



**Preferred Alternative:  
Kent and Auburn Stations Access Improvements**

November 9, 2017

**SOUND TRANSIT**

# Project purpose

**To increase access for all riders to the Auburn and Kent Sounder stations.**



# Timeline



# Goals and objectives



**ACCESS**  
Improve access to transit at the station

**OBJECTIVES**

- Provide multiple reliable access options to serve commute periods and throughout the day
- Increase transit ridership
- Maximize comfort and convenience for riders



**ENVIRONMENT**  
Advance environmental/sustainability goals of Sound Transit and the community

**OBJECTIVES**

- Promote a healthy and sustainable environment
- Encourage access to Sounder via all modes of travel



**IMPLEMENTATION**  
Improvements can be implemented in a timely manner

**OBJECTIVES**

- Parking improvements are constructible within project schedule
- Non-garage improvements can be implemented within a shorter timeframe
- Is cost-effective and financially sustainable



**CONSISTENCY & COMPATIBILITY**  
Support regional and community goals

**OBJECTIVES**

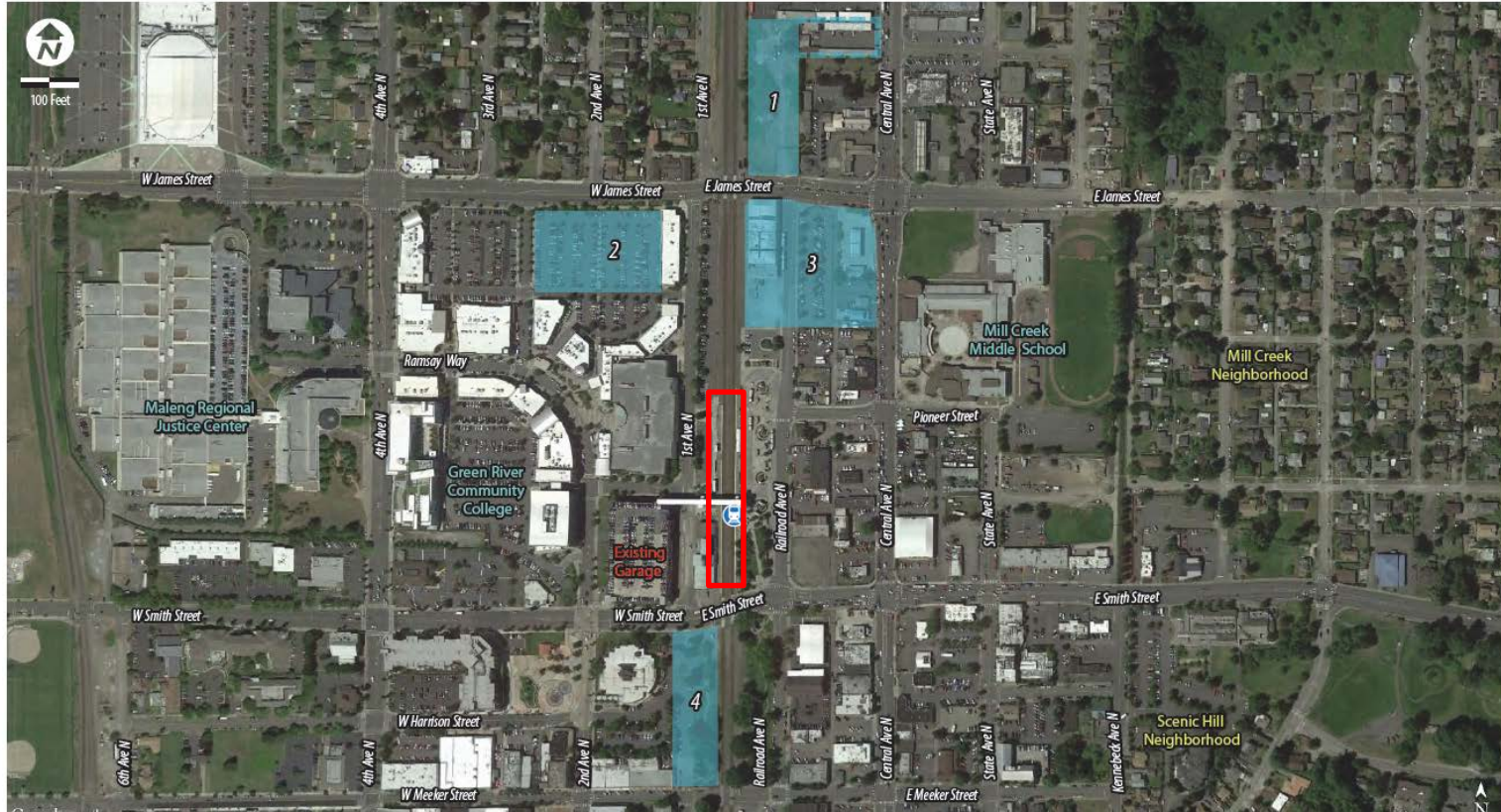
- Support goals, policies, and plans of transit agencies and local governments
- Support urban design principles and further economic development / support and attract businesses and residents
- Benefit the local community
- Minimize community impacts during construction

