

Sound Transit Readiness FIFA World Cup 26

*Board of Directors
02/26/2026*

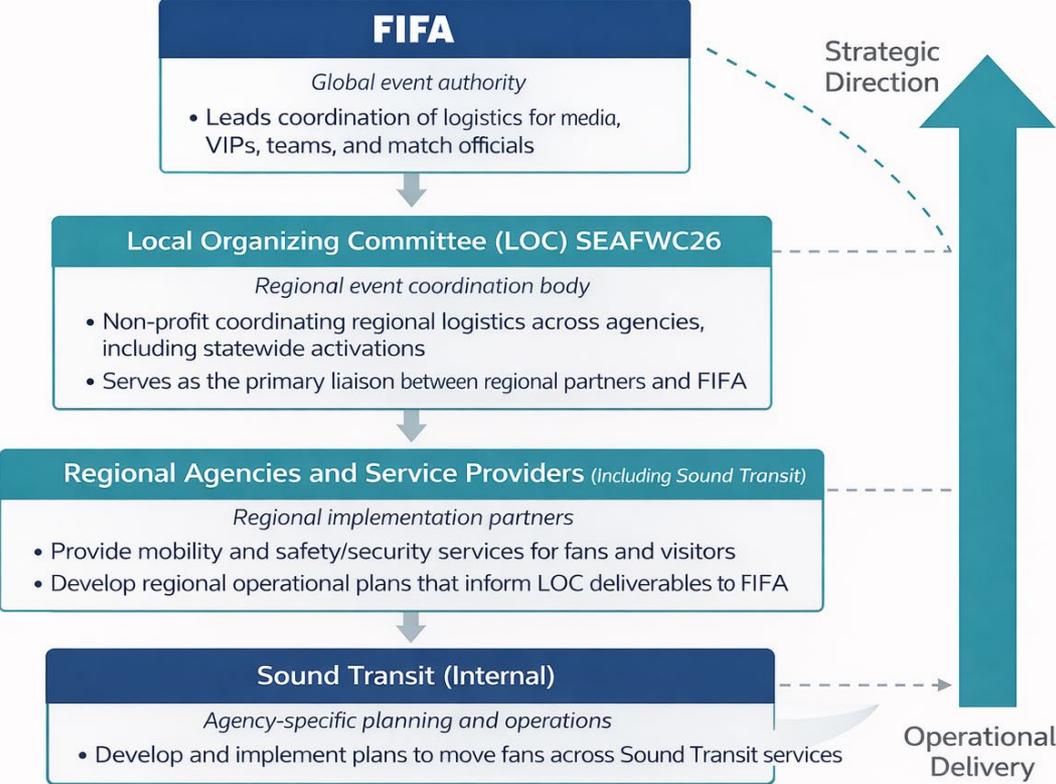


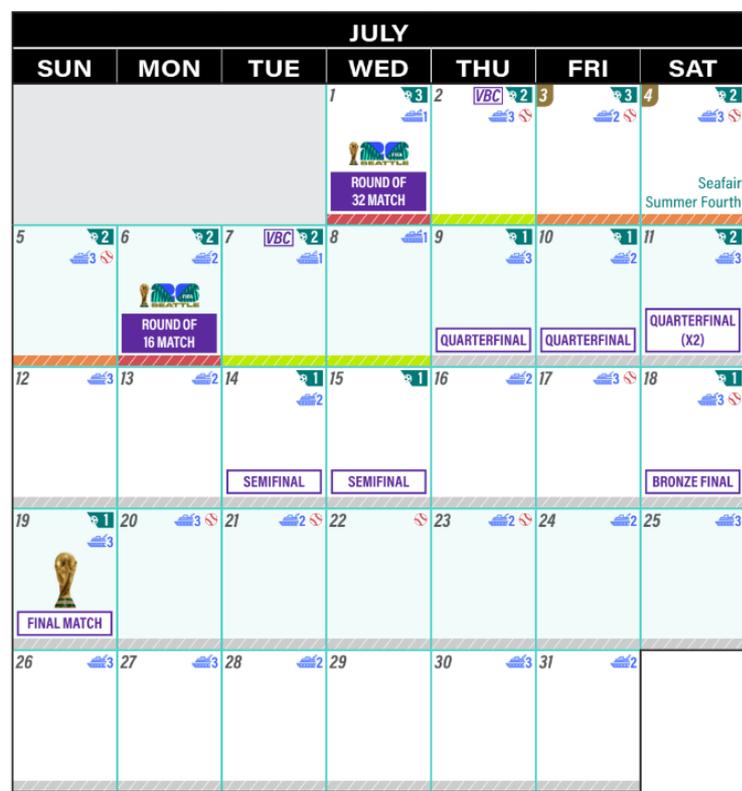
Why are we here?

