

Regional Contracting Forum Ballard & Tacoma Dome Link Extensions

October 7th, 2026



Today's Speakers



Diana Holloway
Ballard Link Extension
Commercial Director



Gavin Schaefer
Ballard Link Extension
Design Director - Stations



Nathan Galer
Tacoma Dome Link Extension
Construction Director

Agenda

- 1. About Sound Transit***
- 2. Ballard Link Extension***
- 3. Tacoma Dome Link Extension***
- 4. Q&A***

A photograph of a modern train crossing a concrete bridge over a river. The train is white with blue accents and is moving towards the right. The bridge has a metal railing. In the background, there are trees with autumn foliage. In the foreground, there are blurred leaves of a tree. The image has a dark blue overlay.

About Sound Transit

Sound Transit: Who We Are

- The Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority began in 1993 as a joint effort by the Snohomish, King, and Pierce county governments in western Washington state
- Encompassing **more than 1,000 square miles**, the Sound Transit District is bigger than the state of Rhode Island and is **home to more than 40% of Washington's population**.
- Builds, maintains, and operates (with partners) Light Rail, Commuter Rail, Express Bus, and Bus Rapid Transit modes





Current system

Link light rail 1 2 T

- Three lines
- 63 miles
- 50 stations
- Connecting Lynnwood–Federal Way and Redmond, Tacoma Dome–St Joseph

Sounder trains N S

- Two lines
- 83 miles
- 12 stations
- Connecting Everett–Seattle and Lakewood–Seattle

ST Express buses

- 25 express routes on regional freeway corridors



Voter-approved system (4 Modes)

Link light rail 1 2 3 4 T

- Five lines
- 116 miles
- 83 stations

Sounder trains N S

- Two lines
- 91 miles
- 14 stations

Stride bus rapid transit S1 S2 S3

- New mode
- Three lines
- 45 miles on I-405 and SR 522
- Serves 12 cities and connects to light rail in Shoreline, Lynnwood, Bellevue, and Tukwila

Sound Transit Capital Program

An unprecedented investment in the region

Embarking on the next phase at \$60B+

Link Light Rail Extensions

- West Seattle Link Extension
- Ballard Link Extension
- Tacoma Dome Link Extension
- Everett Link Extension
- Issaquah to Kirkland
- Infill Stations – Graham St. And Boeing Access Rd.
- Operations & Maintenance Facilities (North & South)

Stride Bus Rapid Transit

- I-405
- SR 518
- SR 522

Sounder South

- Platform Extensions
- Maintenance Base

State of Good Repair



A blue-tinted photograph of a train station platform. In the foreground, a person in a hooded jacket is holding a smartphone and a paper. Behind them, a woman in a quilted jacket and a man in a striped shirt and orange helmet are standing. A white Sound Transit train is stopped at the platform. A digital sign above the platform shows 'Redmond' and 'Now 3 min'. The Sound Transit logo is visible on the front of the train.

Ballard Link Extension



Ballard Link Extension

- Included in Sound Transit 3 (ST3) voter-approved plan.
- Improves regional mobility by **increasing connectivity and capacity** through Downtown Seattle to meet the projected transit demand.
- Provides high-capacity transit stations and **increased options for multi-modal access** necessary for increased residential and/or employment density.

Project Highlights



Up to nine stations

Up to seven underground stations

One elevated station

One at-grade station



Two Twin Bore Tunnel sections

3.5 miles under Downtown Seattle

1.4 miles under Interbay/Salmon Bay/Ballard

Cross passages and three portal structures



*1.5 Miles of elevated and
0.7 miles at-grade/retained guideway sections*



Complex third party and utility interfaces

Ballard Link Extension

Project timeline



**Service from SODO to Seattle Center Station is scheduled to open in 2042. Construction from Seattle Center to Ballard is currently not affordable but could open at the same time if Sound Transit can further reduce project costs, increase financial capacity, and secure the remaining funding construction funding.*

Driving Sound Transit Forward

*Ballard Link Extension is a **first of its kind project** for Sound Transit and the City of Seattle:*

- Constructed through a **dense downtown area**
- **Most tunnel** Sound Transit has delivered on a single project
- **First underground transfer** stations in the Sound Transit system

*We must **leverage the talent and capacity of the industry** to bring expertise and best practices for these types of **projects from around the globe** to the **unique context of the City of Seattle and Ballard Link Extension project.***