# Overview of Cost Estimates

- Non-motorized improvements included
- Parking estimates and costs based on preliminary design concepts:
  - Less than 5% engineering
  - For **comparison purposes** between alternatives
- Cost estimating start with base construction costs per stall
- Site-specific elements vary and add to base costs
- Cost reductions possible as engineering/design advances

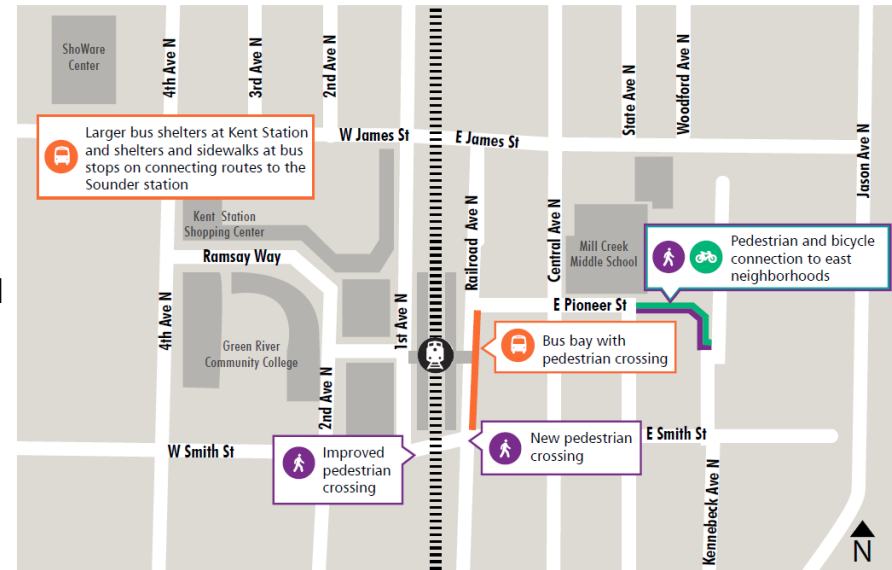
# Kent Sounder Station Access Improvements

