

# *West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions*

## *Initial assessment results*

System Expansion Committee | 10/10/2019





# *Why we are here*

- Review **public feedback** on initial assessment of potential additional alternatives
- **Should any of these be added** to the list of Draft EIS alternatives identified by the Board in May



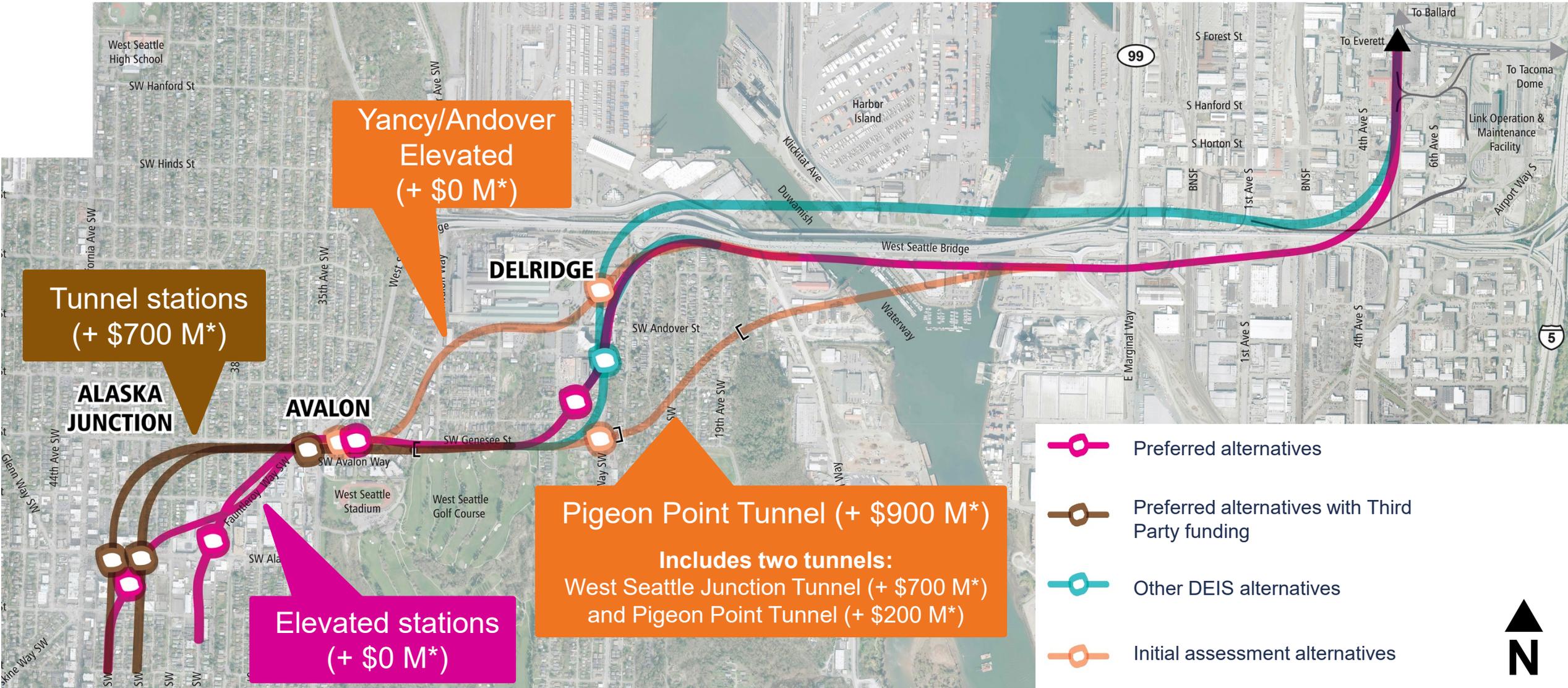
# May 23rd Board Action

## Identified Draft EIS alternatives:

- Preferred Alternatives
- Preferred Alternatives with Third Party Funding
- Other Draft EIS alternatives

