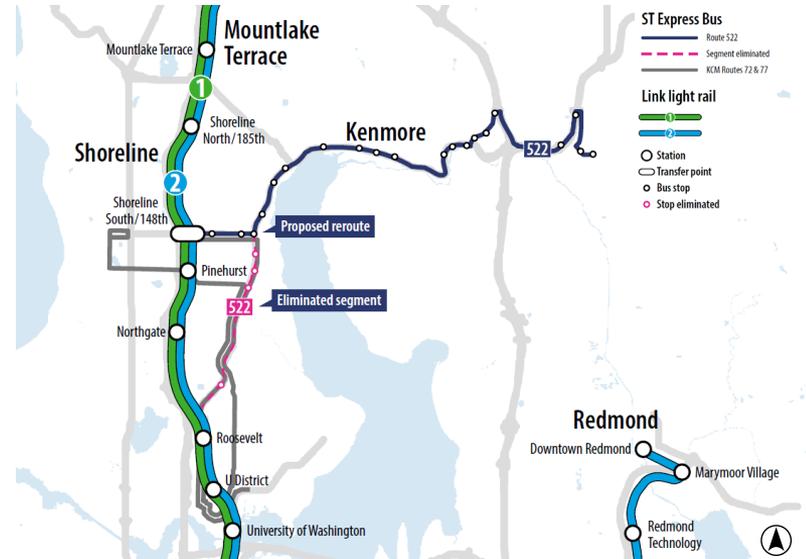
 All-Day

 2,152 Avg. Daily Boardings

Proposal: Route to Shoreline S

Route 522 would be rerouted to Shoreline South Station via NE 145th. Headways would be improved to 15 minutes for most of the day.

South of NE 145th Street, Metro routes 72 or 77 connect to Roosevelt or U District Stations.



535 Lynnwood – Bellevue

 All-Day

 1,593 Avg. Daily Boardings

Proposal: Improve Weekend Service

Route 535 would have more frequent service on Saturday, and new Sunday service.



The implementation of this proposal is subject to operational capacity at our partner agencies and may be partially implemented or deferred.

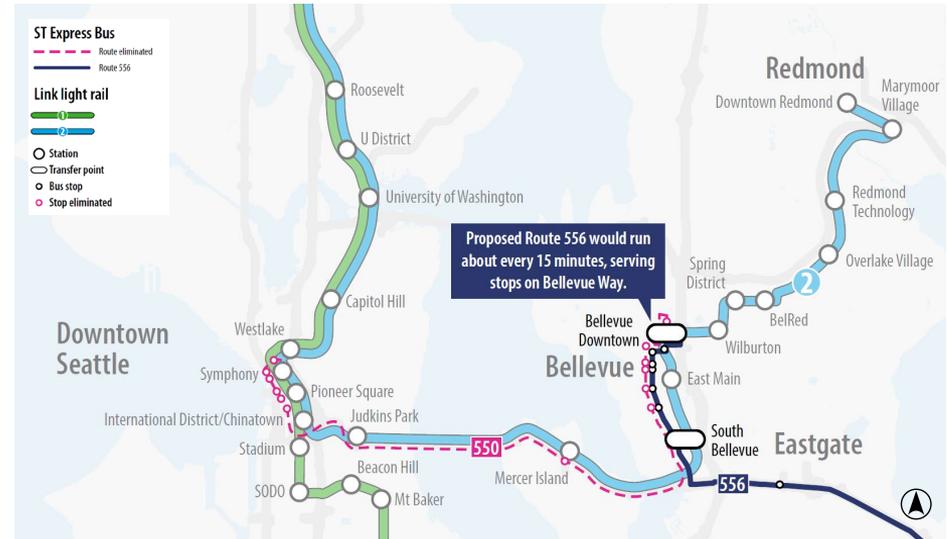
550 Bellevue – Seattle

 All-Day

 4,002 Avg. Daily Boardings

Proposal: Discontinue Route

Route 550 would be replaced by more frequent 2 Line service. Riders would be able to use new overnight services when Link is not running.



554 Issaquah – Seattle

 All-Day  2,624 Avg. Daily Boardings

556 Issaquah – UW

 Peak Only  326 Avg. Daily Boardings

Proposal: Discontinue Route 554, shorten and increase frequency of Route 556.

