West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

Community
Advisory Groups
November 16, 2021





Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Sound Transit and System Expansion
- West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions
- City of Seattle and Sound Transit partnership
- Community engagement and collaboration
- Next steps and next meeting

Meeting etiquette and accessibility



Upon joining the meeting, please mute your line when you are not speaking to minimize audio feedback. Unmute before talking.



Please raise your "hand" if you have a question or comment. Facilitator will call on you to speak.



One person speaks at a time. Please reference a slide number if referencing something on the screen and/or indicate who question or comment is directed to as appropriate.



















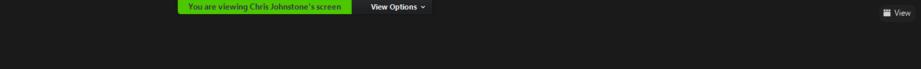














Mute/Unmute



























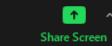
Raise Hand















































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Introductions

Please share in the chat:

- 1) Your name,
- 2) Pronouns, and
- 3) Your favorite destination near light rail

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Sound Transit District

Serving a region of over 3 million



Approved by voters



1996

2008

2016

Sound Move

- 21 Link stations
- 82 miles of Sounder commuter rail
- 18 ST Express bus routes

ST2

- 25 new Link stations
- More Sounder trips
- Sounder south stations parking and access
- Express bus expansion

ST3

- 37 new Link stations
- Three bus rapid transit routes
- Sounder north stations parking and access improvements
- Sounder south track, signal and platform improvements for more service, longer trains
- Two new Sounder stations





Sounder trains

- Service from Lakewood and Everett to Seattle.
- High capacity, peak-hour service.
- Speeds up to 79mph free from traffic.





ST Express regional bus

24 routes from Everett to DuPont to Issaquah.



Link light rail

- Fast, reliable service free from traffic.
- 25 new stations opening by 2024.







System expansion

Sound Transit's system expansion means every few years new light rail, bus rapid transit and commuter rail stations open throughout the region, providing fast, reliable alternatives to congested roads.

soundtransit.org/system



Tillicum

DuPont

Currently under construction

Link light rail extensions

- Hilltop Tacoma Link (6 stations, 2022).
- East Link (10 stations, 2023).
- Lynnwood (4 stations, 2024).
- Federal Way (3 stations, 2024).
- Downtown Redmond (2 stations, 2024).

Sounder

Puyallup Station garage (2022).







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Project Background



West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions project (WSBLE)

- ✓ Included in Sound Transit 3 (ST3) plan.
- ✓ Two light rail extensions and new, light rail-only downtown tunnel.
- ✓ 12 miles of light rail service that will serve 14 stations.

West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions Project timeline







2016



PLANNING



2017-2019

Alternatives development

- Feb-March 2018: Early scoping
- Feb-April 2019: Scoping
- May-Oct 2019: Board identified preferred alternatives and other DEIS alternatives

2019-2023

Environmental review

Early 2022: Publish Draft EIS

Public comment period

Board confirms or modifies preferred alternatives

2023: Publish Final EIS

Board selects projects to be built

Federal Record of Decision



Alternatives development screening process

Broad range of initial alternatives

Refine remaining alternatives

Further evaluation

Preferred alternative(s) and other EIS alternatives



Community engagement and collaboration 2018-2019



Meeting dates subject to change.

Public outreach and involvement

Alternatives development phase: Jan 2018 – April 2019



5,600+ responses to your comments and questions



189 presentations to local community groups



26 neighborhood fairs and festivals visited



25 email updates sent to our subscribers



21 stakeholder and elected leadership group meetings facilitated



17 open houses and workshops held in your neighborhoods

Ballard < 2037-2039* **Interbay** Lake 2037 **Seattle South Center Lake Union** Smith Cove Denny **Link** light rail Westlake West Seattle and Ballard Midtown **Link Extensions** Preferred alternatives Preferred alternatives with Int'l District/ Puget third-party funding Sound Chinatown Other Draft FIS alternatives Stadium Route profiles Flevated route Tunnel route Surface route SODO 🕹 Delridge Junction **Marian**

Draft EIS alternatives

What we're studying in this phase

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

*Dates reflect an affordable schedule based on current financial projections and cost estimates, and a target schedule.





2016



PLANNING

R DES

2017-2019

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Environmental Review

So, what's an Environmental Impact Statement?

Or, "EIS" for short.

Provides agencies and the public an understanding of environmental consequences and assists in decision-making.





What is typically studied in an EIS?

How a project affects...



What is typically studied in an EIS?



- Regional transportation
- Transit services
- Arterial and local street systems
- Parking
- Non-motorized facilities
- Navigation
- Freight



- Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
- Ecosystems
- Water resources
- Geology and soils

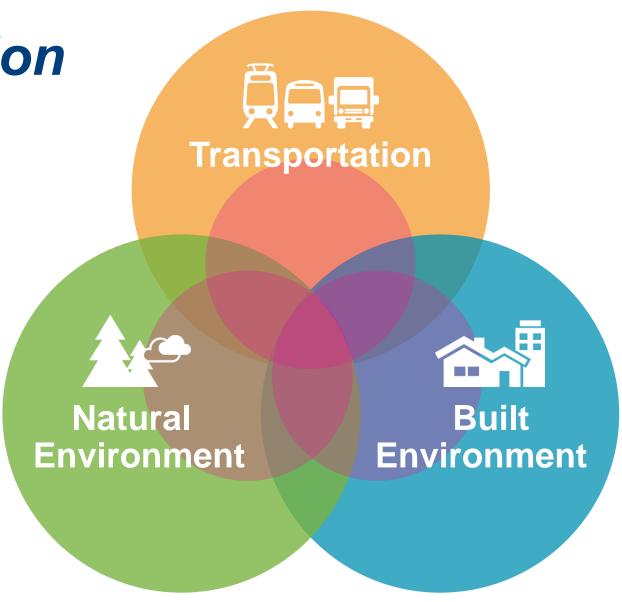


Built environment

- Acquisitions, displacements and relocations
- Noise and vibration
- Economic effect
- Visual resources
- Parks and recreation
- Land use
- Energy
- Hazardous materials
- Public services
- Historic and archaeological resources
- Social resources, community facilities and neighborhoods
- Electromagnetic fields
- Utilities

Equity and inclusion

Environmental justice focus within each area of the EIS



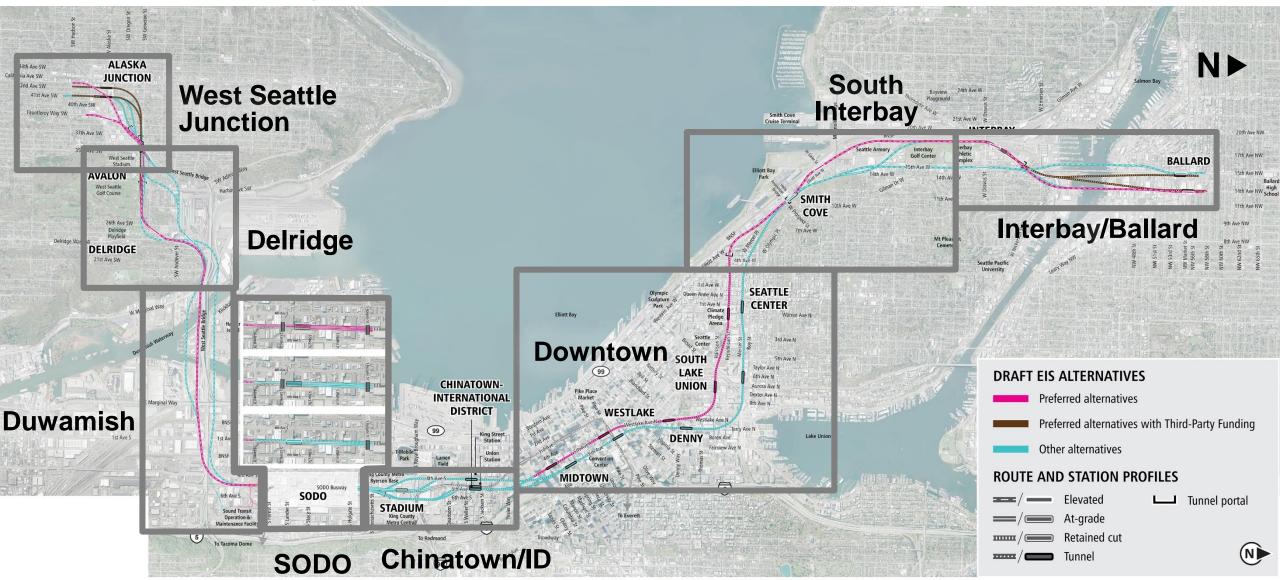
EIS studies:

Environmental justice

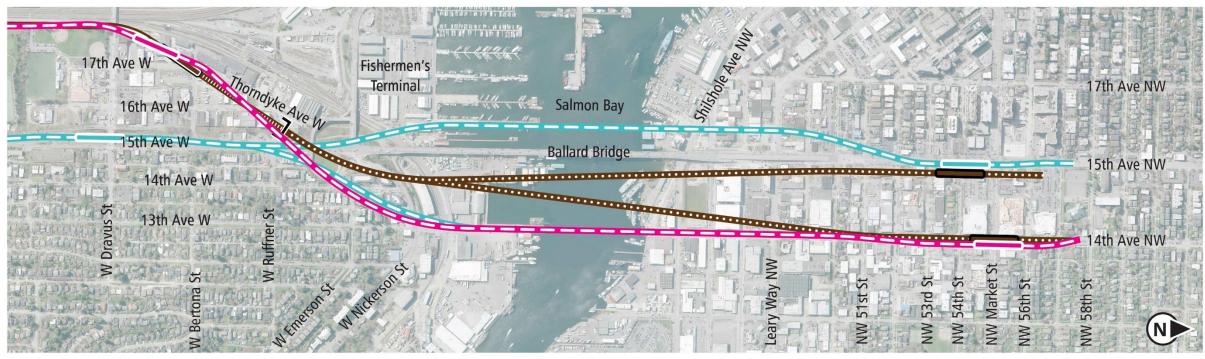
- Describes demographics
- ➤ Evaluates whether project disproportionately impacts minority and low-income communities
- Considers potential project benefits such as improved access to opportunity
- Documents what we hear from outreach efforts