# Final Sites Under Consideration



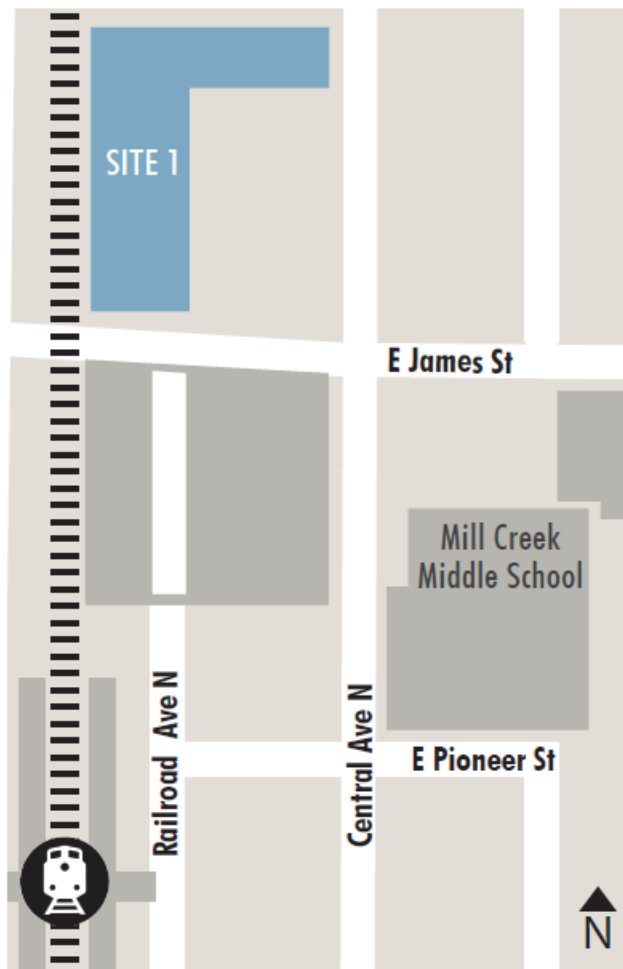
# Non-Motorized Improvements

- On-going coordination throughout project development
- Improvements could include:
  - Improve pedestrian crossings and bicycle connections
  - Increase quantity, security and lighting of bike lockers
  - Larger bus shelters at Kent Station, transit shelters and sidewalks at bus stops used by Sounder riders
  - Improved northbound bus zones and improved bus-rail transfers areas
- Costs estimated at \$2.6 million





# 1: East James Street Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 515\*

**Estimated total project cost:** \$74.9 million

## Key considerations



**Challenging passenger access** across E James St



**Expected congestion** at Central Ave N entrance



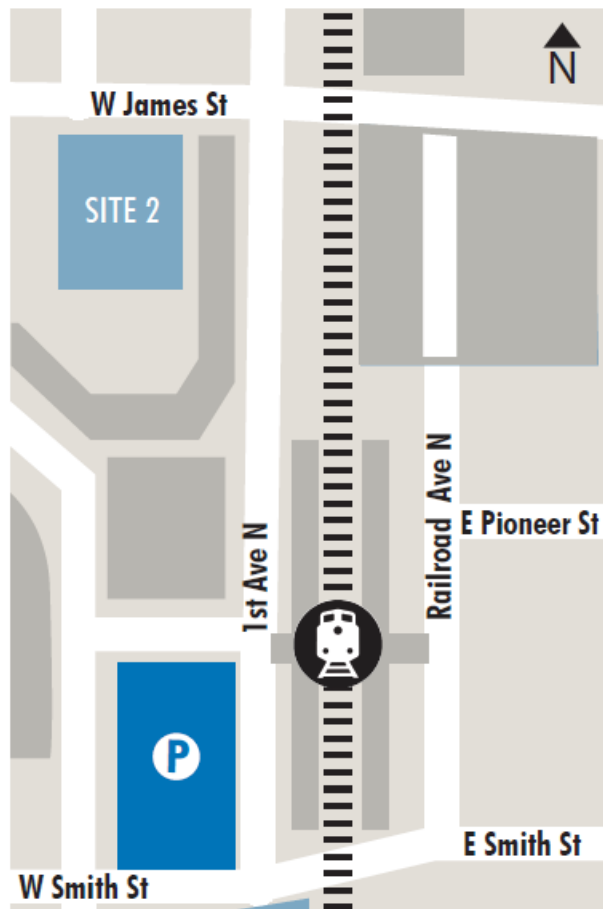
**Contamination likely** in soil and groundwater



**Factors influencing cost:** Property acquisition, potential environmental mitigation, pedestrian bridge

*\*Parking estimates are for net new stalls, are based on preliminary design concepts, and are not exact values. These estimates were created for comparison purposes only and are subject to change.*

