



# Sound Transit

## Seattle, Washington

MAG Regional Transit Framework Study • November 2008

The Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority, known as Sound Transit, is the regional transit agency of the Seattle, Washington metropolitan area. Sound Transit was created in the early 1990's with authorization from the Washington State legislature to form single transit agency that would be responsible for planning, building and operating a high capacity transit system for the greater Seattle region. A variety of service is provided throughout the region, including fixed route bus, demand response, vanpool, light rail, commuter rail and ferryboats.

Governed by an 18-member Board of Directors, Sound Transit's service spans across three counties and includes close to half the state's population.

### SOUND TRANSIT MEMBERS

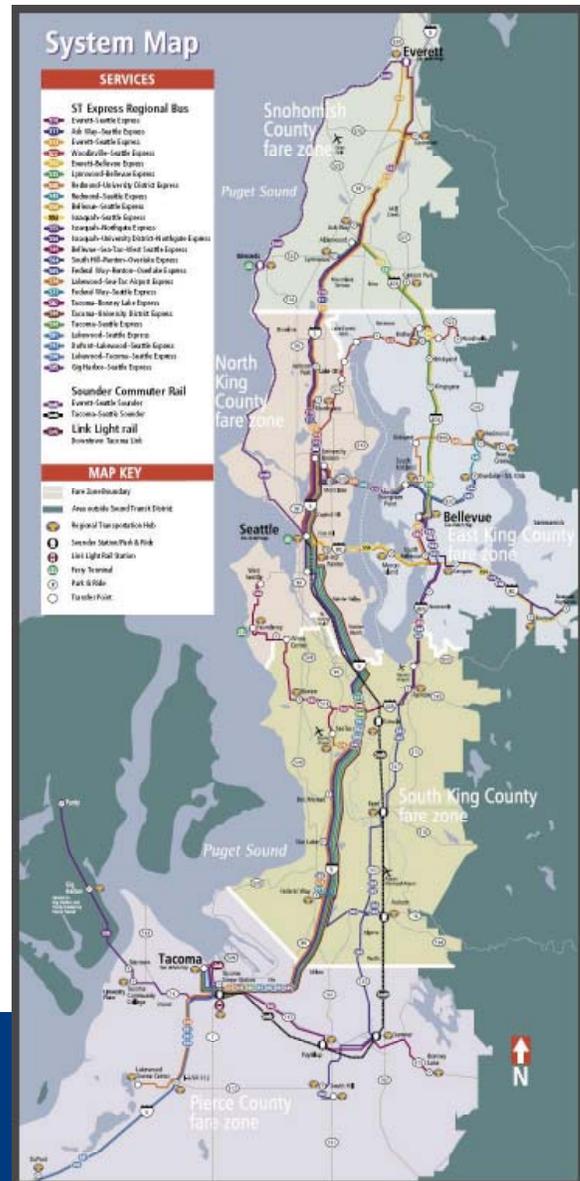
- King County
- Pierce County
- Snohomish County

### REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Population: 2,875,000  
 Land Area: 954 sq mi

### REGIONAL MODES

- Commuter Rail
  - Vanpool\*
  - Monorail\*
  - Light Rail
  - Ferryboat\*
  - Local/Express Bus
  - Demand Response\*
- \*Operated by other transit agency



Source: ST, 2008

## HOURS OF OPERATION

Express/Bus – 5:00am – 12:30am / 6:00am – 12:00am

Light Rail – 5:30am–10pm (M-F) / 8am–10pm (Sat) /  
10am–6pm (Sun)

\*Commuter Rail – 5am – 7:45pm

\*No Weekend Service

## FUNDING

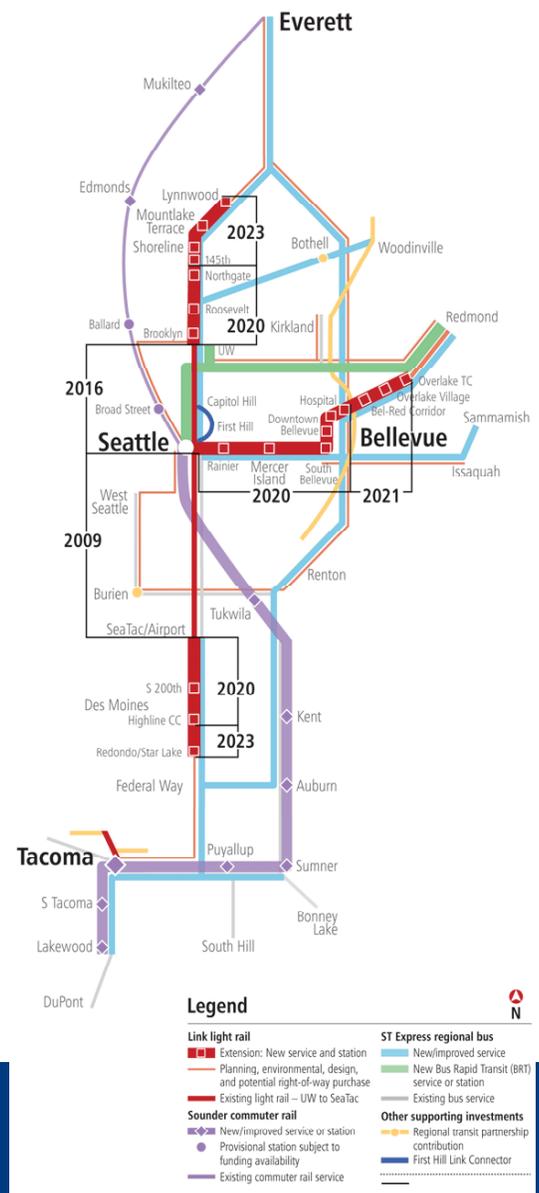
Local sales tax provides the largest source of revenue for transit operations in the Seattle region. In 2006, voters approved Sound Move, a \$3.9 billion initiative aimed at expanding the existing HOV system, creating an 81-mile commuter rail system, and creating a 25-mile light rail system. A new plan, Sound Transit 2, will be presented to voters in November 2008.

## FUTURE EXPANSION

- North Ext. Phase 1 – 3.2-miles of LRT opening in 2016
- North Ext. Phase 2 – 4.3-miles of LRT opening in 2020
- South Ext. Phase 1 – 2.0-miles of LRT opening in 2020
- East Ext. Phase 1 – 6.9-miles of LRT opening in 2020
- East Ext. Phase 2 – 3.5-miles of LRT opening in 2021
- North Ext. Phase 3 – TBD LRT opening in 2023
- South Ext. Phase 3 – TBD LRT opening in 2023
- SOUND TRANSIT 2 SUMMARY
- Increase transit ridership across the region by 65%
- Eliminate between 99,550 and 178,330 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent GHG emissions each year
- Saves average person throughout the region \$155 per year
- Creates 66,000 jobs across the regional economy during construction
- Creates 48,000 permanent jobs across the economy once the system opens
- Increases transit commute trips to regional destinations from 25% to 65%
- Provides easy access to rail system for 70% of regions residents and 85% of jobs in the district
- Extends rail to 50% of designated “Regional Centers”

## MEASURES OF SUCCESS

- High quality projects are completed on time and within budget
- Services are well used with high customer satisfaction
- Checks and balances ensure accountability to the community
- Projects are developed with the help of meaningful community involvement and participation
- Projects include innovative design and operating features that benefit customers and attract new riders
- Partnerships leverage Sound Transit’s investments and/or reduce project costs



Source: ST, 2008