

Sounder commuter rail



Art adds interest and meaning to public places.
Art celebrates the history, culture and people
of a community. Art tells a story.



"Welcome Mats" at a Sounder station designed by artist Jerry Mayer

The Sound Transit art program, *STart*, brings an artist's perspective to what is mainly an engineering and architectural undertaking. Many aspects of the Sound Transit system of buses and trains are transformed by art. Community representatives help select the artists and approve the artwork.

ALL STATIONS Artist-designed "Welcome Mats" serve as door markers on the station platforms. The "Welcome Mats" mark where the commuter train doors open when the train pulls into the station. The "Welcome Mat" design was derived from a late 1800's quilt pattern called "Railroad Quilt."

KING STREET STATION The Sounder station canopy support columns feature 26 stainless steel and aluminum wind-activated sculptures. A series of articulated metal strips hanging from the pivoting vane allows the artwork to not only reveal the direction of the wind but also its shape. *"The brushed surface of the metal reflects the colors of the sky and the nearby buildings. The metaphor is one of passage, glints of light reflecting from a field of metallic grass."* Artist Ned Kahn.

"Moto/motor/to move/motion- that's the starting point", says Jerry Mayer of his artwork "Moto," traffic-type 4'x4' signs covered in a range of colorful reflective material. These are attached to sixteen columns opposite the commuter rail platform. Each sign/artwork has imagery of a simple black shape made up of a combination of traffic sign symbols from arrows, crosses, "Y"s and "T"s.

TUKWILA Artwork by Sheila Klein will make a signature entry to the station using landscape, light and sculpture. The piece is meant to be theatrical and a backdrop to the nature of travel. The piece works from formal garden concepts, including dramatic graphic devices, edged beds, strong geometries and playful site lines. This project aims to do this with a contemporary feel. A stainless hand-crafted marquee in the form of an abstracted fleur-de-lis will crown the service building in front of curbed and raised beds of red twig dogwood, which will be part of a water retention area.



Auburn Station

KENT Glass tile mosaic and plant material is used to represent a watercourse at the ticketing plaza, the bus platform and along Smith Street. The artwork also includes trellis light fixtures, a garden of measurement containing weather measuring sculptures, and a train whistle clock located on the train platform. *"The art for the Kent Station is organized to interpret Kent's past and present as a container and collector of produce, people and ideas."* Artist Lydia Aldredge.

AUBURN The station includes two passenger platforms with eight large canopies made of painted steel, glass and red brick. The canopy colors reflect Auburn's agricultural heritage and the red brick pillars echo the historic brick structures found along Main Street. Art is integrated into the station's pedestrian plaza, which is the primary connection between the station and downtown Auburn, as well as the six-level parking garage with retail shops on the lower level.



Summer Station

SUMNER The hops boom of the late 19th century is represented in the Sumner Station shelters through a contemporary interpretation of hops kilns. The station artwork includes trellis-like structures on each side of the platform. The roof of each is hydrocut steel in the pattern of the hops vine which casts shadows on the sidewalk below. An artist-designed tree grate of a stylized hops blossom will be used throughout. *"As an artist, I am interested in revealing the hidden histories of a place through a contemporary reference to important icons or events."* Artist Ellen Sollod.

PUYALLUP The design of the main train station and shelters is derived from a nearly forgotten photograph retrieved from the station's past. Artist Gloria Bornstein created seven decorative archways for the station. The columns supporting the agricultural archways represent the geologic history of the Puyallup River Valley. *"The artwork tells the story of the community's farming history through representation of seeding, cultivating and harvesting tools overlaid on berry and hops patterns."* Artist Gloria Bornstein.