## 2: Kent Station Shopping Center Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 470\*

**Estimated total project cost:**  
\$71.5 million

### Key considerations



**Reasonable access** for passengers, except for crossing tracks when gates are down; reasonable access for cars



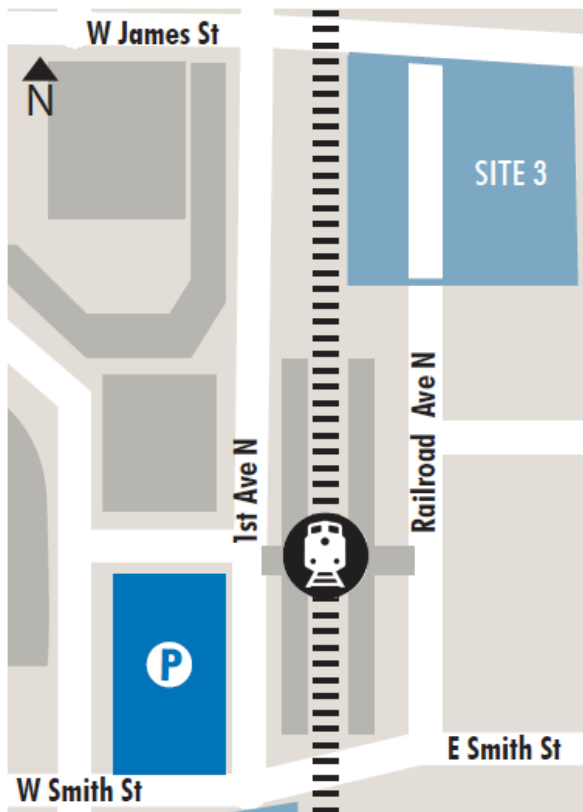
**Higher potential for traffic congestion** (same side of tracks as existing garage)



**Factors influencing cost:** Property acquisition, potential environmental mitigation

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# 3: Railroad Avenue Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 490-550\*

**Estimated total project cost:**  
\$65.0 million

*Multiple options being considered within larger Site 3 footprint*

## Key considerations



**Reasonable access for passengers and cars**



**Lower potential for traffic congestion** (opposite side of tracks as existing garage)



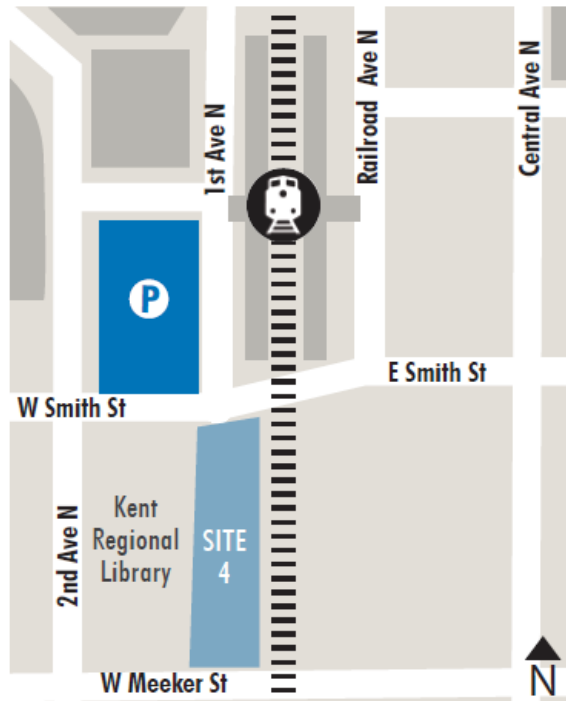
**Contamination likely** in soil and groundwater; site includes potentially historic structures



**Factors influencing cost:**  
Property acquisition, potential environmental mitigation

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## 4: Kiabara Park Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 495\*