Riders may use revised Route 556 to connect with the 2 Line at South Bellevue Station or Metro routes from Highlands/Eastgate



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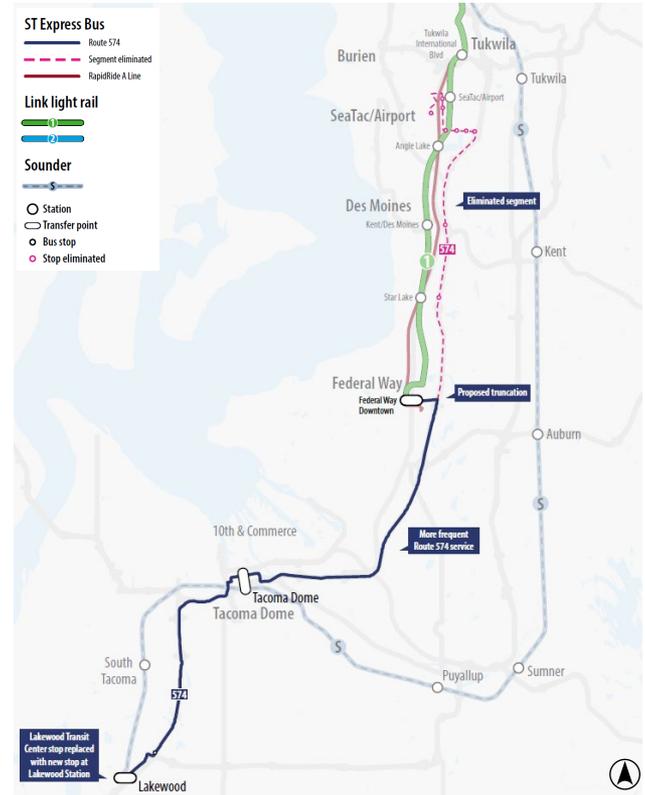
574 Lakewood – SeaTac

 All-Day

 1,826 Avg. Daily Boardings

Proposal: Shorten to Federal Way; increase frequency to every 15 minutes; shift Lakewood terminus to Lakewood Station.

Riders would transfer to the 1 Line at Federal Way to connect to SeaTac and beyond. Riders would be able to use new overnight services when Link is not running.



580 South Hill – Puyallup Station

▶▶▶ Peak Only 👤👤👤 12 Avg. Daily Boardings

Proposal: Discontinue Route

Riders may use
Pierce Transit Route
400, or park at the
510-space garage at
Puyallup Station.

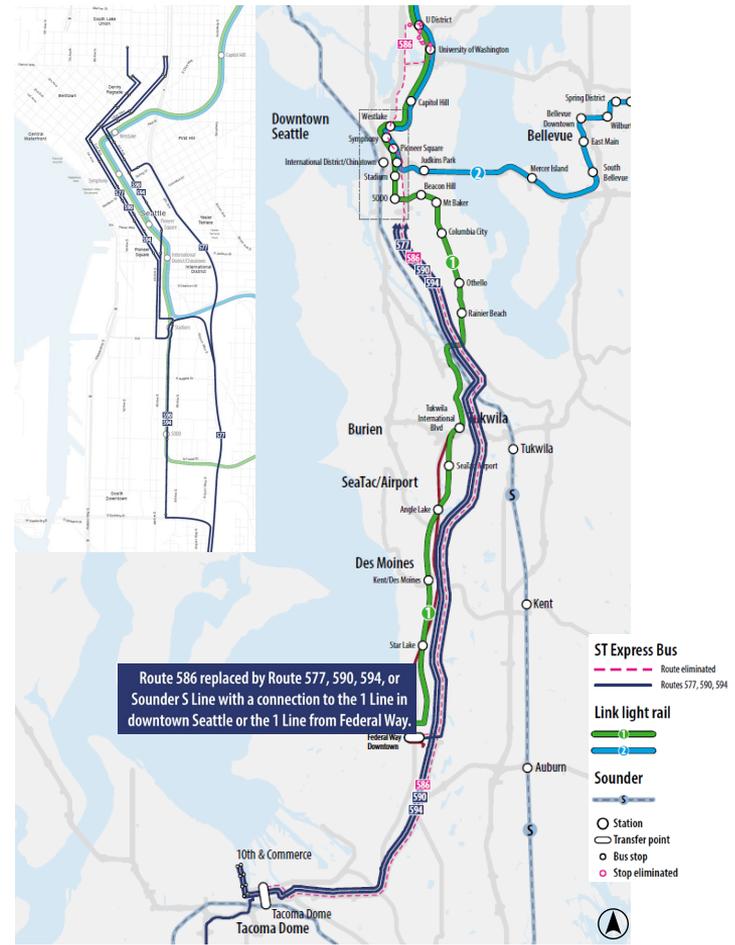


586 Tacoma – UW

▶▶▶ Peak Only 👤👤👤 256 Avg. Daily Boardings

Proposal: Discontinue Route

Routes 577, 578, 590, 594, and 595 (or Sounder S Line) and a transfer to either Link 1 Line or 2 Line provide service to the University of Washington with similar or better travel time.