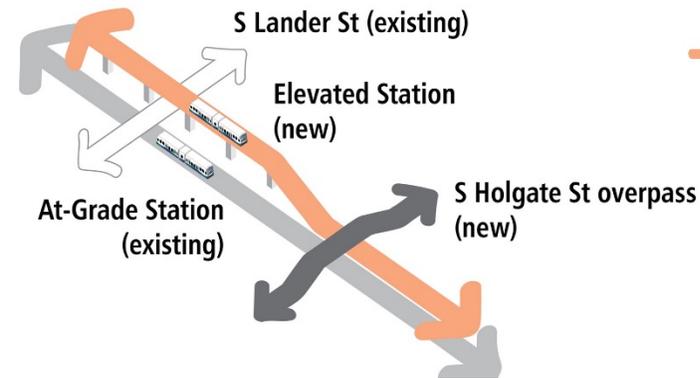
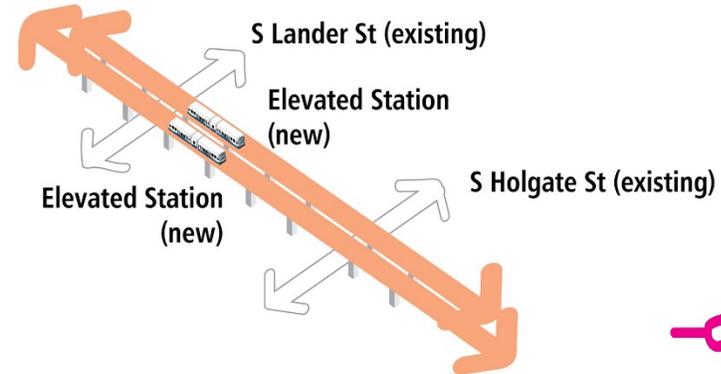
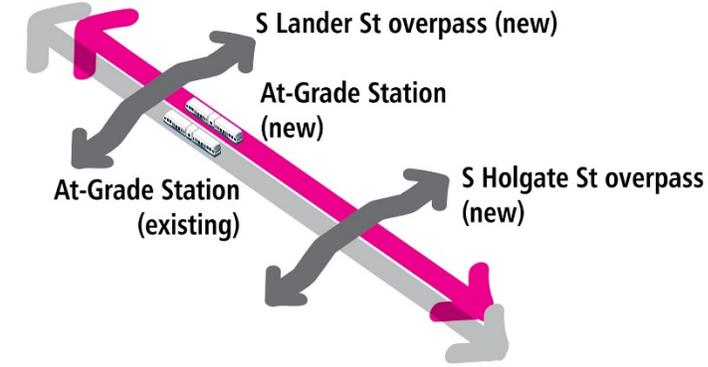
Board also requested *initial assessment* of potential *additional alternatives* suggested during EIS scoping period

# Draft EIS and Initial Assessment alternatives: West Seattle/Duwamish



\* Compared to ST3 Representative Project.

# Draft EIS and Initial Assessment alternatives: SODO



 Preferred alternatives

 Initial assessment alternatives





# Comparative estimates and schedule

Comparison to ST3 Representative Project		
Initial assessment alternative	Comparative Estimate (2018\$)	Schedule
Yancy/Andover Elevated	Similar	Similar
Pigeon Point Tunnel*	Requires 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party funding (+\$900 M*)	Schedule risk
SODO Elevated	Requires 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party funding (+\$300 M)	Similar
SODO Double Elevated		
SODO Partial Elevated	Similar	Similar
20 <sup>th</sup> Ave Tunnel Ballard	Requires 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party funding (+\$750 M)	Similar
20 <sup>th</sup> Ave Tunnel Ballard - BNSF Portal		
20 <sup>th</sup> Ave Tunnel Ballard - Thorndyke Portal	Requires 3 <sup>rd</sup> Party funding (+\$450 M)	Similar

\* Pigeon Point Tunnel Alternative connects to West Seattle Junction Tunnel stations only. Comparative estimate includes +\$200 M for Pigeon Point Tunnel and +\$700 M for West Seattle Junction Tunnel.