**Estimated total project cost:** \$82.4 million

### Key considerations



**Challenging passenger access** across Smith St; car access would require reconfiguration of library parking lot



**Higher potential for traffic congestion** (same side of tracks as existing garage)



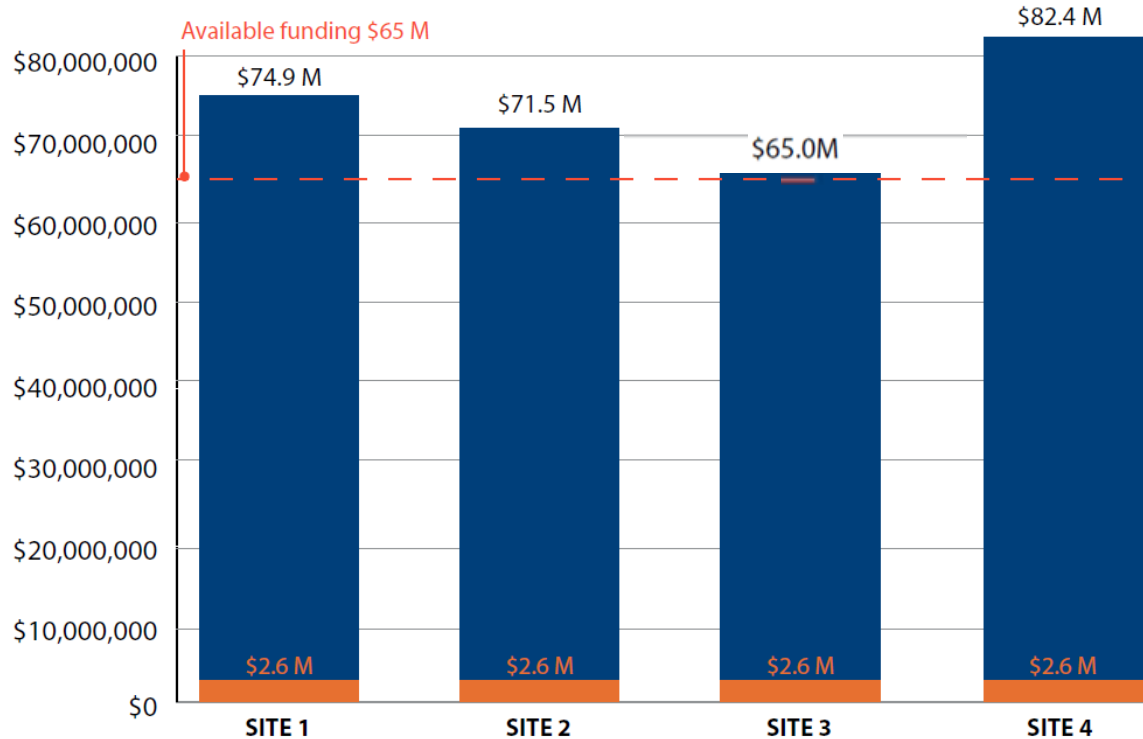
**Proximity to library** may require visual, noise and vibration mitigation



**Factors influencing cost:** Property acquisition, constrained site, potential environmental mitigation, pedestrian bridge

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# Comparing Alternatives: Kent