Engineering Design Services - Sequence of Project Phases & Contract Options

Base Contract
Engineering Design Services
Central/North Segments

Phase 1



Identify further cost savings & advanced PE from SODO to Ballard



Record of Decision

Contract Option A
Final Design
Central Segment*

** May include Bid Support & Construction Administration for Early Works contract*

Phase 2a



Complete Phase 2a final design to Seattle Center

Contract Option B
Final Design
North Segment

Phase 2b



Complete Phase 2b final design to Ballard

Contract Option C
Bid Support & Construction Administration
Central Segment

Phase 3a



Contract Option D
Bid Support & Construction Administration
North Segment

Phase 3b



Revenue
Service

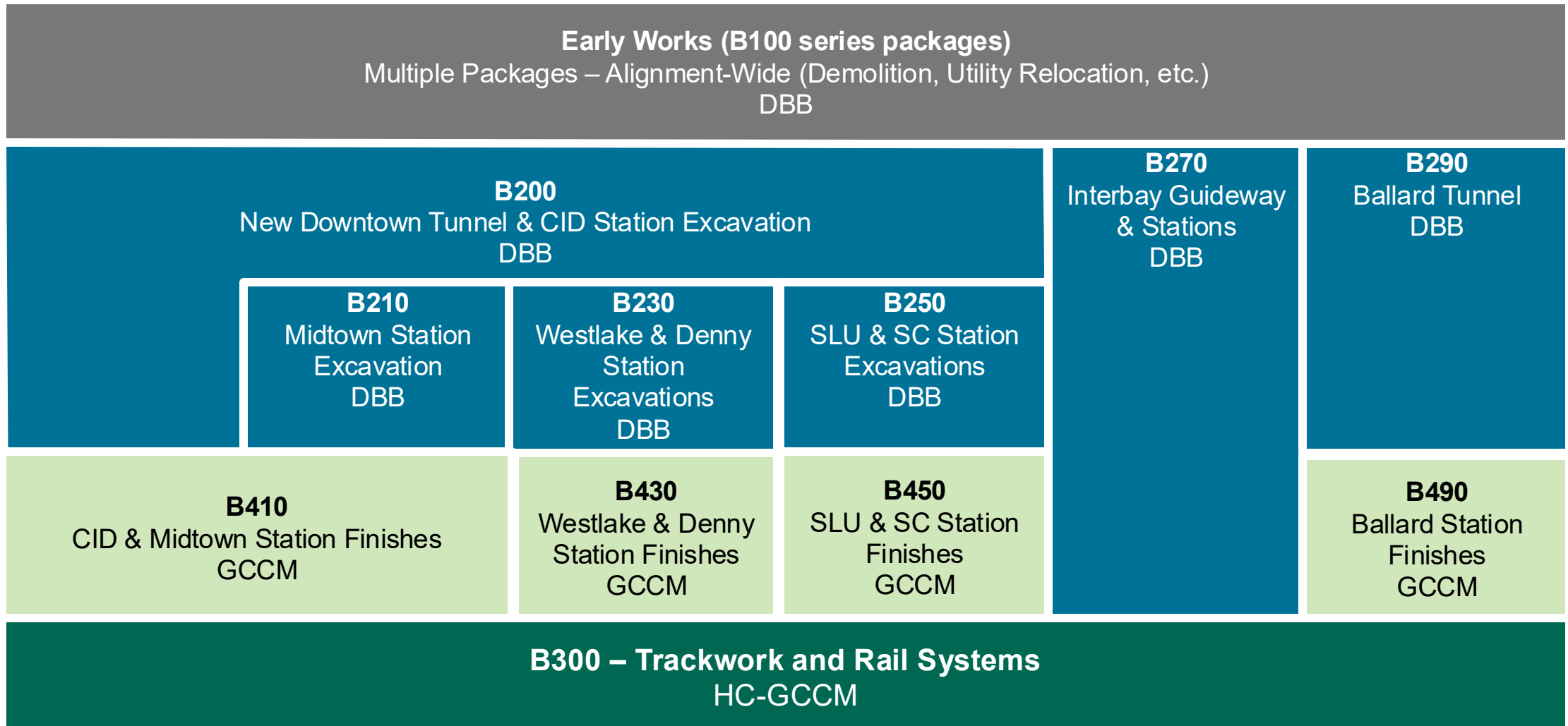
Draft information; subject to change.

RFQ Timeline



BLE Current Draft Packaging Plan

DBB: Design-Bid-Build
GCCM: General Contractor/Construction Manager
HC-GCCM: GCCM Heavy Civil Variant



Questions about BLE procurements?