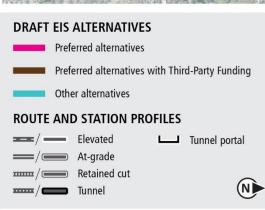
Alternatives

Draft EIS alternatives

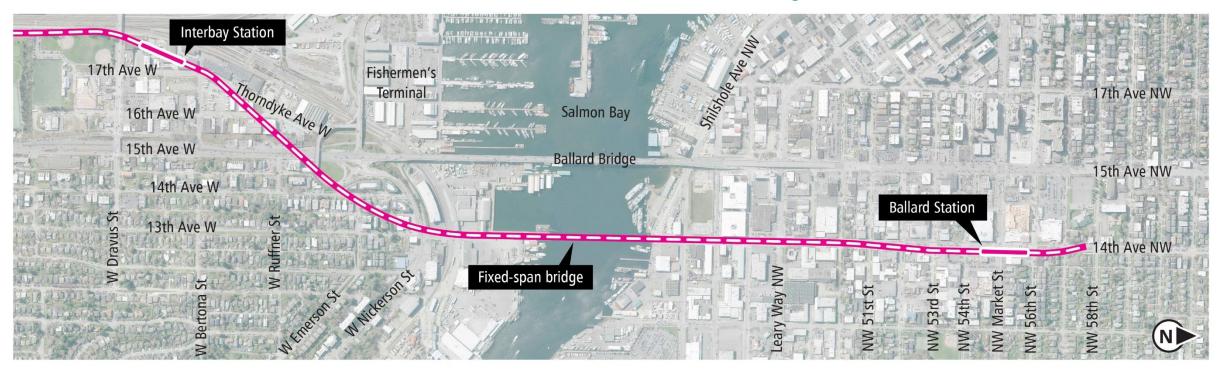


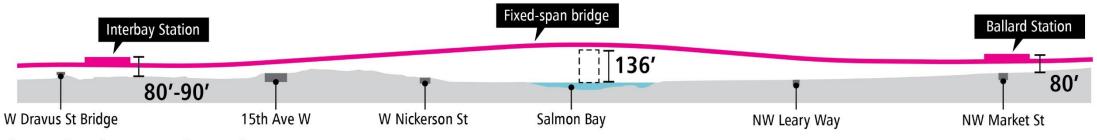
Interbay/Ballard segment





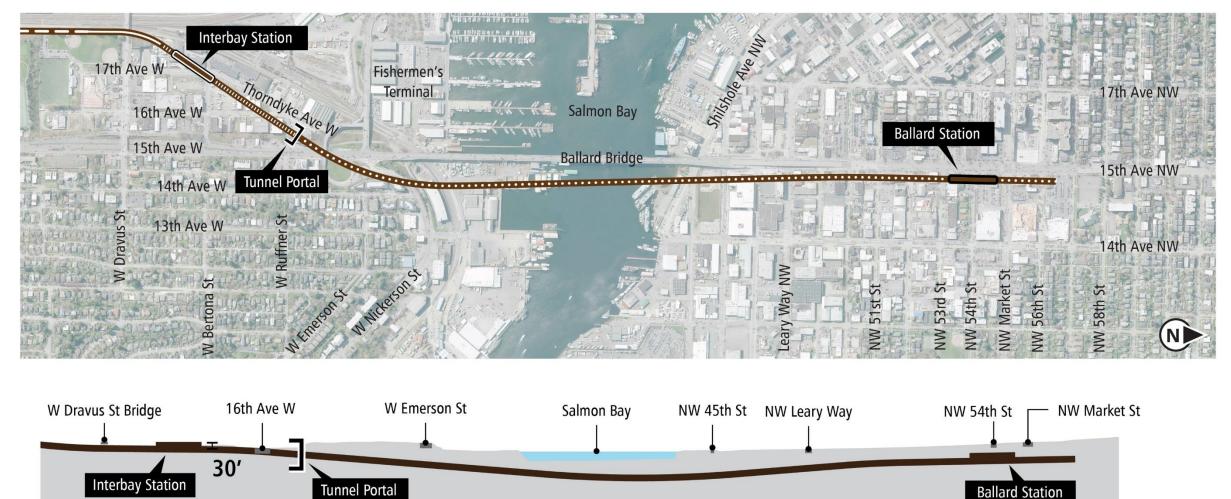






Elevated 14th Avenue (IBB-1a)

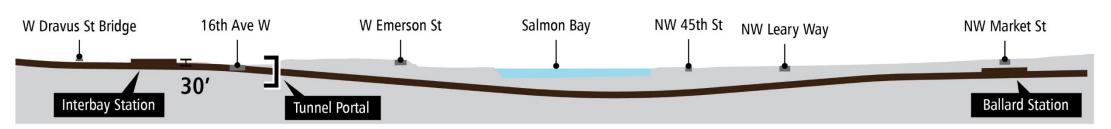
Diagrams are not to scale and all measurements are approximate for illustration purposes only. This height could be adjusted through coordination with the United States Coast Guard.



Tunnel 15th Avenue Station Option (IBB-2b)



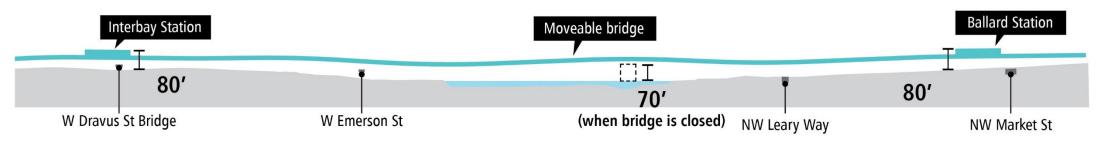




Tunnel 14th Avenue Alternative (IBB-2a)



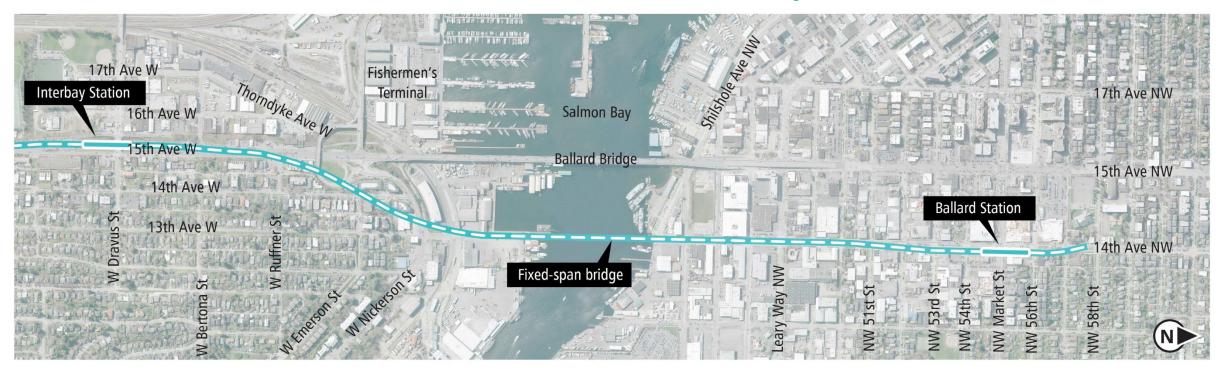


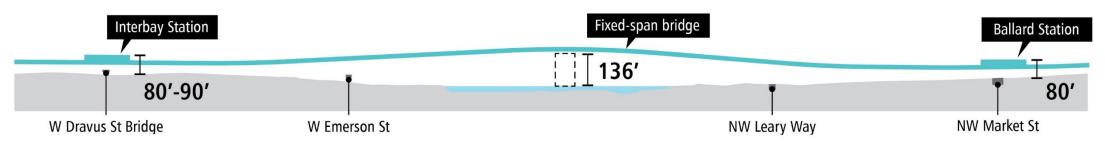


Elevated 15th Avenue (IBB-3)

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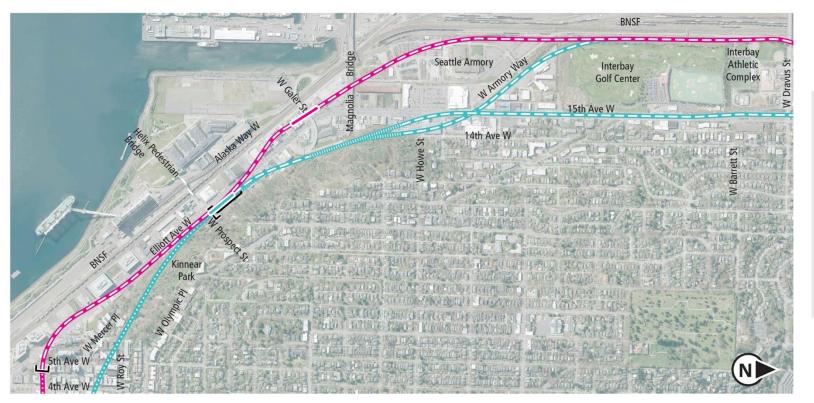


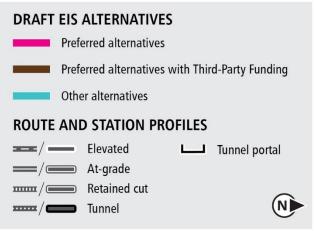
Elevated 14th Avenue Alignment Option (from Prospect Street Station/15th Avenue) (IBB-1b)

