

Northgate Service & Fare Equity Analysis

Office of Civil Rights, Equity & Inclusion

Rider Experience & Operations Committee

5/06/21

Why we are here

Northgate Service & Fare Equity Analysis

- Service Change Analyses
- Fare Analysis
- Public Outreach
- Today we are here to inform the Board's decision on Motion No. M2021-33



Service & Fare Equity Analysis (SAFE)

- Equity analyses help ensure transit service is provided in a non-discriminatory manner.
- Determines if the proposed service changes & any subsequent fare changes will lead to adverse effects on low-income (disproportionate burden) and minority (disparate impact) communities.



Operating Partner Coordination

- Operating partner coordination with King County Metro, Community Transit and Sound Transit.
- Partners engaged community to help inform the planning process.
- The extension provides the opportunity to restructure bus service to provide more connections and minimize redundant services to ensure efficient use of operating resources.

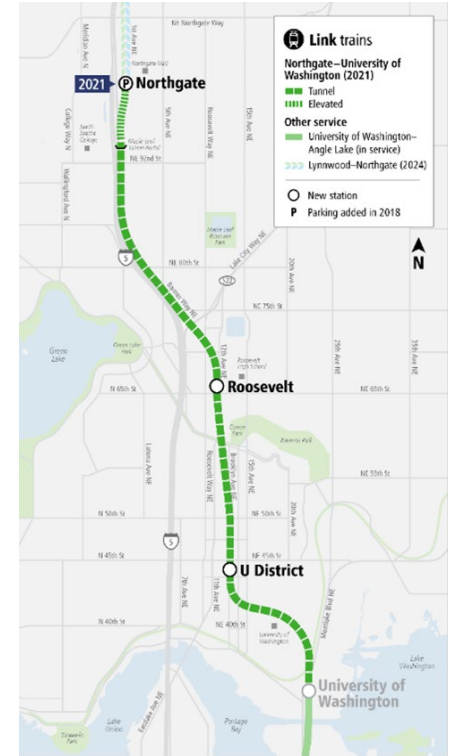
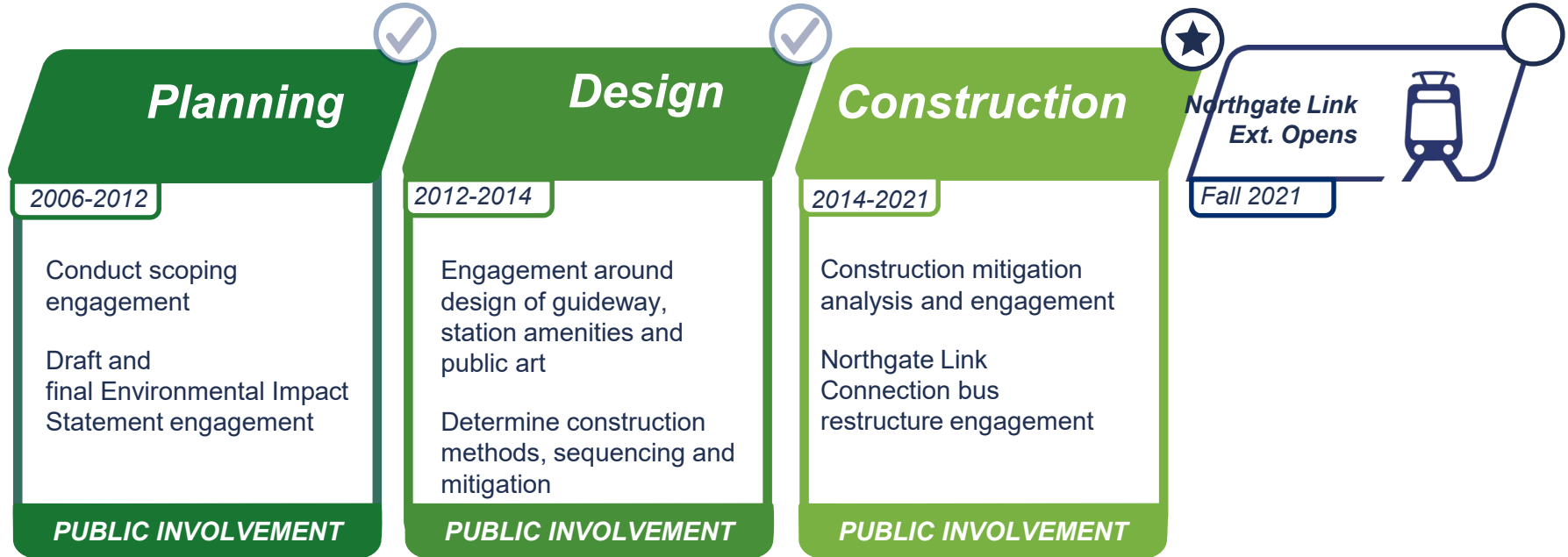


Figure 1 Northgate Alignment

Northgate Link Extension Public Engagement



Link Connections: Northgate Public Engagement



- As part of the regional bus-rail transit integration work, Community Transit, King County Metro and Sound Transit worked jointly to best connect bus riders to the new Link stations.
- Engagement included:
 - In person & online open houses
 - Public surveys
 - Public meetings, community fairs & festivals
 - Interpretation & translation services
 - Rider notices, press releases, ethnic media ad buys
 - Social media amplification
 - Other engagement tactics in partnership with operating partners



Service Change Analysis - Adverse Effects

- Evaluates the cumulative impact of all service changes, including local transit partner changes coordinated with the new extension.
- All service plans went through each agency's required planning, engagement & approval process.
- Adverse effects included new transfers, new route alignments and changes in service frequency & span (increases and decreases).
- Adopted service plans addressed adverse effects with revised plans that improved service or modified changes with significant impacts.
- Connecting local & express bus service to Link increases overall transit access while improving reliability & capacity

Fare Analysis - Adverse Effects

- Fares remain unchanged.
- Sound Transit identified an adverse effect for the small number of cash customers that transfer between Sound Transit, Metro, and Community Transit bus service and Link.
- Sound Transit and King County Metro will use tactics to mitigate and conduct extensive public outreach to inform riders how to use an ORCA card to ensure single fare for transfer trips.



SAFE Analysis Conclusion

- Where adverse effects were identified at the route level, mitigation measures have been incorporated based on agency coordination and service plans.
- Any negative effects are mitigated by the substantial improvements to service by each agency including the introduction of new routes and Link with high-capacity frequency.
- The extension provides substantial improvements including access to improved speed, reliability & capacity & was selected without regard to race, color or national origin.



Thank you.



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

