

Parking Management Policy Update

*Board of Directors
03/28/2024*



Why we are here

- Seek **final approval on Resolution No. R2024-02** to adopt an updated parking management policy that will enable expansion of Sound Transit's parking management program.
- Review existing Board direction to manage parking and policy considerations informing program expansion.
- Share key features for an expanded parking management program.

Comprehensive fare strategy areas of focus in 2023/2024

Major policy topics

- Fare policy – originally adopted in 2010 with a minor update in 2014 (Resolution No. [R2014-27](#))
 - ✓ Fare structure.
 - Farebox recovery targets.
- Parking management program – last Board action in 2018 to allow priced monthly parking permits (Resolution No. [R2018-27](#))
 - Expanded program with daily paid parking.

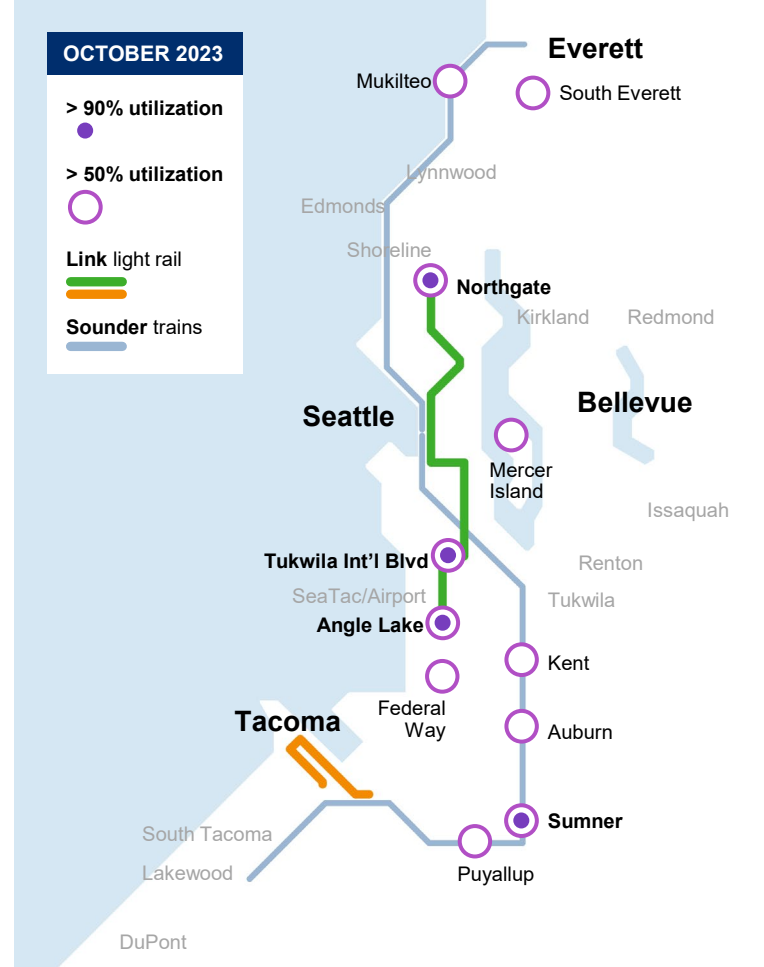
Parking program expansion

2023-2024 timeline of activities

- **Mar 2023:** kicked off fares & parking activities at Executive Committee.
- **Aug 2023:** parking management policy briefings at Executive and REO Committees.
- **Sept-Oct 2023:** public and passenger engagement period.
- **Nov 2023-Jan 2024:** engagement summary, Title VI analysis, and assess potential revenue and ridership impacts.
- **Feb 2024:** shared engagement summary, revenue and ridership impacts, and staff recommendations at Executive and REO Committees.
- **Mar 2024:** final action to update policy and expand parking management program.

Existing conditions and policy considerations

- Some facilities remain very full despite changed travel patterns.
- New Link service will generate higher demand at 7 new and 5 existing facilities.
- Costs to build and operate parking can be offset by user fees, like fares.
- ST3 finance plan assumes revenue from parking fees with additional revenue above finance plan target going to System Access Fund.



Moving towards daily paid parking

Following Board direction to better manage agency parking facilities

System Access Policy
2013

ST3 System Plan
2016

Permit program suspended
2020

2015
Monthly HOV permits introduced

2018
Monthly SOV permits introduced

2022-2023
HOV permits restarted

Permit parking program – authorized by the Board in 2018 (R2018-27)

Goals

1. Maximize ridership.
2. Prioritize parking availability during weekday morning peak period.

Parameters

- **Cost recovery:** Market-rate fees that recover program costs.
- **Performance-based:** Variable pricing that manages demand, with CEO having rate setting authority.
- **Eligibility:**
 - All Link facilities eligible.
 - Sounder/ST Express facilities only when utilization >90%.
- **Limited reserved parking:** Monthly permits only, and minimum 50% of spaces must remain free, first-come first-served.
- **Discounts:** free HOV permits, deep discounts for reduced fare program participants, and priority given to in-district residents.

Parking management policy update

What's staying the same

- Performance-based program, responsive to demand.
- Administrative implementation with rate setting and adjustment delegated to CEO.
- Discounts to low-income passengers and carpoolers.
- Permit parking options at the busiest facilities.

What's changing

- Expansion of parking management goals to reflect public input.
- Expanding scope to allow full management of eligible facilities.
- Expanding scope to allow for daily and special event fees.
- Annual reporting to the Board on program performance and permit and fee changes.

Program implementation: 2024 – 2026

2024

- Initial implementation will focus on Link facilities on the 1 Line with the upcoming extension to Lynnwood City Center Station.
- We plan to test demand for reserved parking at eligible facilities and launch with a daily fee of **\$2/day**.
- We will start with a simple program and will only launch when we are ready to successfully deliver.



Program implementation: 2024 – 2026

2026

- We expect to be fully implemented at all eligible facilities.

Note: this map is illustrative and based on current trends

- Prices for daily fees and reserved permits will be adjusted as we respond to program performance and parking demand.



Toward a comprehensive fares strategy

Next steps for parking program expansion

- Already working with our parking management vendor and internal team to prepare for launch as soon as 2024.
- Engage and educate passengers in advance of implementation.
- Develop incentive and marketing programs to support passengers who can use other modes to access Sound Transit services.
- Pursue parking fee payment integration with ORCA following the end of phase 1 implementation of next gen ORCA.

Thank you



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