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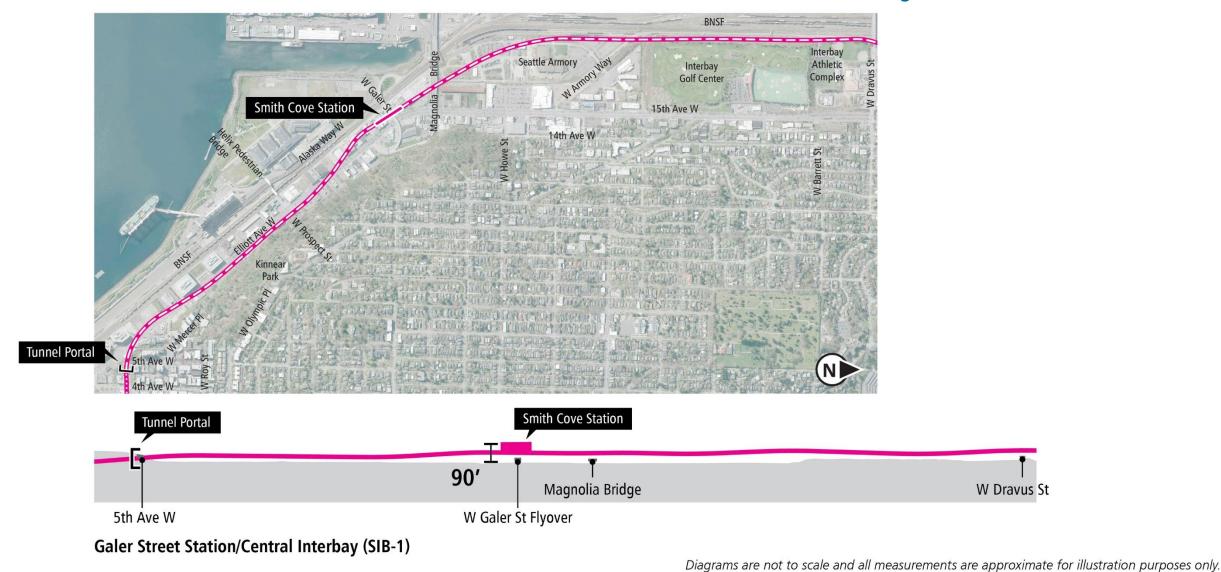


South Interbay segment

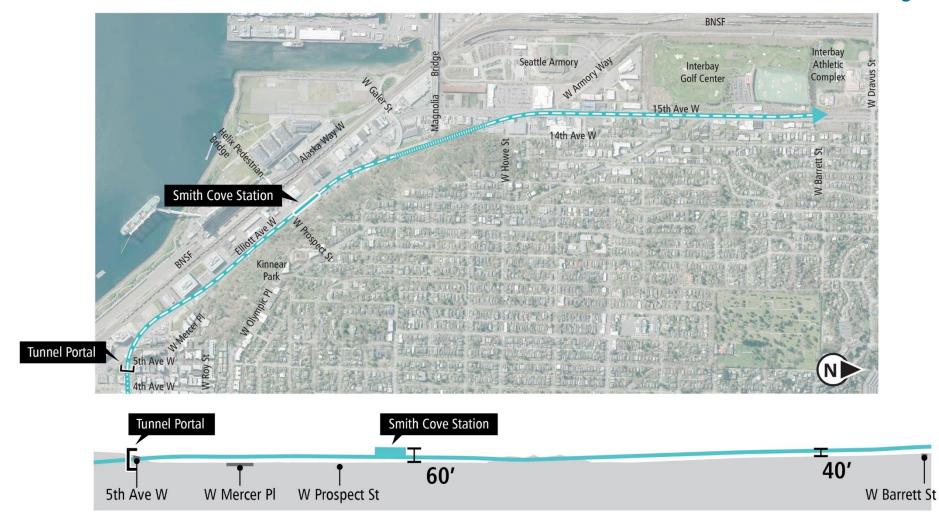






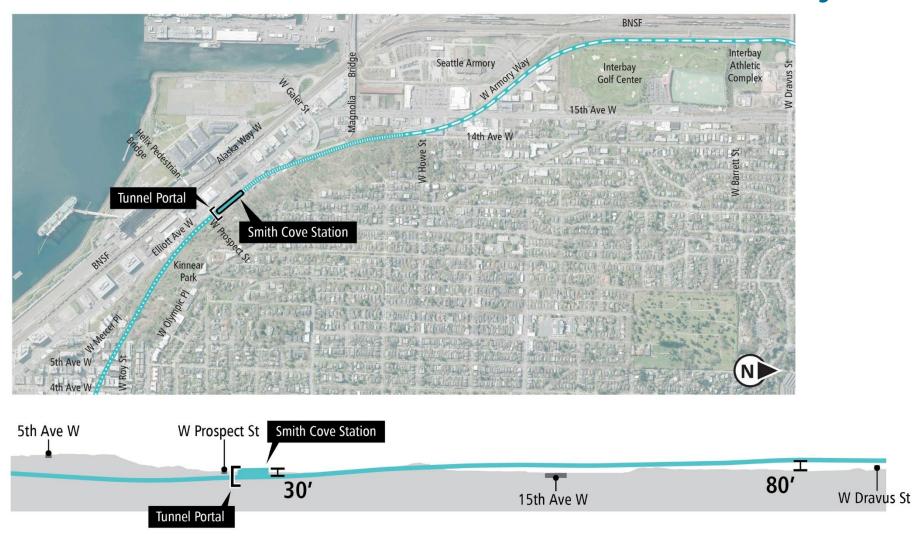






Prospect Street Station/15th Avenue (SIB-2)



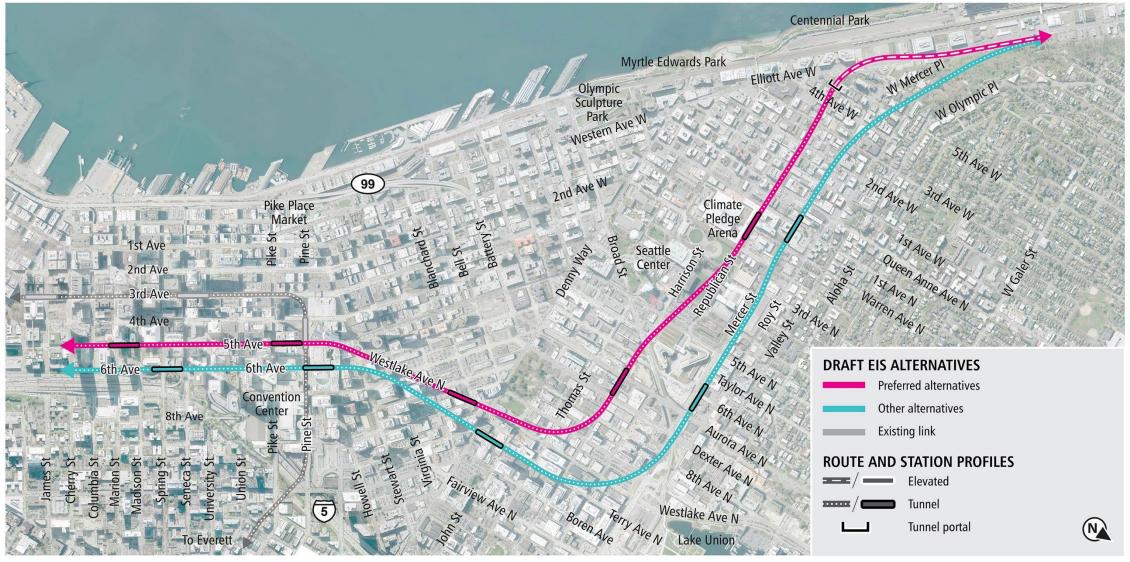


Prospect Street Station/Central Interbay (SIB-3)



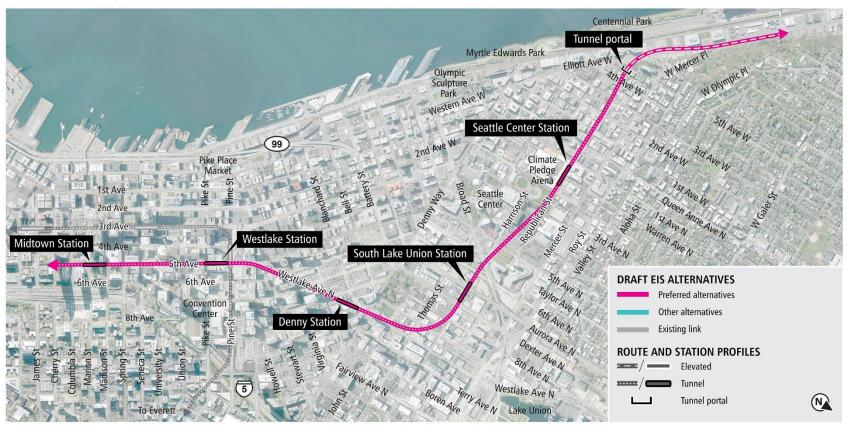
Downtown segment

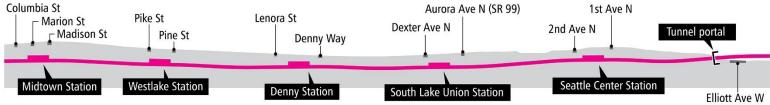
Draft EIS alternatives Downtown





Draft EIS alternatives Downtown

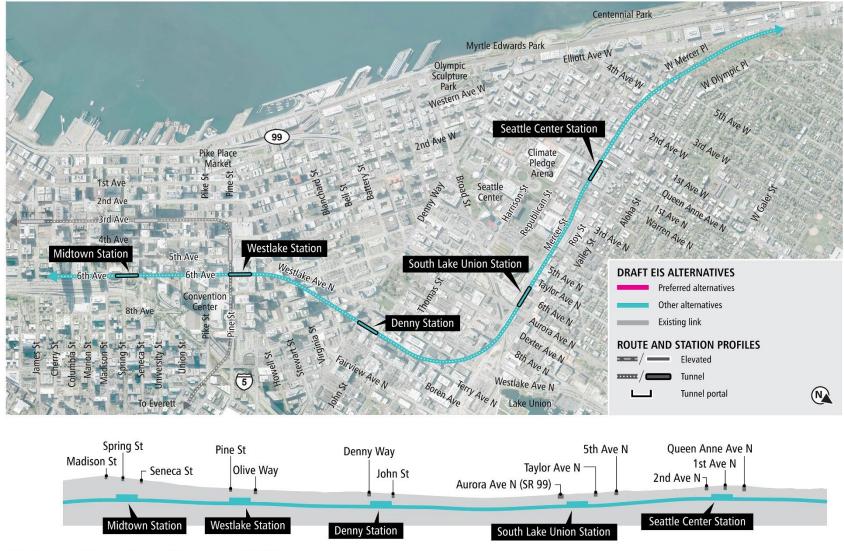




5th Avenue/Harrison Street Alternative (DT-1)



