

Enterprise Initiative: Long-Range Plan Discussion

Executive Committee

09/04/2025



Why we are here

- Begin a discussion about updating the Regional Transit Long-Range Plan consistent with the Enterprise Initiative.
- Provide an overview of the current plan.
- Review what's changed since plan adoption in 2014.
- Share staff's initial approach and seek feedback and direction on developing a new Regional Transit Long-Range Plan from the Executive Committee.

Enterprise Initiative

What is the Enterprise Initiative?

- Sound Transit's effort to ensure we can deliver the greatest benefits of ST3 within available financial capacity.
- A comprehensive approach touching planning, capital, operations, maintenance, and finance to ensure we are meeting both current and future regional mobility needs.

What has the Board directed us to develop per Motion M2025-36?

- A comprehensive framework to deliver the Enterprise Initiative: **Fall 2025/Board retreat**
- An updated ST3 System Plan: **by the end of Q2 2026**
- **A new Regional Transit Long-Range Plan: in Q3 2026**
- An updated Long Range Financial Plan: **in Q4 2026**

Regional Transit Long-Range Plan

Summary and purpose

- Last updated and adopted by the Board in December 2014.
- Represents Sound Transit's goals, policies, and strategies to guide the long-term development of the high-capacity transit system.
- Intended to guide how Sound Transit's services and investments can best address the region's mobility needs and support growth management objectives.



Regional Transit Long-Range Plan
Adopted Dec. 18, 2014



Regional Transit Long-Range Plan

Phased implementation approach

- Long-Range Plan is financially unconstrained with no horizon year currently specified.
- System Plans are financially constrained, approved by voters, and represent “phased implementation” of the Long-Range Plan:
 - » *First Long-Range Plan adopted in 1996, followed by Sound Move in 1996.*
 - » *Long-Range Plan updated in 2005, followed by ST2 in 2008.*
 - » *Long-Range Plan updated in 2014, followed by ST3 in 2016.*



As adopted May 31, 1996

Regional Transit Long-Range Plan

Long-Range Plan goals

- Provide a public transportation system that helps ensure long-term mobility, connectivity, and convenience for the citizens of the Puget Sound region for generations to come.
- Preserve communities and open space.
- Contribute to the region's economic vitality.
- Preserve our environment.
- Strengthen communities' use of the regional transit network.

Long-Range Plan objectives

- Keep the region moving.
- Offer cost-effective and efficient transportation solutions.
- Create a sustainable regional transit system that provides community, social, economic, and environmental benefits.
- Develop equitable transportation solutions.
- Create a financially feasible system.
- Offer regional services that work well with other transportation services.

Regional Transit Long-Range Plan

Building blocks for the high-capacity transit system

- Long-Range Plan describes the high-capacity transit modes that will make up the Sound Transit system:
 - » *Light rail*
 - » *Commuter rail*
 - » *Bus rapid transit*
 - » *Express buses*
 - » *HOV system*
 - » *Future high-capacity transit corridors*
 - » *Community connections*
- Approximately 380 corridors, services, projects, programs, and policies are identified in the Long-Range Plan as potential future investments.

Regional Transit Long-Range Plan

Working together with partner agencies & jurisdictions

- Coordinating local and regional transit services to support an integrated network and to maximize connectivity.
- Building stations and transit centers to support multimodal access and make connections simple and efficient.
- Evaluating transit-oriented development potential consistent with adopted agency policies.
- Delivering facilities that fit with the communities they serve.
- Encouraging policies that support transit.

Regional Transit Long-Range Plan

ST3 supports additional advance planning

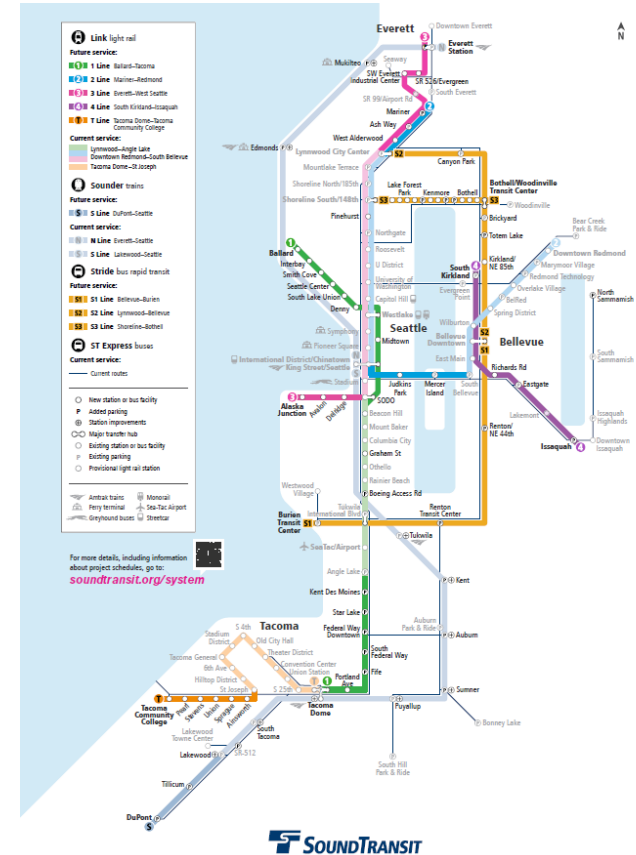
- Future System Planning (ST4).
- HCT Planning Studies:
 - » *Light rail extending from West Seattle to Burien, connecting to Renton via Tukwila*
 - » *Northern Lake Washington*
 - » *Commuter Rail to Orting*
 - » *Connections from Everett to North Everett*
 - » *Tacoma Dome to Tacoma Mall*
- HCT Environmental Study:
 - » *Bothell to Bellevue via Kirkland*



What's changed?

Significant changes since 2014

- ST3 is larger in scope and longer in duration than Sound Move and ST2 and completes the regional spine.
- Service operations has expanded significantly, especially Link light rail.
- Continued population growth and regional land use planning for high-capacity transit and station areas.
- Pandemic impacts to regional mobility and travel demand.



Initial staff approach

A new Regional Transit Long-Range Plan

- Align the Long-Range Plan with outcomes from the Enterprise Initiative, including the updated ST3 System Plan.
- Approach this as a new document and not simply an update of the 2014 plan.
- Refresh the plan's goals and objectives, and corridor and policy priorities.
- Reflect service delivery priorities given the presence and importance of the actual service itself to passengers and the region.
- Establish a framework for future system planning that provides more confidence in the agency's ability to deliver.

Discussion

Seeking Executive Committee direction

- What do you see that's changed in the region and that a new Long-Range Plan should reflect and incorporate?
- Are there any specific topics or areas of focus that you want to see in the next the Regional Transit Long-Range Plan?
- What existing or new policy priorities do you believe need to be emphasized in this process?
- Are you comfortable with the initial staff approach just described?
- What other input or direction do you have?

Next steps

Regional Transit Long-Range Plan development

- Incorporate feedback from today's meeting.
- Develop an outline for the Long-Range Plan and a scope to meet the Q3 2026 deadline.
- Develop a public engagement approach for this and related activities within the overall Enterprise Initiative.
- Follow-up in Q4 with an update on progress.

Thank you.



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