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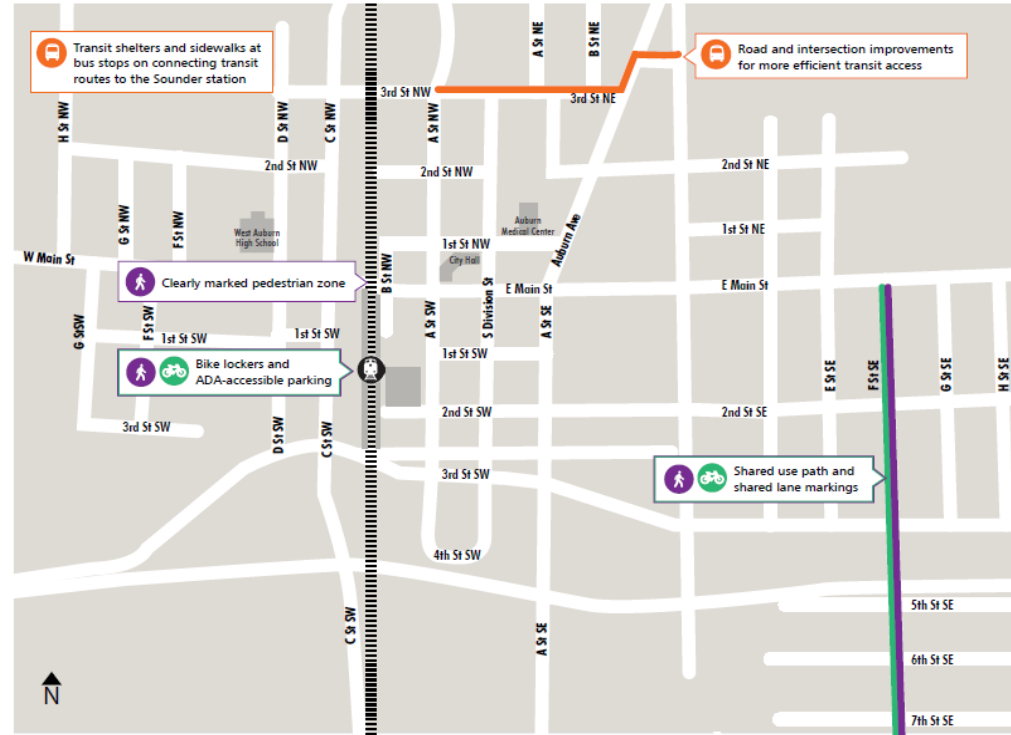
# Auburn Sounder Station Access Improvements

# Final Sites Under Consideration



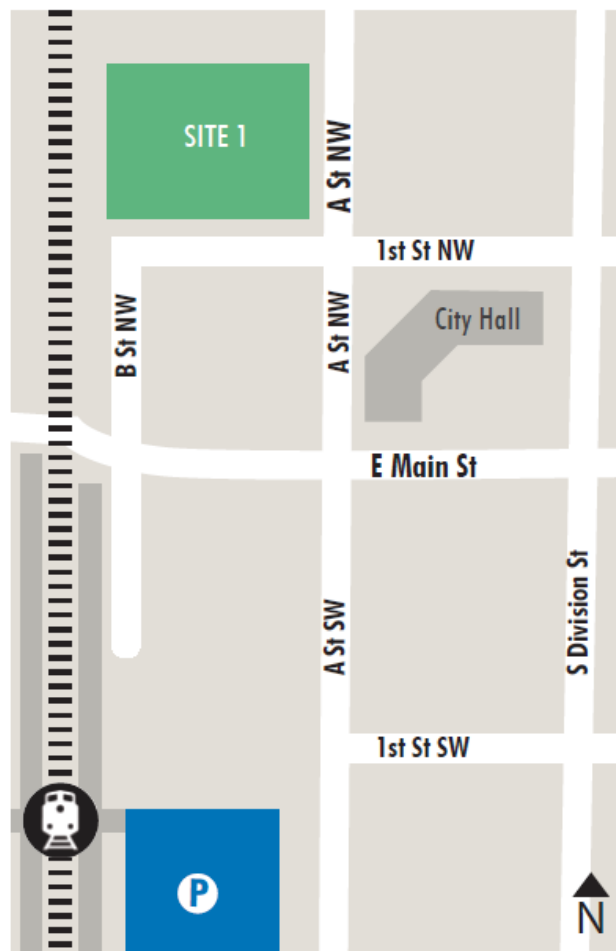
# Non-Motorized Improvements

- On-going coordination as project advances
- Types of potential improvements:
  - Shared use path along F St SE
  - Improve pedestrian zones
  - Increase quantity, security and lighting of bike lockers
  - Transit shelters and sidewalks at bus stops
  - Intersection improvements for bus speed and reliability
- Costs estimated at \$0.9 million for highest priority improvements





# 1: First and B Streets Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 545\*

**Estimated total project cost:** \$60.4 million

## Key considerations



**Reasonable access** for cars and passengers



**Higher potential for traffic congestion**  
(same side of tracks as existing garage)



**Factors influencing cost:**  
Replacement of existing parking stalls, constrained site

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## 2: Ace Hardware Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 580\*