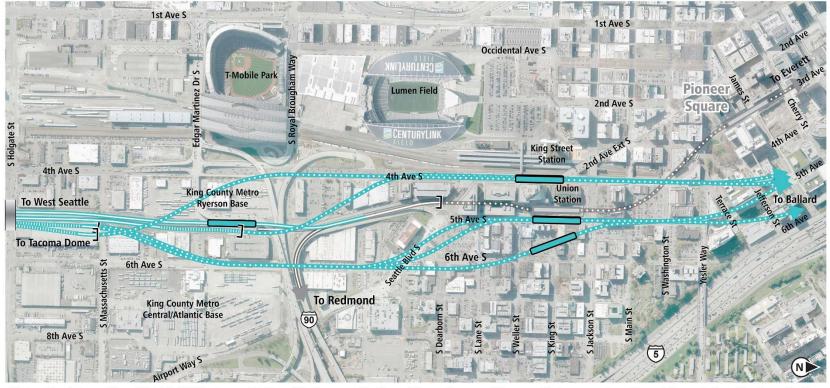
Draft EIS alternatives Downtown



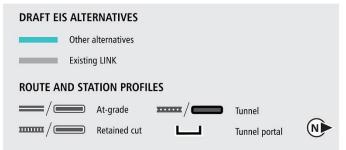
6th Avenue/Mercer Street Alternative (DT-2)



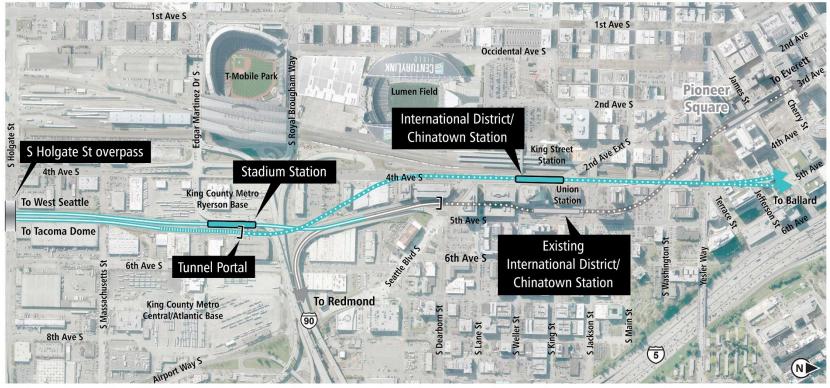
CID segment



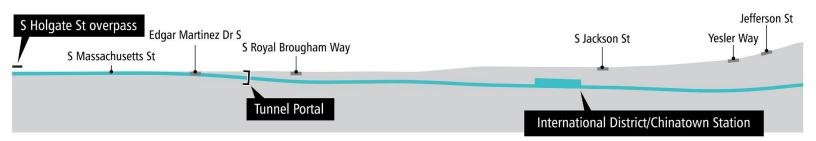
Note: The International District/Chinatown Station 4th Avenue Shallow Alternative would necessitate reconstruction of the existing Stadium Station.





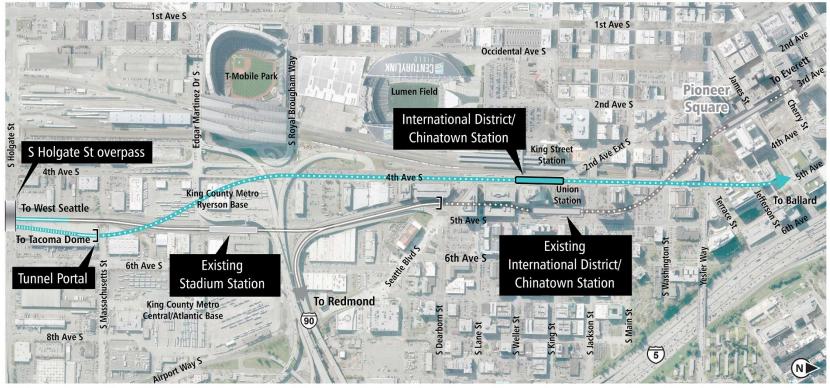


Note: The International District/Chinatown Station 4th Avenue Shallow Alternative would necessitate reconstruction of the existing Stadium Station.

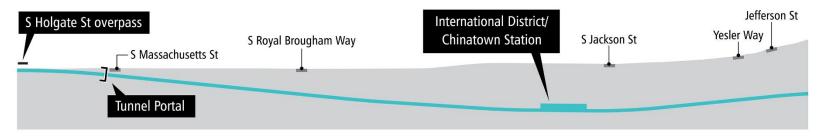


4th Avenue Shallow (CID-1a)



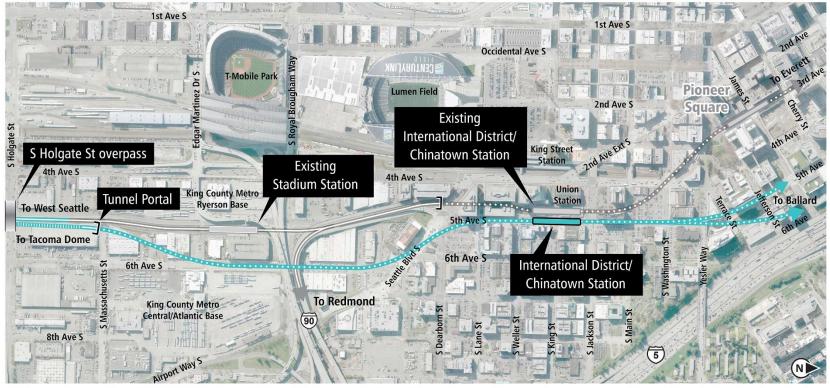


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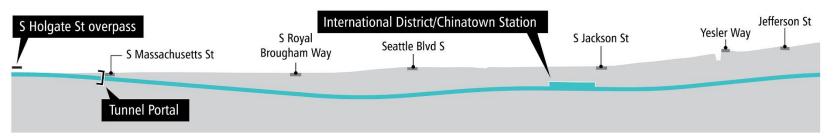


4th Avenue Deep Station Option (CID-1b)





Note: The International District/Chinatown Station 4th Avenue Shallow Alternative would necessitate reconstruction of the existing Stadium Station.

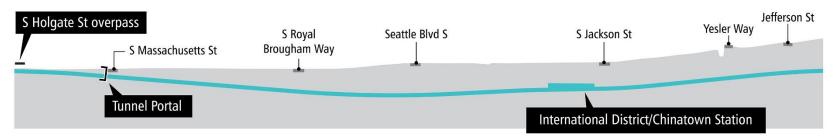


5th Avenue Shallow (CID-2a)



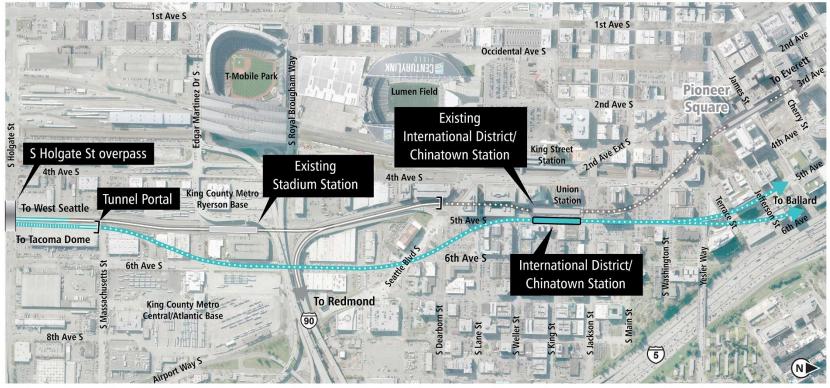


Note: The International District/Chinatown Station 4th Avenue Shallow Alternative would necessitate reconstruction of the existing Stadium Station.

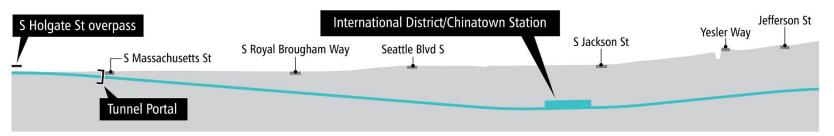


5th Avenue Shallow (CID-2a Diagonal Station Configuration)





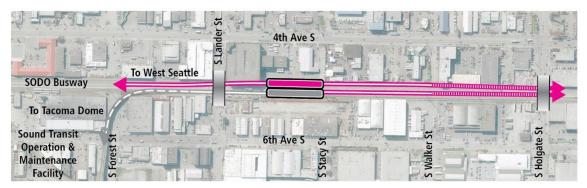
Note: The International District/Chinatown Station 4th Avenue Shallow Alternative would necessitate reconstruction of the existing Stadium Station.