***Public feedback***



# *Initial Assessment Alternatives*

## *Community Engagement Snapshot*

- ✓ *Email updates to project listserv*
- ✓ *Emails to community organizations*
- ✓ *Community briefings and meetings*
- ✓ *Media briefing*
- ✓ *Fairs, festivals, farmers markets*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering*
- ✓ *Online open house*



# *Initial Assessment Alternatives*

## *Community Engagement Snapshot*

- ✓ *SODO Design Coalition briefing, 8/27*
- ✓ *SODO Neighbors briefing, 8/29*
- ✓ *Email update to project listserv, 9/5*
- ✓ *Ballard Alliance Rate Payer Advisory Board briefing, 9/11*
- ✓ *Media briefing, 9/12*
- ✓ *Email update to project listserv, 9/13*
- ✓ *SODO BIA briefing, 9/13*
- ✓ *C-ID Night Market, 9/14*
- ✓ *Magnolia Farmers Market, 9/14*
- ✓ *Emails to community groups, 9/16*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering (West Seattle), 9/17*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering (SODO), 9/19*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering (Ballard), 9/20*
- ✓ *Fishermen's Fall Festival, 9/21*
- ✓ *NSIA briefing, 9/24*
- ✓ *West Seattle Transportation Coalition briefing, 9/26*
- ✓ *Sustainable Ballard Festival, 9/28*
- ✓ *West Seattle Farmers Market, 9/29*
- ✓ *Email update to project listserv, 10/2*
- ✓ *SODO Design Coalition briefing, 10/7*

