

# West Seattle & Ballard Light Rail Expansion Creating Connected Communities

Link Light Rail is expanding in Seattle!

Sound Transit is building 13 new and expanded light rail stations with service to West Seattle in 2032\* and Ballard in 2037-2039\*. This major expansion of light rail in Seattle includes a new transit tunnel under Downtown and two water crossings. It is the largest transit investment in our city's history.

The City is planning for new light rail to ensure fast and reliable transit connections between neighborhoods and job centers, and also to enhance our neighborhoods as they become more inclusive, affordable, and interconnected destinations.

\*For details on the project delivery dates, please refer to Sound Transit's website ([bit.ly/3Bq6VYQ](http://bit.ly/3Bq6VYQ))

## Let's plan together

- Racial equity and social justice are the foundation for City decision-making on light rail stations and alignments.
- New light rail service to your neighborhood will provide an efficient and reliable option to get you where you need to go.
- New affordable housing and businesses located near stations could enhance diverse neighborhoods with more places to live, work, and shop.
- Reducing our dependence on cars and giving residents real, clean power alternatives for transportation will help us fight back against climate change.



**City of Seattle and Sound Transit are working together to engage communities throughout this process. Each partner plays a role in connecting with communities to get this project delivered on time, on budget, in ways that are responsive to community needs and aspirations.**

### City of Seattle Role

-  Mayor Bruce Harrell and Councilmember Debora Juarez sit on the Sound Transit Board that will make final decisions.
-  Plan housing, businesses, and open spaces to enhance great neighborhoods around new stations.
-  Issue permits to Sound Transit to build stations and track.

### SOUNDTRANSIT Role

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



## Ongoing Community Involvement

Sound Transit Board **identified preferred alternative for West Seattle Link, requested further study for Ballard Link alternatives**

July 2022

City & Sound Transit to **conduct public engagement for Station Context Planning**

Late 2022-  
Mid 2023

Sound Transit Board to **review requested study**

Board action on Ballard Link to be determined

February 2023

Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) **published**

Late 2023-  
Early 2024

Final route alignment & station locations **confirmed**

by Sound Transit Board, Federal Transit Admin., & Seattle City Council

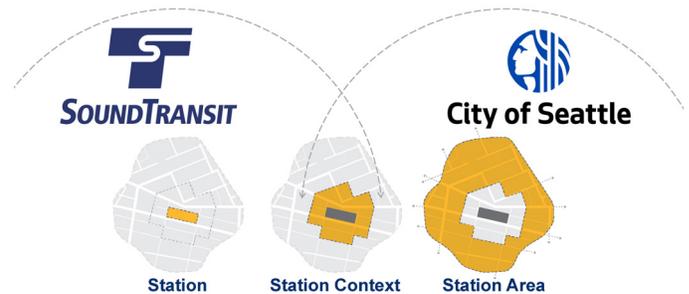
Early 2024

## Planning Around Stations

After Sound Transit identifies the final light rail station locations in early 2024, the City of Seattle will begin its station area planning process and work with communities to:

- Plan walking, biking, and bus improvements to help you get to stations.
- Identify opportunities for housing, shopping, and open spaces to create affordable, livable neighborhoods around new stations.
- Establish priorities to inform project permitting.

The City is working to implement its Race and Social Justice Initiative through this project, with special focus on communities of color whose neighborhoods have historically shouldered the burdens of large infrastructure projects.



The City of Seattle and Sound Transit are working together to plan the **Station Context** area, which is the area within one to two blocks from the station. Station Context planning includes design choices for the station itself, the open space around the station, bus stops, and more.

The City is responsible for working with communities to plan the broader **Station Area**, which is typically the area within a half-mile from the station.

## Stay Engaged

Learn about the City's upcoming community meetings and sign up for updates at [seattle.gov/lightrail](https://seattle.gov/lightrail).

For the latest on Sound Transit updates, visit [soundtransit.org/wsblink](https://soundtransit.org/wsblink).

## City of Seattle Contacts

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Sign up for updates at [seattle.gov/lightrail](https://seattle.gov/lightrail)

The City of Seattle encourages everyone to participate in its programs and activities. For disability accommodations, materials in alternate formats, or accessibility information, contact Nicole Kistler | 206.962.9266 | [nicole.kistler@seattle.gov](mailto:nicole.kistler@seattle.gov) at your earliest opportunity.