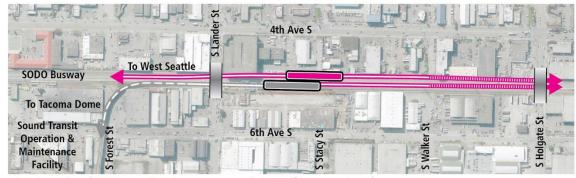
5th Avenue Deep Station Option (CID-2b)



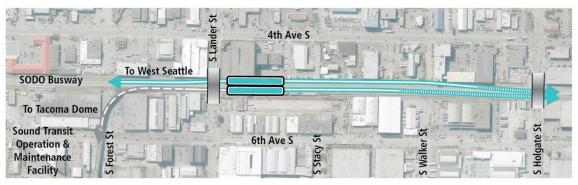
SODO segment



At-Grade (SODO-1a)



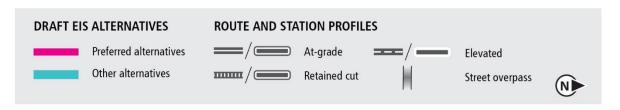
At-Grade (SODO-1a Staggered Configuration)



At-Grade South Station Option (SODO-1b)

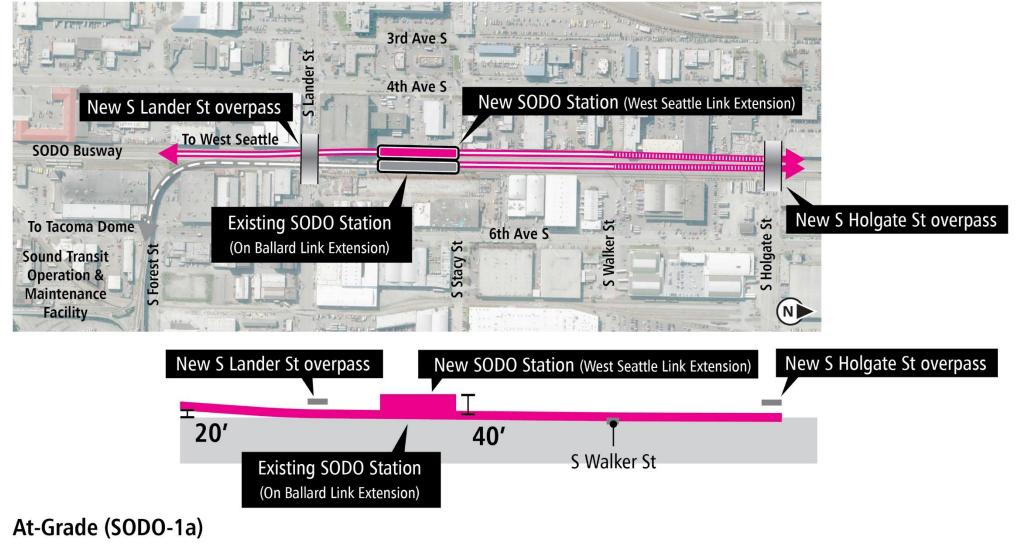


Mixed Profile (SODO-2)

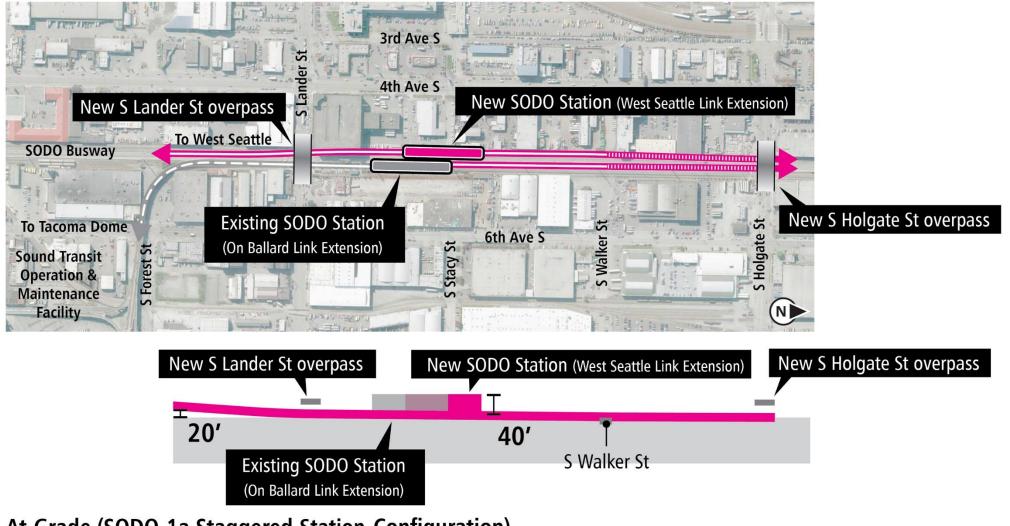


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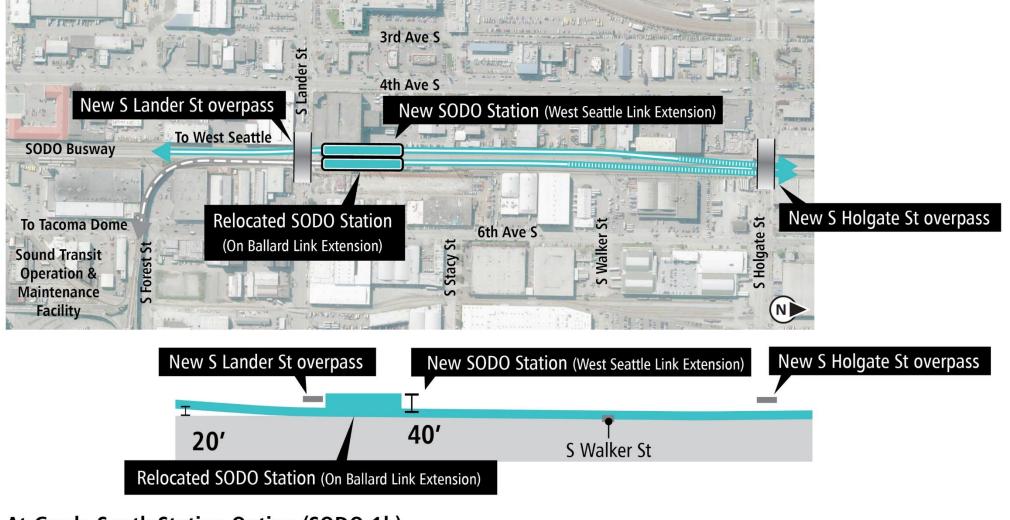






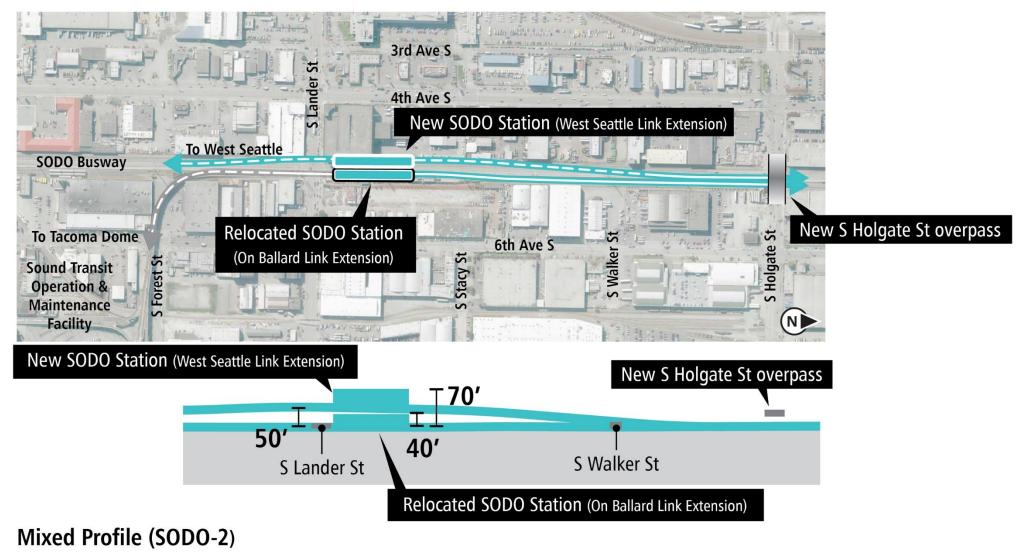
At-Grade (SODO-1a Staggered Station Configuration)





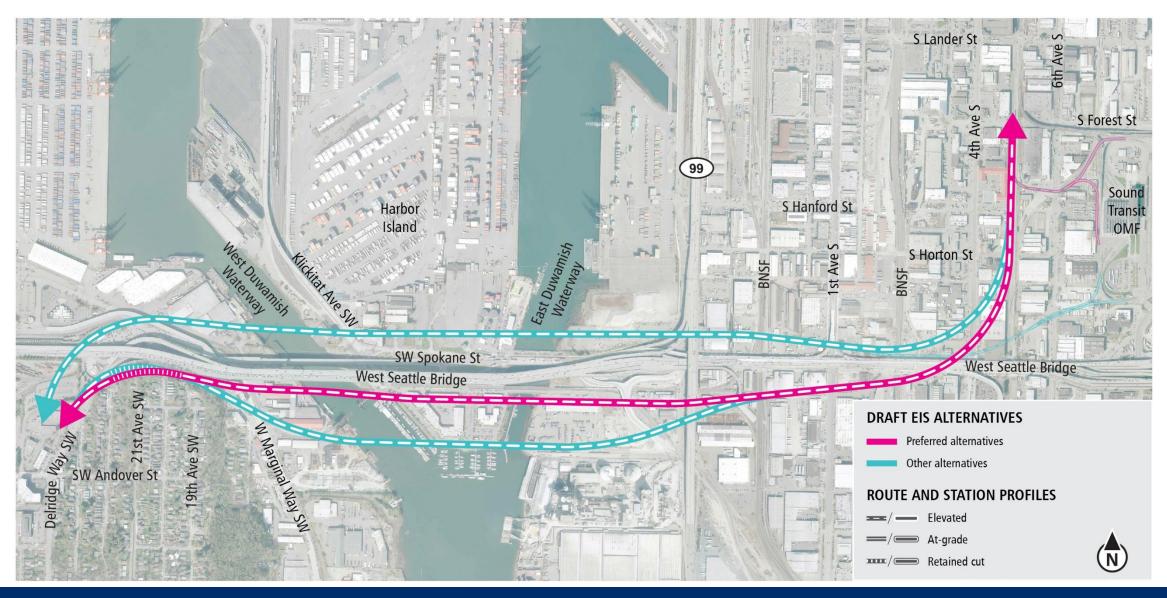
At-Grade South Station Option (SODO-1b)