# Online Open House highlights

Sept. 13–Oct. 4, 2019

## TOTAL USERS

3,717

## COMMUNICATIONS BY AREA

West Seattle = 259

SODO = 90

Ballard = 242

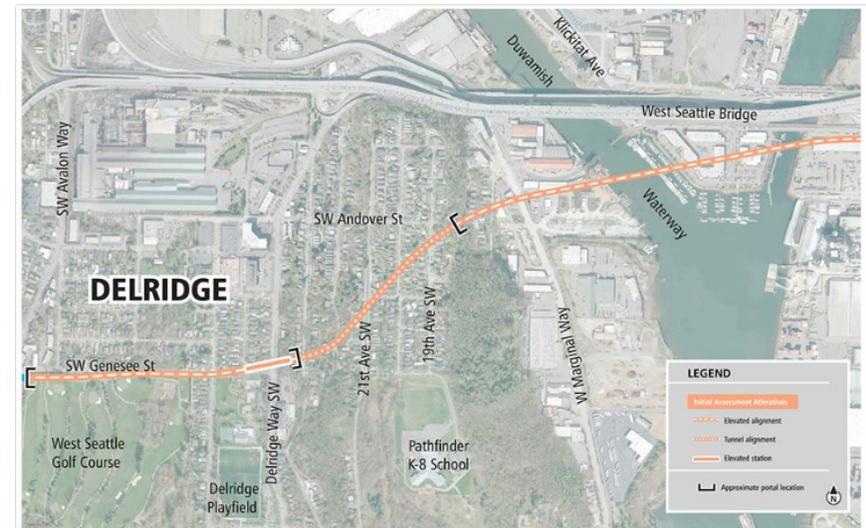
### Initial Assessment

#### Potential alternatives in initial assessment

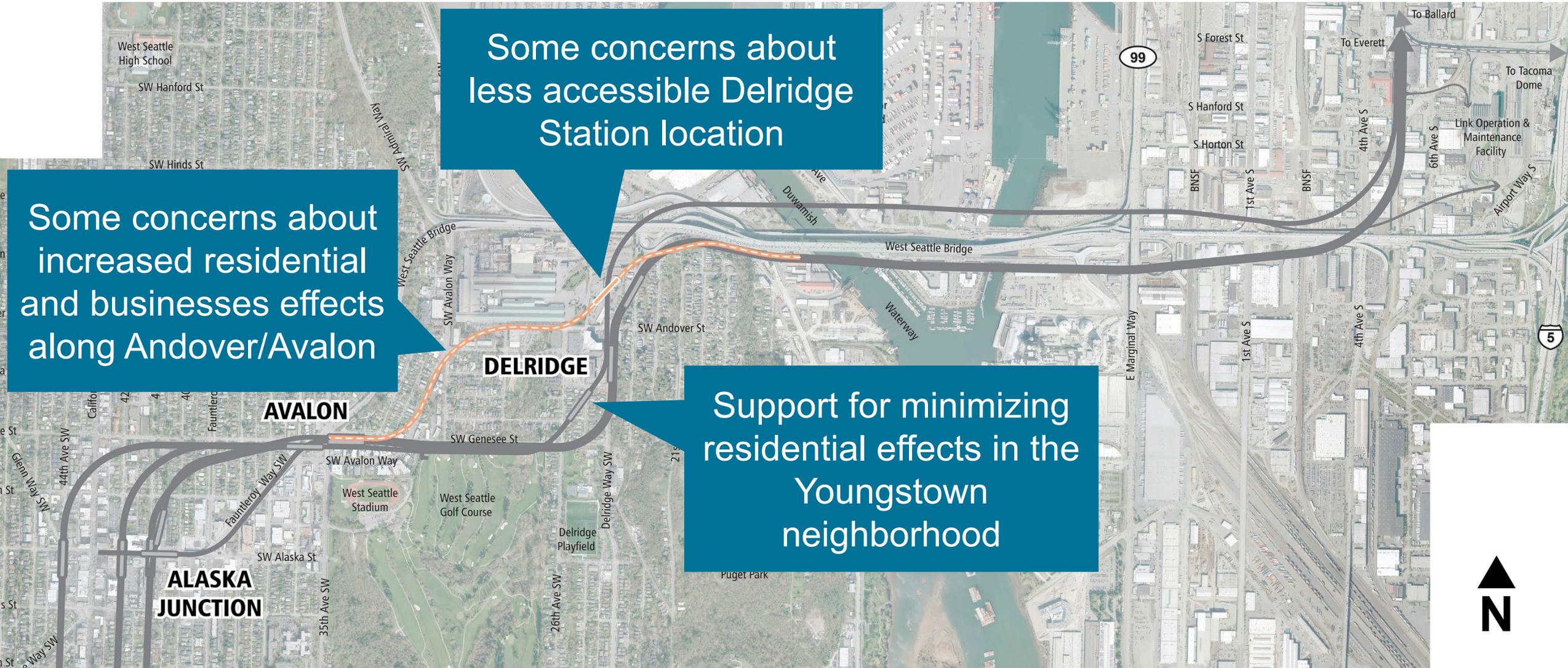
The Sound Transit Board will review the initial assessment results and community feedback in late October to determine whether any potential alternatives should be added to those previously identified for study in the Draft EIS. Below are the key differences between the potential alternatives and the alternatives previously studied in Level 3 of the alternatives development phase.

20th Ave Tunnel Ballard | SODO Elevated | Yancy/Andover Elevated | **Pigeon Point Tunnel**

#### Pigeon Point Tunnel



# What we have heard: *Yancy/Andover Elevated*



Some concerns about less accessible Delridge Station location

Some concerns about increased residential and businesses effects along Andover/Avalon

Support for minimizing residential effects in the Youngstown neighborhood

# What we have heard: Pigeon Point Tunnel

Support for minimizing business and residential effects in Youngstown and Pigeon Point

Some concerns about construction and property impacts associated with tunneling through Pigeon Point

Concerns about additional cost and schedule

Support for further south Delridge Station location for better access

# What we have heard: SODO Double Elevated

Interest in grade separated alignment, *without overpasses*, to minimize traffic, freight and business effects

Support for retaining the SODO busway

**SODO**

Some concerns about long-term service disruptions of existing link service during construction