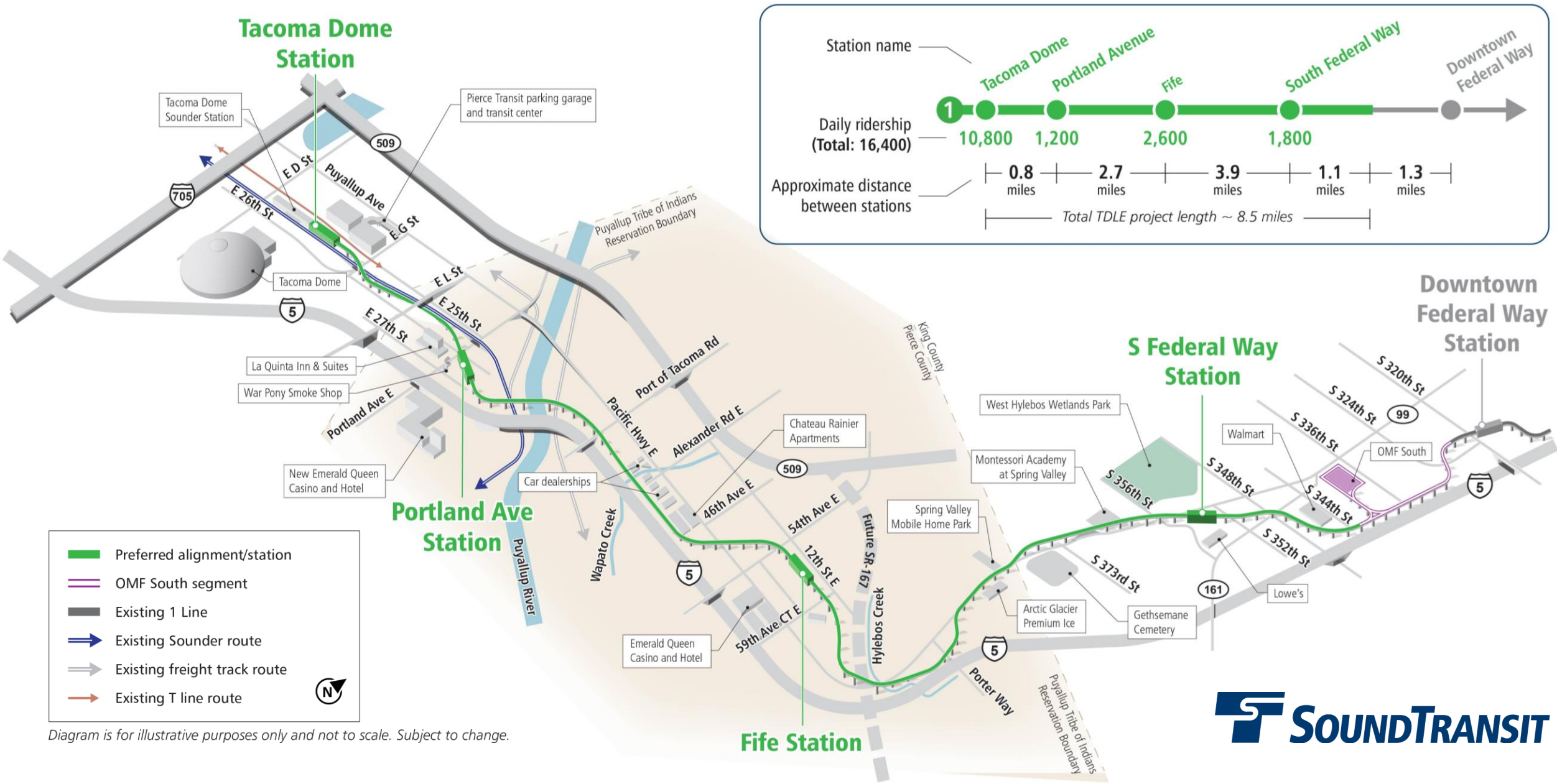
dccprocurementhelp@soundtransit.org



Tacoma Dome Link Extension



Corridor Context



Puyallup Tribe of Indians

TDLE runs through the sovereign nation and serves the Tribal Nation's ancestral and reservation lands.

The Tribe is an essential project partner.

Tribal Employment Right Ordinance (TERO) requirements will apply to significant portions of the work.



July 8 Puyallup River tour with Puyallup Tribe and the TDLE project team

TDLE Major Elements



~8.5 MILES

~5.4 miles in the tribal reservation
~1.2 miles retained fill
~7.3 miles elevated guideway