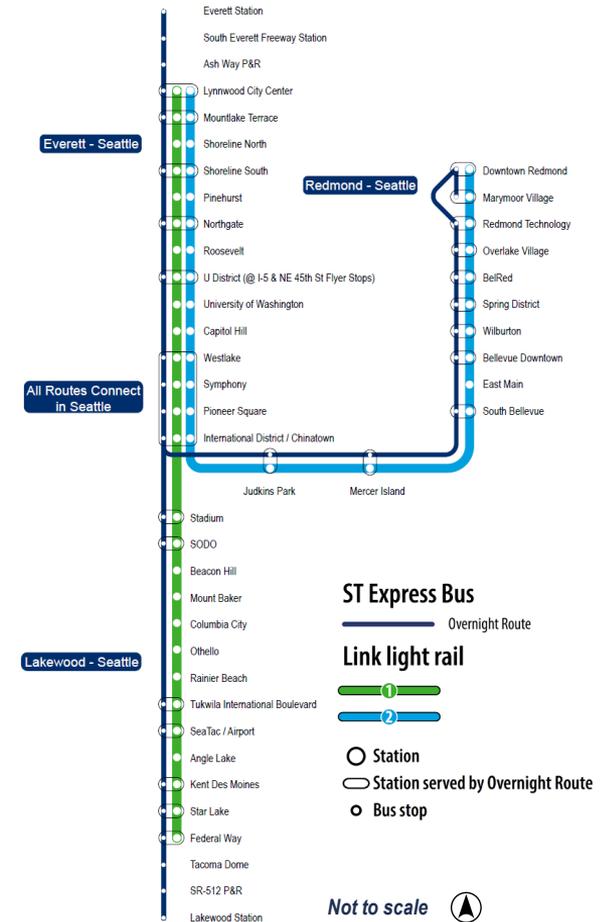


Overnight Routes

Proposal: Begin service on new routes

- Lakewood – Seattle via SeaTac
- Redmond – Seattle via Bellevue
- Everett – Seattle

Three new routes would begin service, providing connections for riders when Link is not running.



The implementation of this proposal is subject to operational capacity at our partner agencies and may be partially implemented or deferred.

Engagement Summary

Overview of Engagement Activities

- Phase 1  Spring 2025 // Understanding Priorities
 - 24 ambassador shifts & 2336 survey responses
- Phase 2  Summer 2025 // Informing of Rail Changes
 - 15 outreach events, educational video
- Phase 3  Fall 2025 // Survey for Bus Changes
 - 26 ambassador shifts, 3 open houses, outreach events, 4,489 survey responses
- Phase 4  Winter 2026 // Reporting of Findings
 - Ambassador shifts & virtual information sessions

ST Express Proposals & Results



Support

- 513** Seaway TC – Lynnwood + !
- 535** Lynnwood – Bellevue +
- 550** Bellevue – Seattle ×
- Overnight Service +



Oppose

- 515** Lynnwood – Seattle ×
- 554** Issaquah – Seattle ×
- 556** Issaquah – University District + !
- 586** Tacoma – University District ×



Mixed

- 522** Roosevelt Station – Woodinville !
- 574** Lakewood – SeaTac + !
- 580** South Hill – Puyallup ×



Respondents' Priorities

- Travel Time
- Access to Destinations



Service Increase



Route Discontinued



Routing Change

Title VI Analysis Results

Title VI Equity Analysis: Route Level Findings

Route	Results	Mitigations
550 554 556	Disparate impact	New Crosslake 2 Line service will be available, and proposal would increase service levels on Route 556, connecting riders from Issaquah to 2 Line service at South Bellevue or Bellevue Downtown Stations
574	Disparate impact & Disproportionate burden	New Federal Way Link Extension 1 Line service is available, and proposal would increase service levels between Lakewood, Tacoma and Federal Way.
586	Disparate impact & Disproportionate burden	Taking Sounder or Route 590 and transferring to Link would provide comparable, if not faster, alternatives that run more often.

Title VI Equity Analysis: Systemwide

Systemwide analysis compares benefits and impacts over multiple years.

The systemwide analysis did not identify any findings of adverse effects on protected populations from September 2023 to September 2026.

Resolution & Next Steps

Resolution No. R2026-04

Adopting Part Two of the 2026 Service Plan and approving major service changes to ST Express routes

Affected routes:

- New overnight service
- 513
- 522
- 535
- 550
- 554
- 556
- 574
- 580
- 586

Next Steps

- *Recommendation and final approval*
 - Today: seeking recommendation of approval to full Board
 - March 26 Board meeting: seeking approval
- *Coordinate with partners to implement approved changes:*
 - *June: Discontinue service to Eastmont Park & Ride*
 - *August: All other ST Express changes*

Thank you.



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