Concerns about additional cost



# What we have heard: *SODO Partial Elevated (refinement)*

Some support for lack of overpass at Lander

Support for retaining the SODO busway

**SODO**

S Holgate St



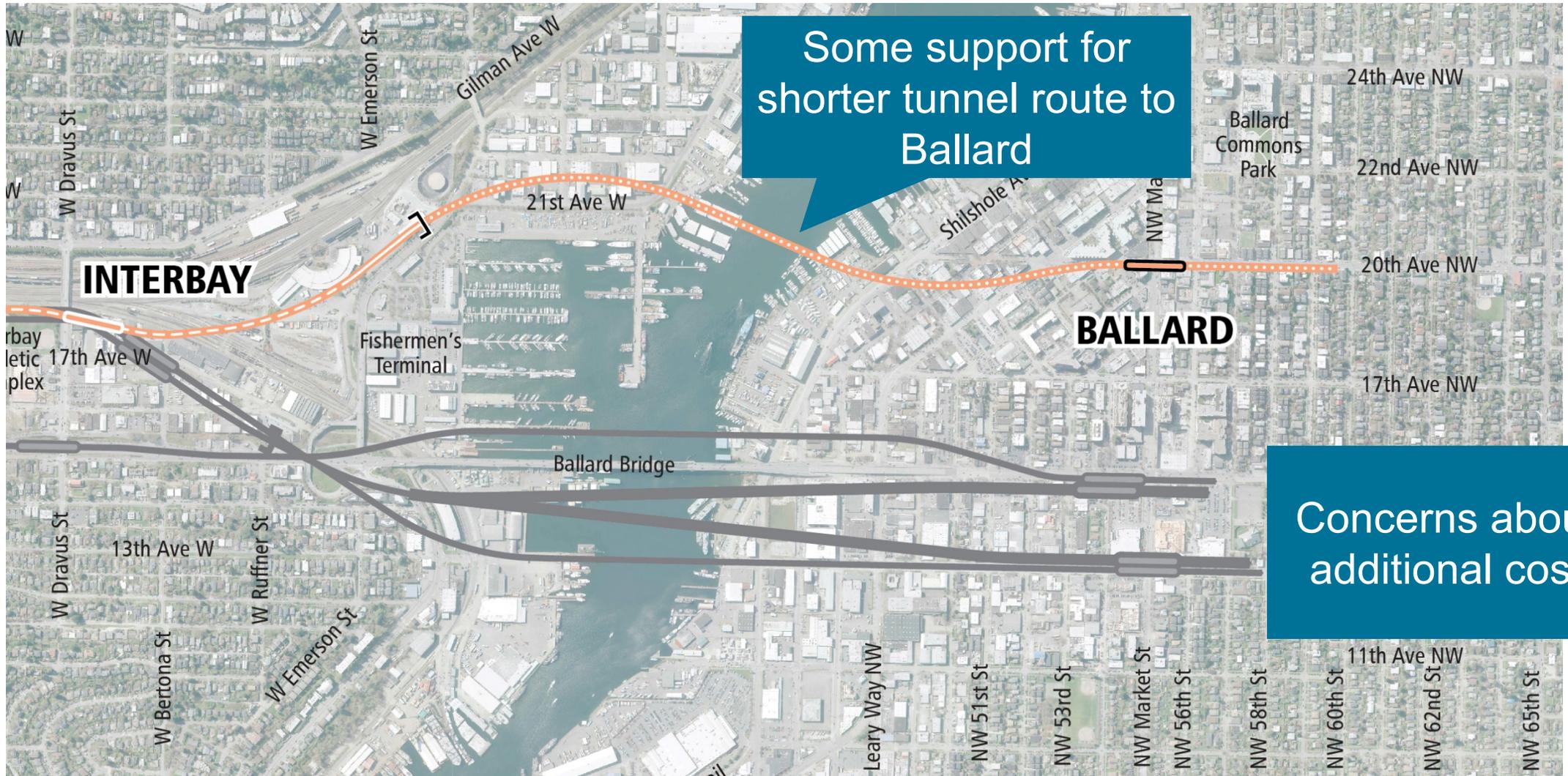
S Forest St

S Lander St

S Stacy St

Concerns about additional cost and limited improvement to transit reliability compared to at-grade alternative

# What we have heard: 20<sup>th</sup> Ave Tunnel Ballard – BNSF Portal





# What we have heard:

## 20<sup>th</sup> Ave Tunnel Ballard – Thorndyke Portal (refinement)



Support for 20<sup>th</sup> tunnel station for better access to downtown Ballard and density of businesses and residences

Some concerns about additional cost, technical risks and potential disruption to businesses and residences

***FTA feedback***

# *FTA general comments*

- Concern with large number of alternatives:
  - Increase cost of technical analyses and EIS
  - Additional schedule to complete EIS
  - Many alternatives require 3<sup>rd</sup> party funding

# ***FTA comments on specific alternatives***

## West Seattle

- Concern: Alternatives with high schedule risk
- Positive: Potential avoidance of Section 4(f) and historic properties

## SODO

- Concern: Double elevated alternative shut down of Central Link service
- Concern: Alternatives with substantial impacts to US Postal Service facility
- Positive: Alternatives that maintain use of the E3 busway

## Ballard

- Concern: Alternatives requiring substantial BNSF property
- Positive: Alternatives that avoid permanent in-water structures

*Thank you.*



 [\*soundtransit.org/wsblink\*](https://soundtransit.org/wsblink)