4 AERIAL STATIONS

South Federal Way
Fife
Portland Ave
Tacoma Dome



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



1 RIVER CROSSING



CIVIL

Guideway, long span bridge structures, back-of-curb, and utilities



STATIONS

Architectural, structural, mechanical, electrical, plumbing and art



RIGHT OF WAY

Project right of way and staging



TRACK

DF, Ballast, Special Trackwork



SYSTEMS

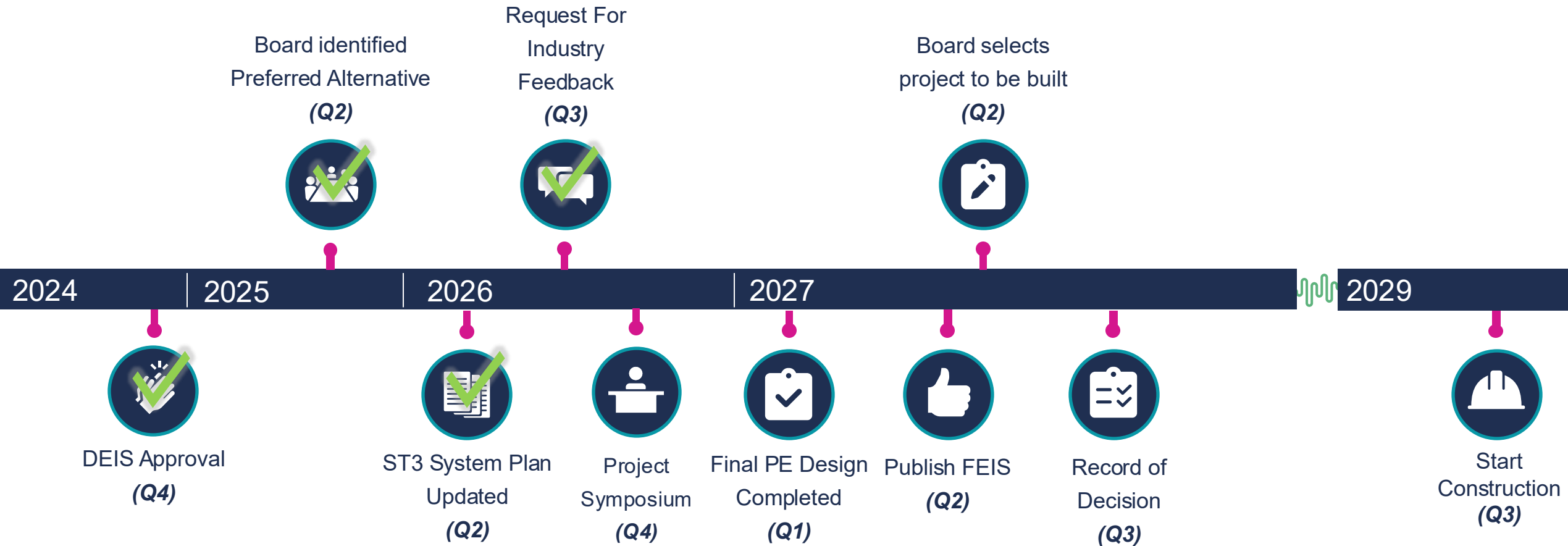
Power, train control (AWS/CBTC), signaling, and communications



UTILITIES

New, Protected, Relocated

TDLE Project Milestones



Request For Industry Feedback (RFIF)

To inform TDLE's delivery framework, which will shape how the project is packaged, procured, and delivered, Sound Transit has invited industry feedback on:

- Small Business + TERO
- Market Capacity
- Delivery + Risk
- Systems Strategy

Culminates at the Project Symposium in October



More than 25
companies
participating



Representation from
the Contractor and
Consultant community



150 individual
participants

Upcoming Procurements*

Contract type	Advertisement/NTP
Commercial MATOC	Q3 2026 / Q4 2026
Final Design MATOC	Q4 2026 / Q1 2027
PM/CM MATOC	Q1 2027 / Q2 2027
Heavy Civil construction packages	Q1 2027 / Q3 2027
Systems construction package	Q1 2027 / Q3 2027

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

Questions about TDLE?

tdle-rfif@soundtransit.org



Sound Transit

Sound Transit (Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority) has partnered with Biddingo.com to provide information regarding contracting opportunities at Sound Transit. All guests to our site can view solicitations, bid results and solicitation award information. If you are interested in working with Sound Transit please register using the Vendor Registration button below in order to receive email notifications about upcoming projects in your field(s) of interest. Doing so will enable you to download solicitation documents, associated addenda and will contain information about how to respond to the solicitation. Sound Transit is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages Minority, Women and Disadvantaged

Business Enterprises to participate in the competitive procurement process. Firms are also advised that Sound Transit expects contractors, consultants, and vendors to adhere to certain Sound Transit policies while on Sound Transit's premises or when communicating with Sound Transit employees. In addition to advertising contract opportunities here on the agency's solicitation web site, it is also Sound Transit's policy to advertise solicitations greater than \$250,000 in the Daily Journal of Commerce. This site is intended to meet the requirements of RCW 39.04.155.

Vendor Registration



vendorportal.soundtransit.org



Thank you!



 ***soundtransit.org***



Q&A