- Provide overview of regional context of FIFA World Cup 2026
- Provide overview of Sound Transit's final draft plans for FIFA World Cup 2026

***This presentation is for information only,
no Board action is requested.***

FIFA World Cup 26 Regional Coordinating Relationship





 SEATTLE MATCHES

NOTABLE NON-SEATTLE MATCHES

Holiday/Observed Holiday

 Seattle Fan Celebration Active

 Number of Matches Per Day

 Match in Vancouver

LEGEND

 Seattle Mariners Home Game

 Revive 1-5 Work

 Number of Cruise Ship Sailings

 Local Events

Expected Intensity Level*

 Baseline

 Moderate

 High

 Highest

FIFA World Cup 26 Match Details

 Date	 Time	 Match Type	Teams
Monday, June 15	12:00 P.M.	Group Match	 Belgium vs  Egypt
Friday, June 19	12:00 P.M.	Group Match	 USA vs  Australia
Wednesday, June 24	12:00 P.M.	Group Match	UEFA Playoff A (TBD*) vs  Qatar
Friday, June 26	8:00 P.M.	Group Match	 Egypt vs  Iran
Wednesday, July 1	1:00 P.M.	Round of 32 Match	TBD (1 st Place of Group G vs 3 rd Place Finisher)
Monday, July 6	5:00 P.M.	Round of 16 Match	TBD (Round 32 winners Match 81 vs 82)

What festivities do we expect regionally?

Seattle FIFA Fan Celebrations

- Seattle as host-city destination for fans to watch the matches (like a tailgate)
- Multiple locations activated: Seattle Center, Pacific Place, Waterfront, SODO, ID, Central District, and Westlake – varied levels of activation during tournament

Statewide FIFA Fan Zones

- Fan gatherings, with focus on local and regional engagement
- Across Washington cities: **Everett (Box Car Park)**, **Tacoma (TBD)**, Bremerton, Bellingham, Olympia, Tri-Cities, Spokane, Vancouver, Yakima

Community Specific Festivities

- City and community hosted viewing parties – levels of activation TBD

Sound Transit FIFA World Cup 26 Highlights

Modal and Service Operations



1 2 Link

Crosslake Connection opens March 28th!

1 and 2 Lines service every 8min until 1am on gamedays



S N Sounder

Gameday special event Sounder service (details varies by game start time), ongoing coordination with BNSF and Amtrak



T T Line

12-min headways all day on gamedays

Expanded service span for evening matches, matching Sounder schedule



ST Express

ST Express service adds post-game for gamedays, ongoing coordination with partners

Overnight Pilot Service between Airport and Downtown Seattle starts in March



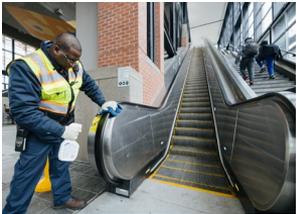
Rail Contingency

Temporary Charter bus support for rail contingency for tournament

Partnership with Transportation Network Companies for accessible vehicles

Sound Transit FIFA World Cup 26 Highlights

Station/Passenger Experience



- Increased facilities and vertical conveyance cleaning and response staff
- Staff ambassadors deployed and added station agents
- Micromobility and parking strategies at key stations
- Innovative bathrooms deployed (Throne Labs)
- ORCA open payment and multi-day passes launched
- Station activation strategies and community partnerships

Passenger Communications



- Know Before You Go communications campaign launched, stay engaged via our website* and social media channels
- Accessible and multi-lingual communications strategies, welcoming local and international crowds
- Temporary wayfinding and signage at key stations, focus on regional connections