**Estimated total project cost:** \$75.7 million

### Key considerations



**Reasonable access** for cars and passengers



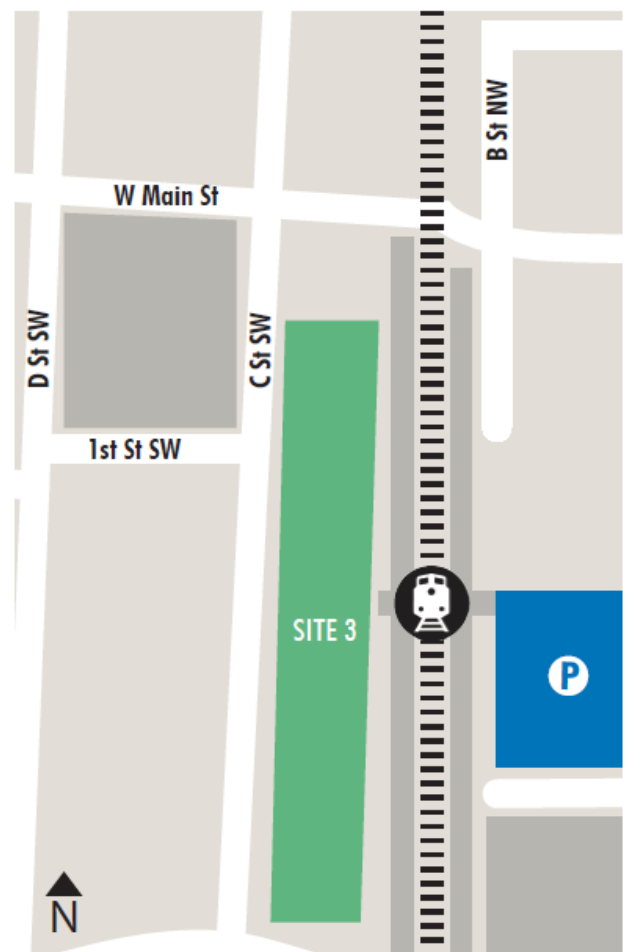
**Lower potential for traffic congestion** (opposite side of tracks as existing garage; more traffic capacity on C St SW)



**Factors influencing cost:** Property acquisition and business relocation, constrained site, pedestrian bridge

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# 3: Existing Sound Transit Surface Parking Lot Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 525\*

**Estimated total project cost:** \$80.9 million

## Key considerations



**Easiest access** for cars and passengers



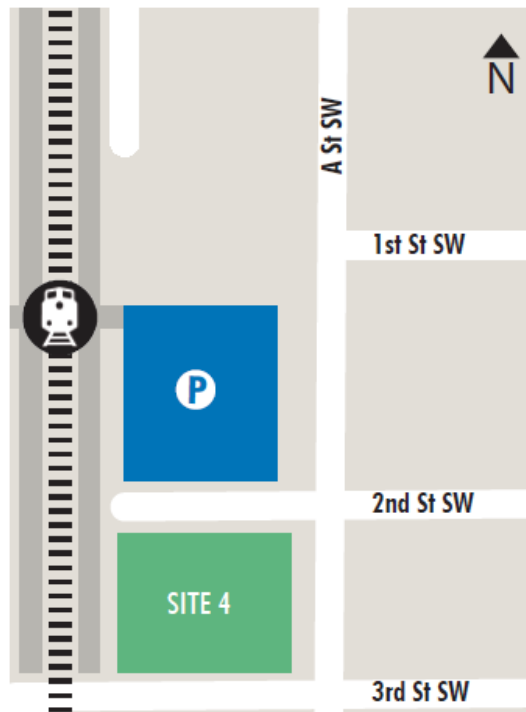
**Lower potential for traffic congestion**  
(opposite side of tracks as existing garage; more traffic capacity on C St SW)



**Factors influencing cost:**  
Extremely constrained site requires more garage structure per stall

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## 4: Union of Aerospace Machinists Site