Puyallup Station

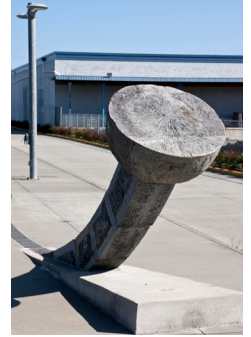
South Tacoma / Lakewood / Tacoma Dome stations



South Tacoma Station

SOUTH TACOMA Artist Ilan Averbuch was inspired by Union Station in downtown Tacoma, and by the historical museum that developed in its light. The upside-down arches appear as a reflection in water of the arches of Union Station. The image of reversed steel arches, with their “piece of land” stretched at the top, recalls the wheels of the steel trains that developed the northwest. The curves suggest the sound of steel wheels and the left-right rhythm of a train ride.

“The End of the Line,” by Ilan Averbuch, raises the granite ribbon on the station platform out of its “buried” position and curves it into a dramatically uplifting position. The curve is capped by a stone hemisphere that defies gravity and reminds us of a dial in an enormous ancient timepiece, and creates a sense of a long journey.



South Tacoma Station

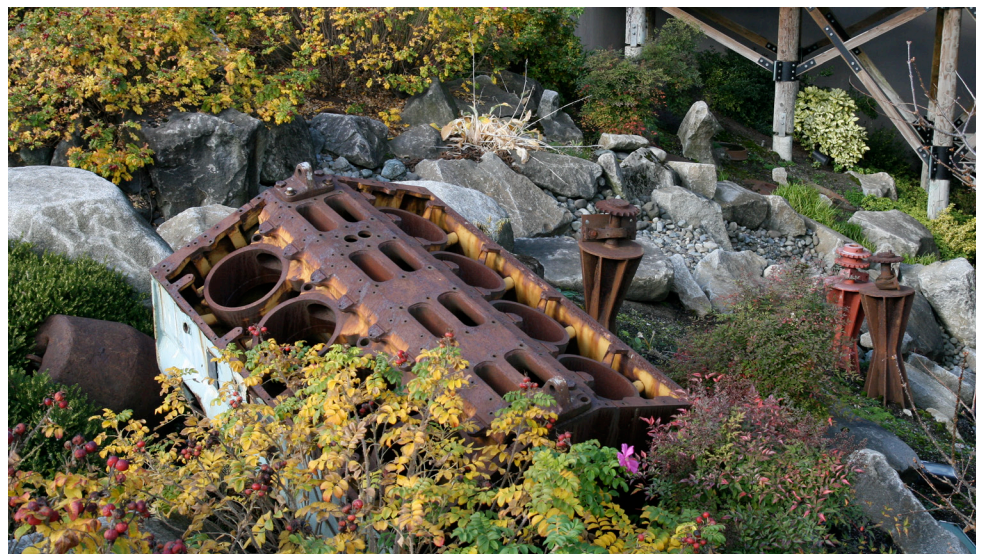


Lakewood Station

LAKEWOOD The first permanent settlement in this area was near Lakewood – at Fort Nisqually, which was established in 1833, as a trading post. To artist Mark Calderon the campfire and its connection to early settlement “represents the center for food, warmth, and community—in a way, the hub of the settlers’ existence. I want my sculpture to be attractive in the same way—a place that is comfortable and enlivening where people may gather and where community forms.”

TACOMA DOME STATION A three-dimensional kinetic water-related art piece connects the Sounder station, the Tacoma Link light rail station, parking and the bus station. Created by artist Luke Blackstone, the artwork includes two steel tanks mounted on a rectangular steel and glass structure divided into two compartments with a walkway between. Inside the compartments are kinetic mechanisms that are influenced by the flow of rainwater.

The “Wild Parcel” is an artwork that integrates landscape with carefully selected, recycled artifacts of Tacoma’s history. It is located in a steeply sloped space between the two parking garages that border the central plaza. “Wild Parcel” was created by Tacoma artists Renee Cortese, Mick Newham, Diane Novak, Shaun Peterson and Sound Transit system artists Elizabeth Conner and Jerry Mayer in collaboration with Dome District neighbors, Pierce Transit, the Tacoma Arts Commission, the project architects and landscape architect as well as the general contractor.



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Sound Transit plans, builds and operates regional transit systems and services to improve mobility for Central Puget Sound.