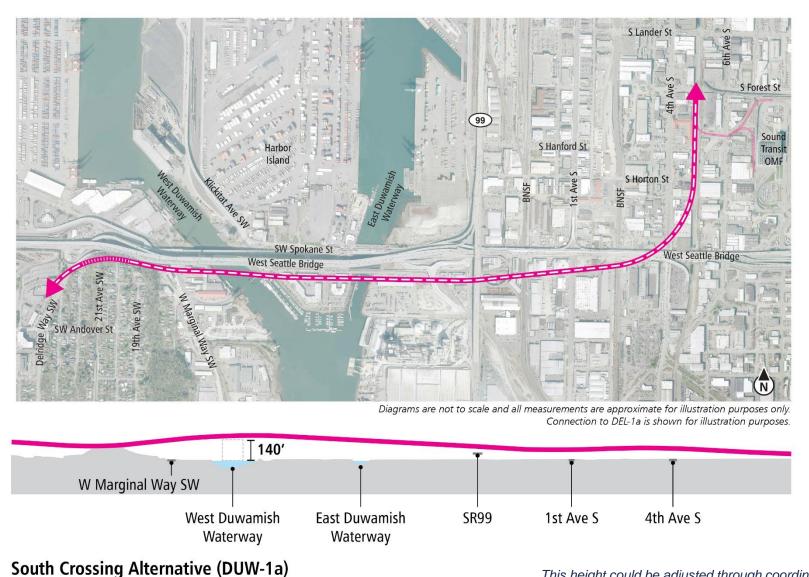




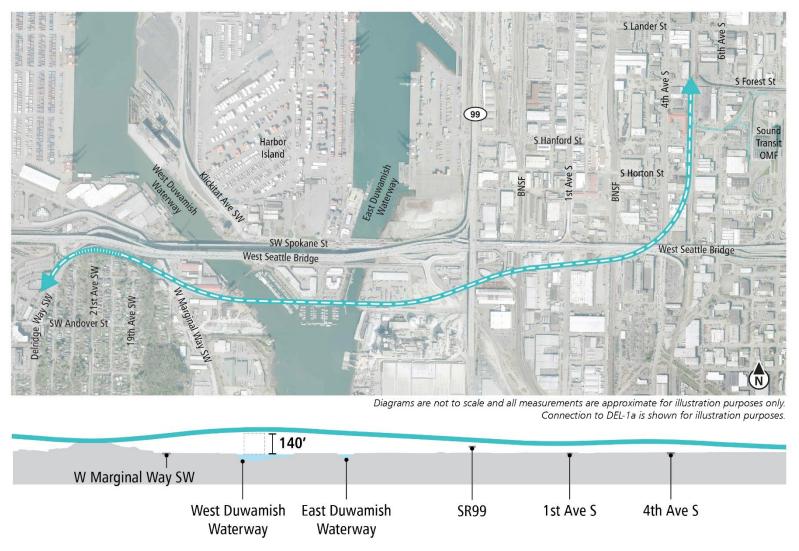


Duwamish segment





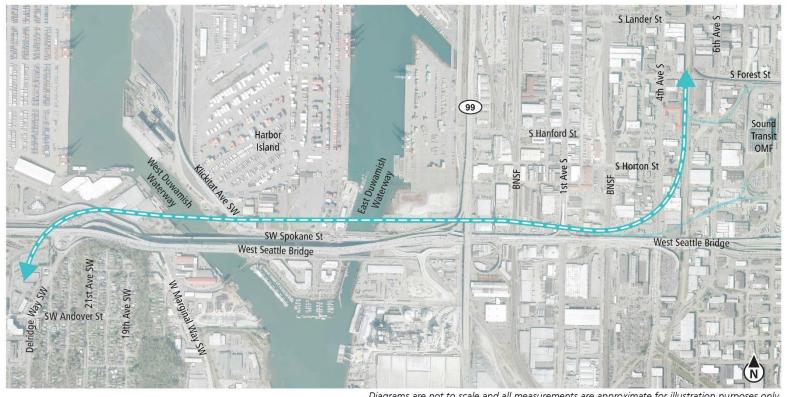
This height could be adjusted through coordination with the United States Coast Guard.



South Crossing South Edge Crossing Alignment Option (DUW-1b)

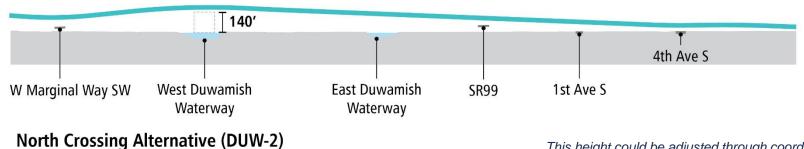
This height could be adjusted through coordination with the United States Coast Guard.





Diagrams are not to scale and all measurements are approximate for illustration purposes only.

Connection to DEL-1a is shown for illustration purposes.



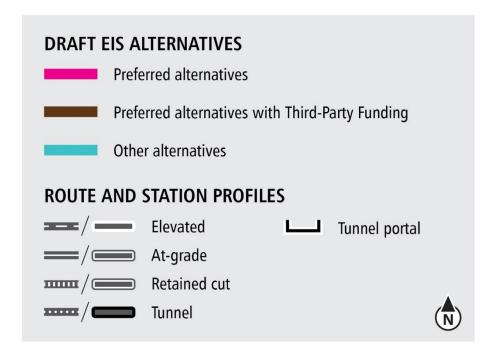
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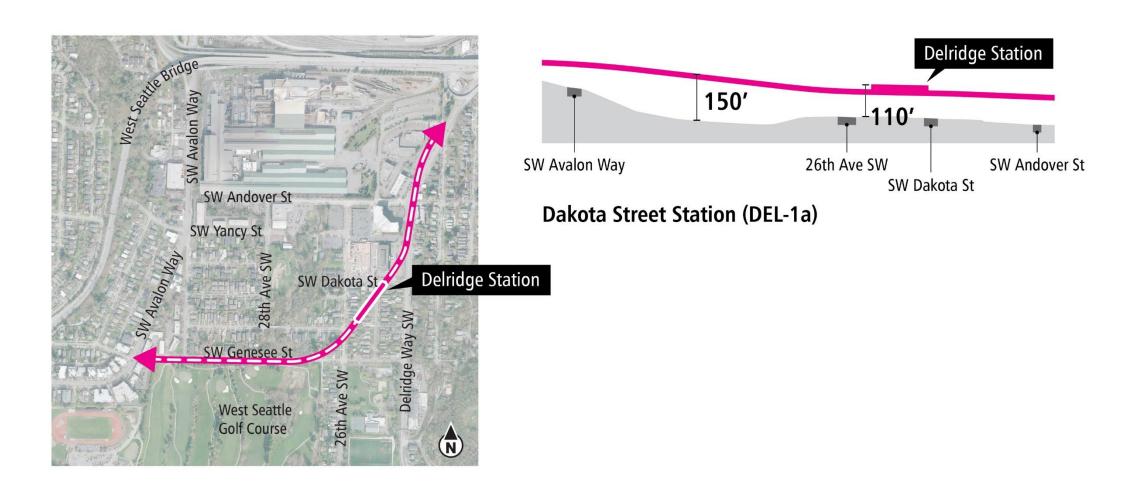
Delridge segment