**Estimated increased parking spaces:** Approximately 550\*

**Estimated total project cost:** \$65.3 million

### Key considerations



Could be connected to existing garage for **easy access for passengers;** **reasonable access for cars**



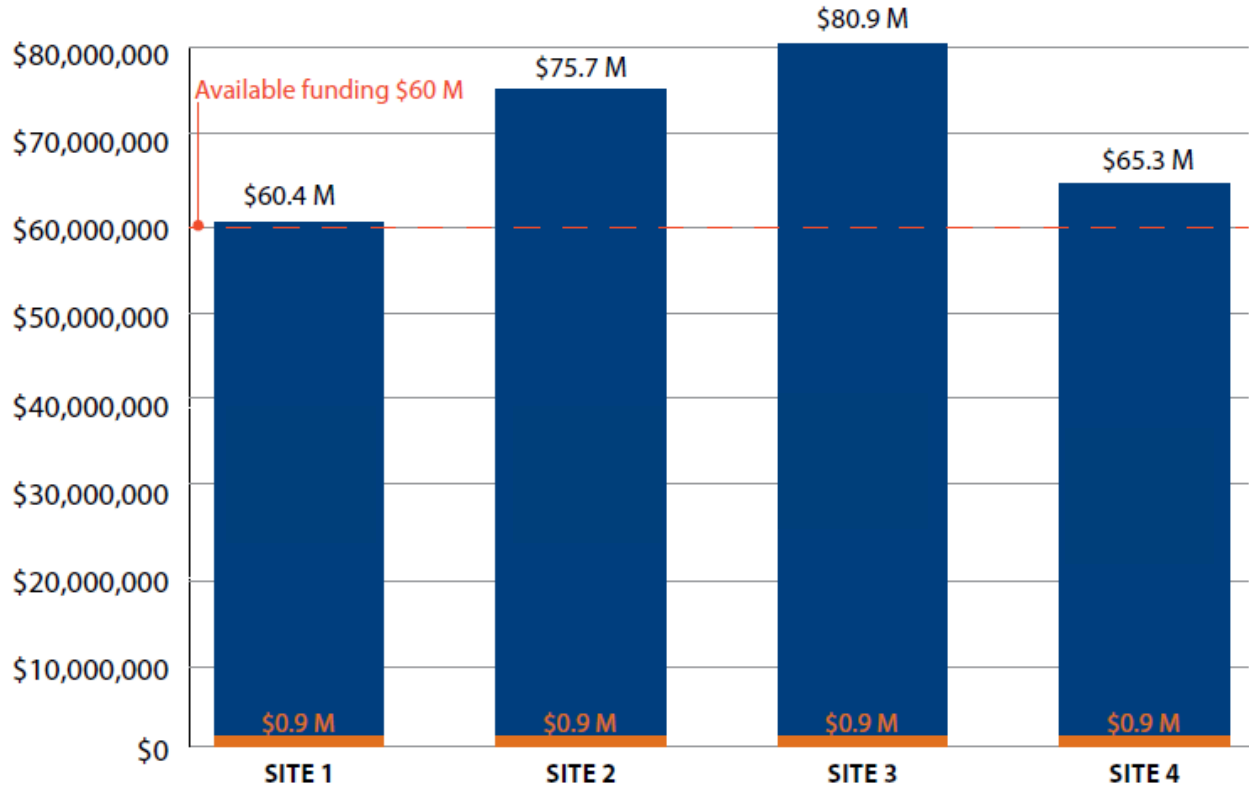
**Higher potential for traffic congestion**  
(would add queues at existing garage)



**Factors influencing cost:**  
Property acquisition,  
constrained site

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# Comparing Alternatives: Auburn



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# Preferred Alternative Recommendation

- Sound Transit staff and Cities recommendations:
  - City of Kent: Site 3, Railroad Avenue
  - City of Auburn: Site 1, First and B Street
- Preferred Alternative Selection:
  - Identification of preferred site alternative and confirm inclusion of non-motorized improvements to advance to conceptual engineering
  - Costs and specific project elements refined in next phase



**SOUNDTRANSIT**  
**RIDE THE WAVE**