Sound Transit FIFA World Cup 26 Highlights

Safety and Security



Prior to events

- Increased staff and security contractor training
- Tabletop and functional exercises, includes partner agencies

During the events

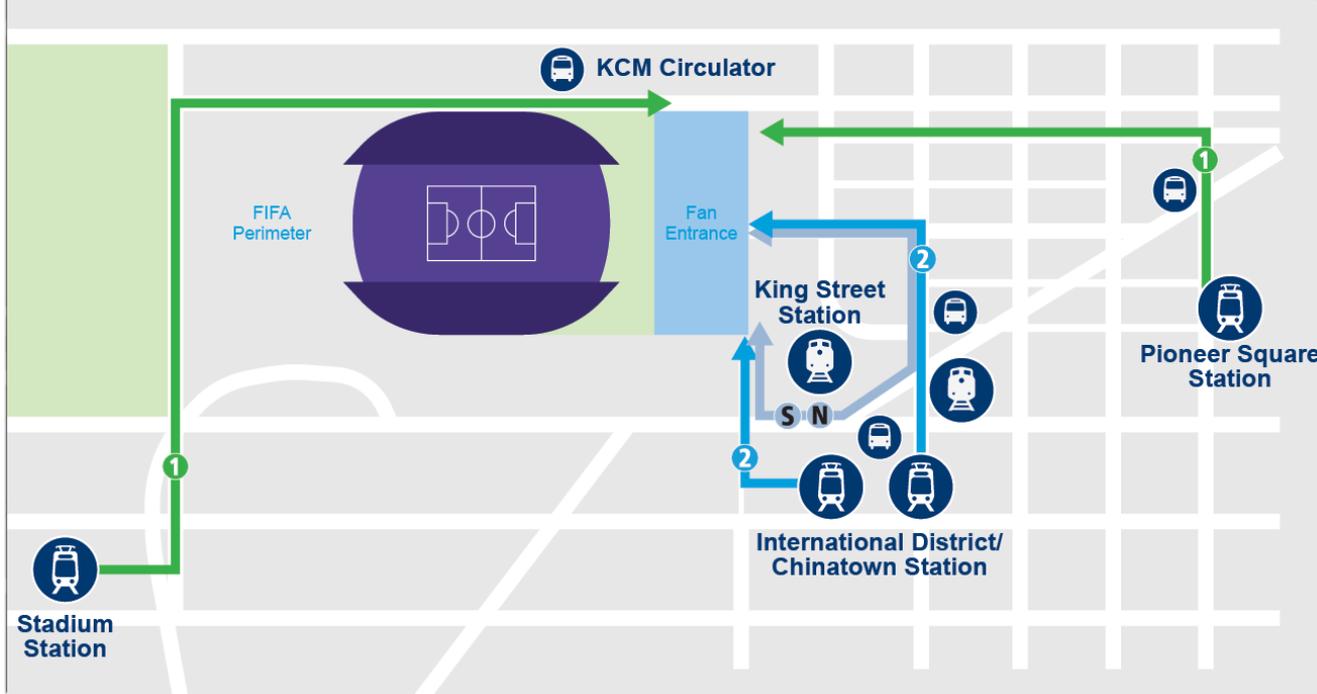
- Increased Security staff systemwide
- Emergency Operations Center activated at various levels
- Crowd management and metering control equipment deployed
- IT command room and cybersecurity support increased
- Additional fare engagement staff at platforms and on trains



Access to Seattle Stadium (Lumen Field)

Key Takeaway

Given FIFA perimeter around Seattle Stadium (Lumen Field), we will need to leverage multiple stations on Link to move crowds during gamedays.



Destination Based Approach

North of downtown use Pioneer Square

East of downtown and PWD* use IDS

South of downtown use Stadium

Within downtown use KCM shuttle or regular bus service

* *Passengers with Disabilities*

Next Steps

- Finalize plans for FIFA World Cup 2026 by end of Q1
- Continue to partner with LOC and other external agencies to drive internal and regional readiness for the tournament
- Ramp-up communications push, stay engaged via our website*, social media channels, and rider alerts
- Next Board of Directors update planned for April

Thank you.



 [soundtransit.org](https://www.soundtransit.org)