Draft EIS alternatives Delridge

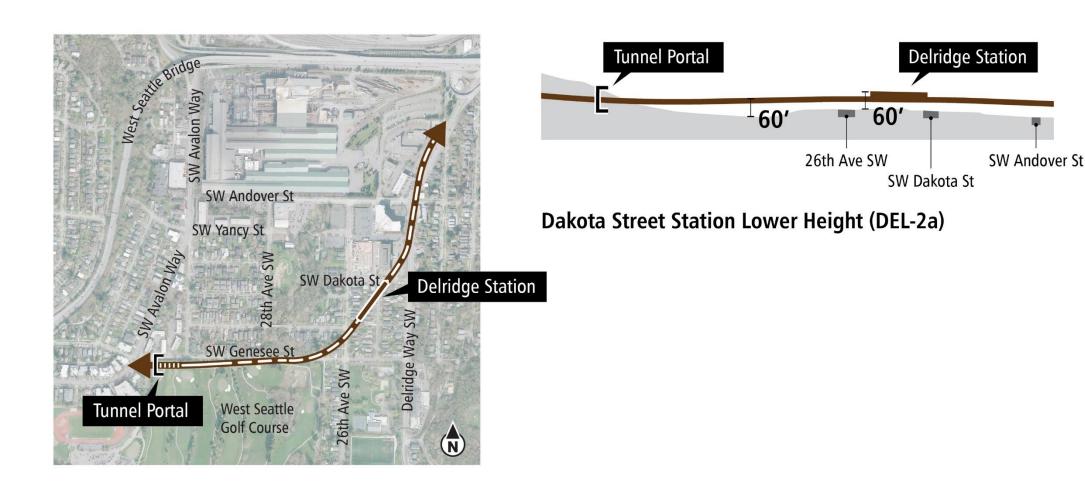




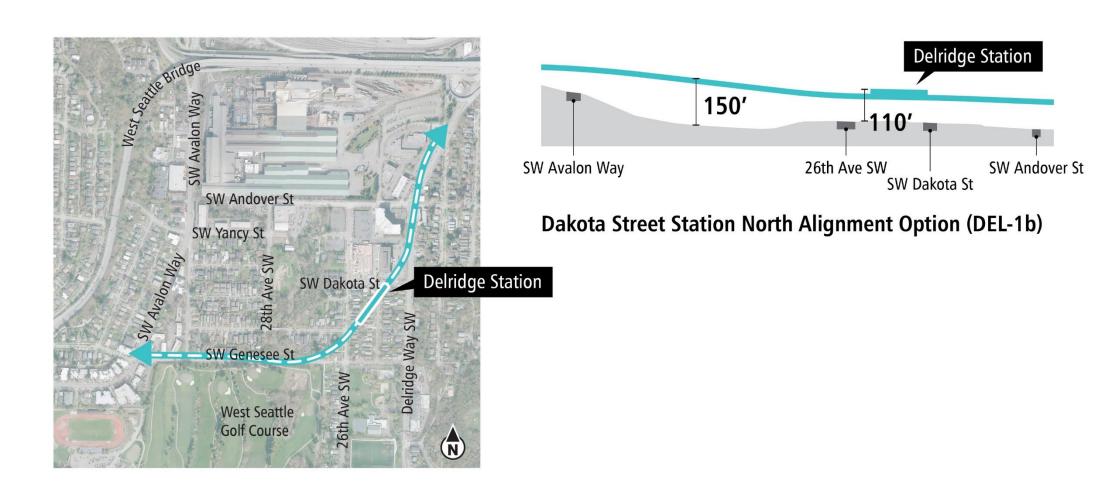




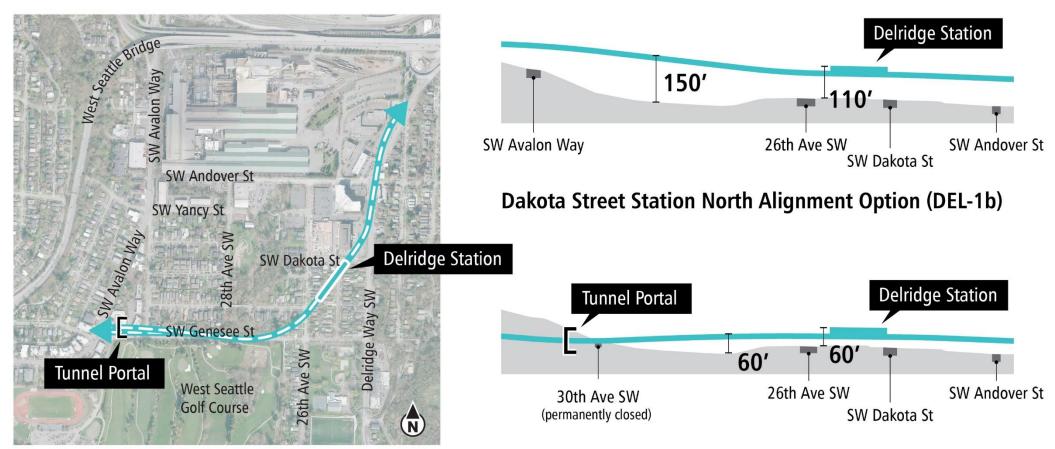






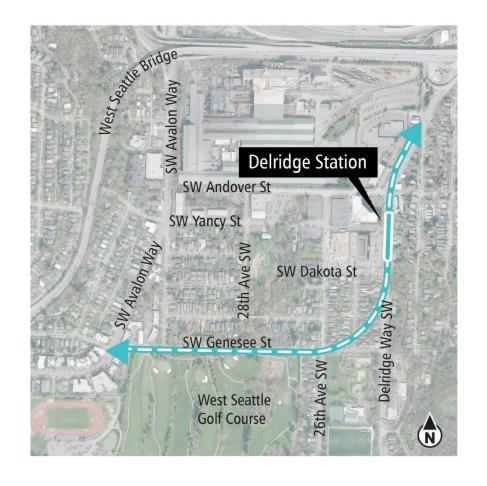






Dakota Street Station Lower Height North Alignment Option (DEL-2b)







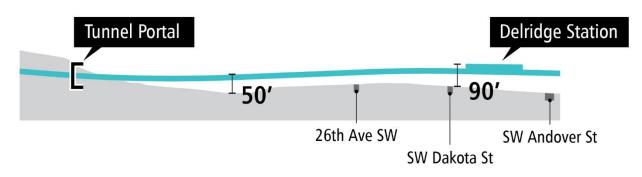
Delridge Way Station (DEL-3)







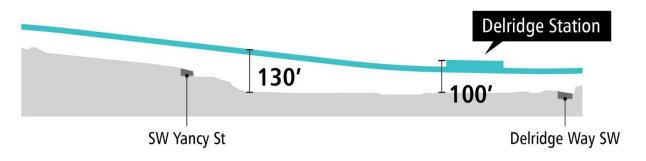
Delridge Way Station (DEL-3)



Delridge Way Station Lower Height (DEL-4)



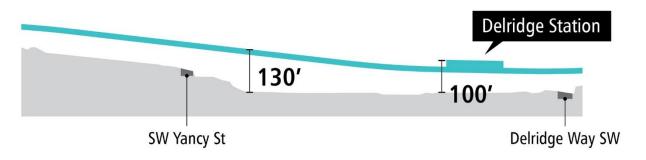




Andover Street Station Alternative (DEL-5)







Andover Street Station Alternative (DEL-5)

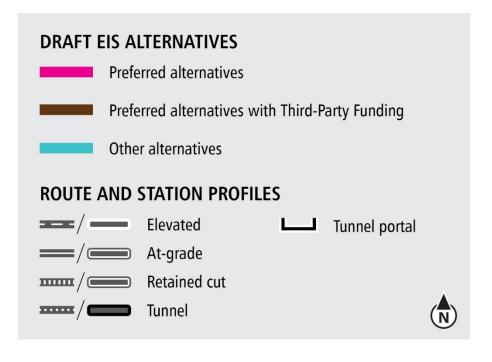


Andover Street Station Lower Height Alternative (DEL-6)



West Seattle Junction segment





Diagrams are not to scale. All measurements are approximate and are for discussion purposes only.







Elevated 41st/42nd Avenue Station (WSJ-1)







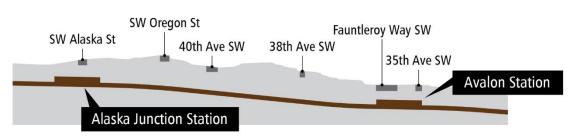
Elevated 41st/42nd Avenue Station (WSJ-1)



Elevated Fauntleroy Way Station (WSJ-2)



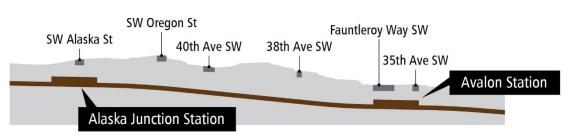




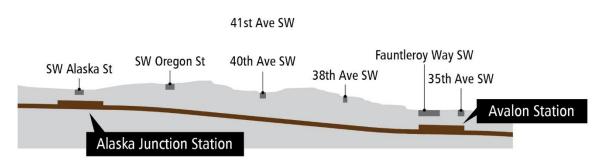
Tunnel 41st Avenue Station (WSJ-3a)





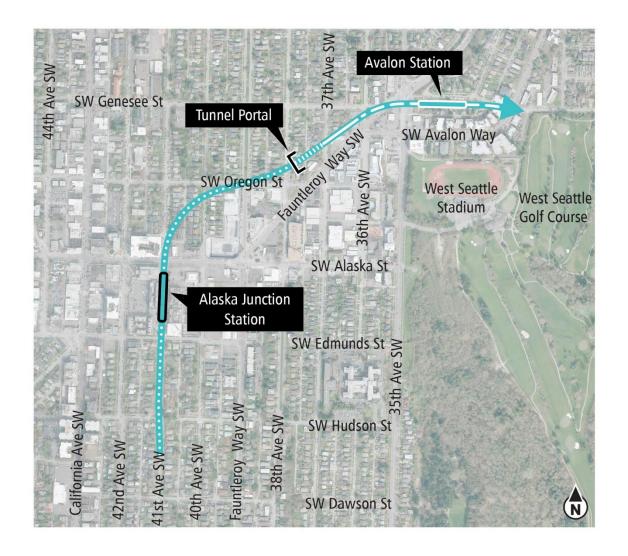


Tunnel 41st Avenue Station (WSJ-3a)



Tunnel 42nd Avenue Station Option (WSJ-3b)







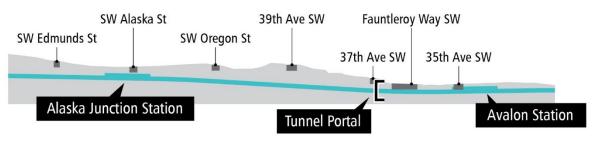
Short Tunnel 41st Avenue Station (WSJ-4)







Short Tunnel 41st Avenue Station (WSJ-4)



Medium Tunnel 41st Avenue Station (WSJ-5)



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Roles



- Evaluate potential alignment and station locations.
- Conduct planning, environmental review, and design of the light rail system.
- Build and operate new light rail system.

Center racial equity for better outcomes

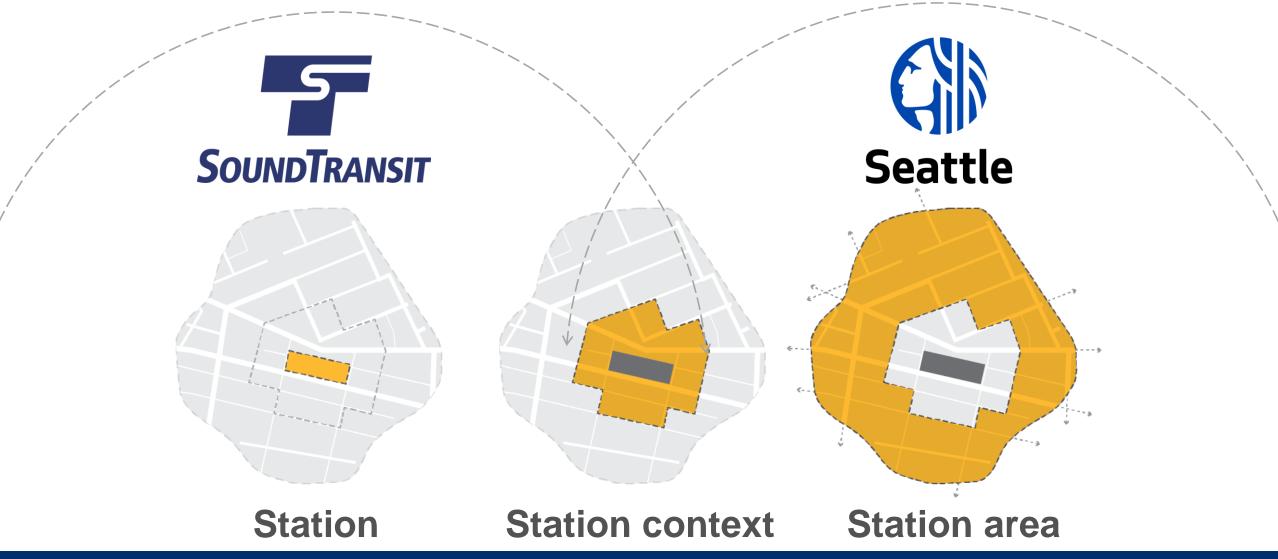
Co-planning stations with communities



- Elected officials from the City of Seattle on the ST Board that will make final decisions.
- Plan streets, housing, businesses,
 & open spaces to make great
 neighborhoods around stations.
- Issue permits to Sound Transit to build stations and track.



Co-planning partnership



Snapshot: Current City Work to Support Communities

- Engaging community in imagining the potential for different station locations and alternatives
- Preparing to make formal comments on the DEIS based on racial equity outcomes, neighborhood planning goals, research, and community feedback
- Listening to communities to guide decisionmaking toward a City position on a preferred alternative



Guiding Principles

- -Equity
- -Dependable Transit -Vibrant Communities
- -Climate Action

Community Survey Results: seattle.gov/lightrail

What is racial equity?

When social, economic and political opportunities are not determined by a person's race.



Racial Equity Toolkit Outcomes

- 1. Advance environmental and economic justice to improve economic and health outcomes for communities of color
- 2. Enhance mobility and access for communities of color and low-income populations
- 3. Create opportunities for equitable development that include expanding housing and community assets for communities of color
- 4. Avoid disproportionate impacts on communities of color and low-income populations
- 5. Create a sense of belonging for communities of color at all stations, making spaces where everyone sees themselves as belonging, feeling safe, and welcome.
- 6. Meaningfully involve low-income populations and communities of color in the project.



Sense of Belonging



What kinds of things give you a sense of belonging or make you feel welcome and safe in a place?

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Current community engagement

Preparing for upcoming Draft EIS publication

- Online engagement platform: wsblink.participate.online
- Community briefings
- Fairs, festivals and tabling
- Equitable engagement approaches
- Outreach to property owners

Equitable engagement

Capacity building and reaching more people

- Exploring partnerships with community-based organizations
- Partnership with City of Seattle's Department of Neighborhood's Community Liaison program



Upcoming engagement



Publish Draft EIS



Collect public feedback

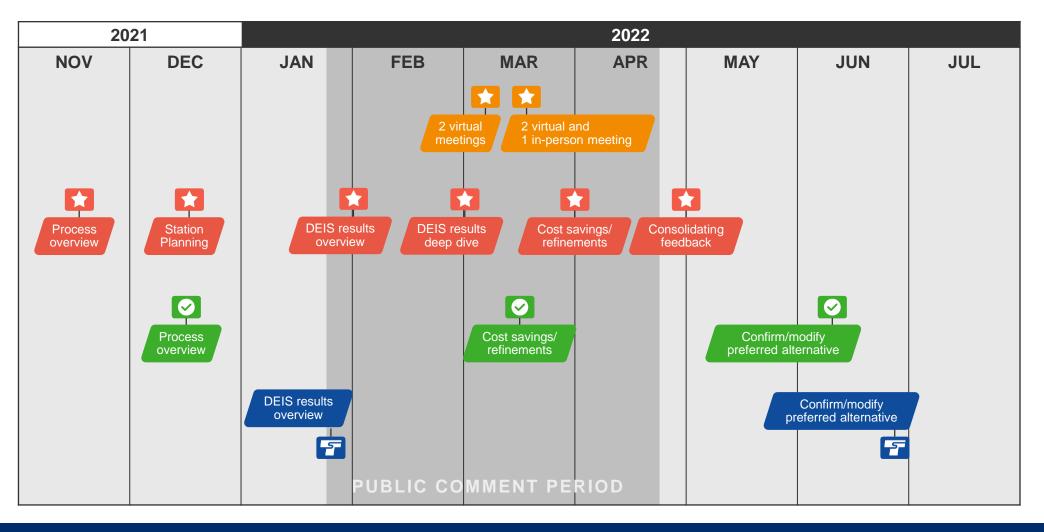
Community Engagement and collaboration Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)













Community Advisory Groups

Role

Build understanding and common ground around key project decisions.

Highlight specific issues and trade-offs as Sound Transit works to deliver a project on the target schedule and within scope.

Share feedback with the Sound Transit Board before they confirm or modify the preferred alternative.



Structure

Start: November 16, 2021

Four community advisory groups (CAGs), by geographic segment:

- West Seattle/ Duwamish
- Chinatown-International District/ SODO
- Downtown
- Interbay/ Ballard

Monthly meetings of each group through Spring 2022 (schedule forthcoming).

Membership expectations

Act as a community ambassador, willing to share information with community members and bring forth community values, concerns, and ideas.

Consider the community as a whole and go beyond personal interests.

Participate collaboratively with group members whose views may be different from their own.

Attend and participate in approximately six-monthly meetings from fall 2021 through Spring 2022.

Operating guidelines

Try to attend all meetings.

Communicate with and update your communities regarding the work of the CAG in coordination with Sound Transit staff who can assist with your efforts by attending briefings and providing materials.

Commit to support a process that is open, iterative and transparent, and builds toward common ground.

Be respectful and keep an open mind regarding others' opinions, ideas and viewpoints.



Operating guidelines

Meetings will be led by a facilitator.

Follow instructions given by the meeting facilitator.

Everyone gets their say.

Openly share observations and views.

Disclose any conflicts of interest with the meeting facilitator.

If approached by the media, please represent your perspective, not the perspective of the CAGs.

Or, direct media inquiries to **Rachelle Cunningham**: rachelle.cunningham@soundtransit.org.



Questions?

Agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Sound Transit and System Expansion
- West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions
- City of Seattle and Sound Transit partnership
- Community engagement and collaboration
- Next steps and next meeting

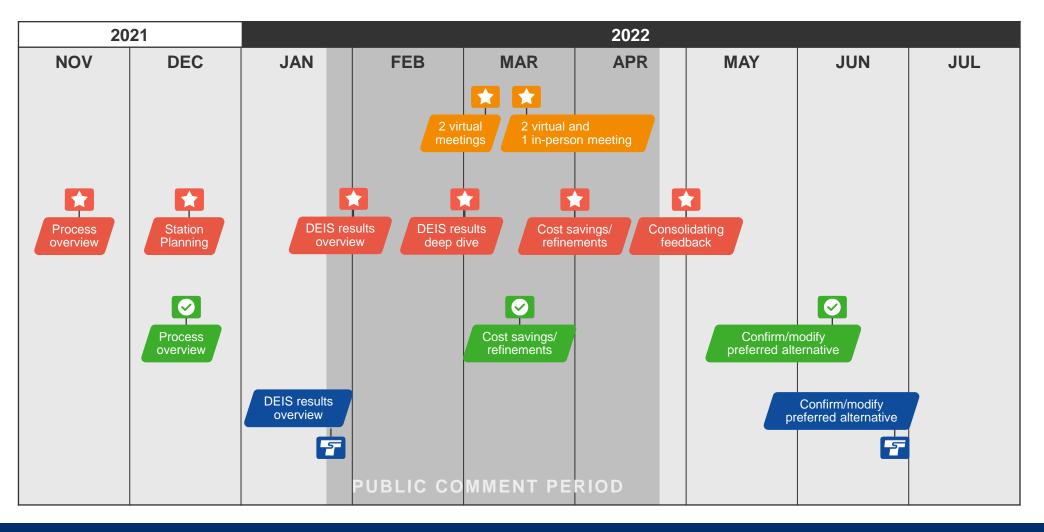
Community Engagement and collaboration Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)













December 2021 schedule

Date	Meeting	Time
Wed. Dec. 8 th	Interbay/ Ballard CAG	5pm – 7pm
Thurs. Dec. 9 th	CID/ SODO CAG	5pm – 7pm
Tues. Dec. 14 th	West Seattle/ Duwamish CAG	5pm – 7pm
Thurs. Dec. 16 th	Downtown CAG	5pm – 7pm

Questions?

Contact Leda Chahim: leda.chahim@soundtransit.org

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