

2006 Milestones year-end report



(From top to bottom) A welder at work in the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel retrofit; Conceptual image shows future light rail trains on I-90 connecting East King County to Seattle; Sounder train arrives at the Auburn Station.

For more information contact Sound Transit at Union Station, 401 S. Jackson St., Seattle WA 98104. Or call 1-800-201-4900 / 1-206-713-6030 TTY. Visit our Website at www.soundtransit.org

2006 was the biggest year ever for Sound Transit and it laid the foundation for a very important 2007.

In 2006, we carried about 12 million passengers on our trains and buses, with ST Express lifetime bus ridership passing the 50 million mark, Sounder commuter rail ridership topping five million and Tacoma Link light rail two million. Compared with 2005, our overall ridership increased about 8 percent.

We opened the Federal Way Transit Center and HOV Access ramps in 2006, the Issaquah Highlands Park-and-Ride lot, Sammamish Park-and-Ride lot and the Eastgate Access Ramps to I-90.

We began drilling the Beacon Hill tunnel early in the year and watched it progress as the months rolled on. Permits were certified for the third Everett-Seattle Sounder train and construction progressed on the Tacoma-to-Seattle line to enable Sound Transit to add service in 2007.

Sound Transit broke ground on a number of other very important projects: light rail to the airport; Issaquah Transit Center; Mercer Island Park-and-Ride lot; Canyon Park Freeway Station and the South Everett Freeway Station.

By year's end, the Link light rail initial segment from downtown Seattle to Sea-Tac Airport was about half built. We were excited to complete the first two light rail stations, SODO and Stadium, enabling us to start testing vehicles in the first quarter of 2007. We received federal authorization to enter final design on the light rail extension from downtown Seattle to the University of Washington and the Sound Transit Board discussed details of a Sound Transit 2 Draft Package that is the transit piece of the Roads & Transit transportation plan coming to voters in November 2007. The draft package includes adding over 40 miles of light rail to the system under construction.

At the beginning of every year we list our major milestones for that year. It's a way for the public to track our progress. The milestones for 2006 were very challenging and we attempted more than ever before in the agency's history. We reached 22 of 38 milestones in 2006, with most of the remainder scheduled for completion in early 2007. We're looking forward to completing those, and all of our milestones in 2007.

Joni Earl
 Joni Earl, Chief Executive Officer



Sound Transit • 2006 Milestones

TRACK OUR PROGRESS IN 2006

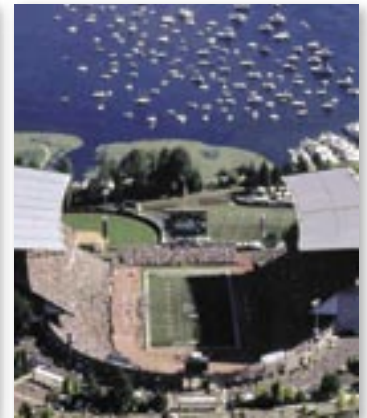
The 2006 milestones are a valuable tool for charting Sound Transit's achievements throughout the year.



The first Sound Transit Link light rail car rolls out of the new Link Operations and Maintenance Base in the SODO area of Seattle. This is the first of 35 light rail vehicles arriving in Central Puget Sound for final assembly, testing and then service.



Commuters board a ST Express bus at the Issaquah Highlands Park-and-Ride lot, which opened the winter of 2006.



Sound Transit receives federal approval for final design on Link light rail extension from downtown Seattle to the University of Washington.

Under Construction

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Beacon Hill tunneling begins on Link light rail project | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundbreaking for Mukilteo Sounder commuter rail station |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Road and trackwork for first Seattle Link light rail segment complete | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ First Link light rail train arrives in Seattle |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Groundbreaking for Link light rail connection to Sea-Tac Airport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundbreaking on final stage of Everett Station parking and service improvements for Sounder commuter rail |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundbreaking for South Tacoma Sounder commuter rail station | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final assembly of Link light rail trains begins in Central Puget Sound |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Groundbreaking for Issaquah Transit Center | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link light rail vehicle testing begins on test tracks |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Groundbreaking for Mercer Island Park-and-Ride lot | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tunnel boring machine for Link light rail breaks through east portal at Beacon Hill |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link light rail Operations and Maintenance base finished | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Link light rail major reconstruction of Martin Luther King, Jr., Way South wraps up in Rainier Valley |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundbreaking for Totem Lake Transit Center | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resurfacing Pine Street in downtown Seattle for Link light rail is completed |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Groundbreaking for Canyon Park Freeway Station | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Groundbreaking for South Everett Freeway Station | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundbreaking for Lakewood Sounder commuter rail station | |

Open for Service

- ✓ New Federal Way-Seattle express bus route begins
- ✓ Federal Way Transit Center and HOV Access Ramps open
- ✓ Issaquah Highlands Park-and-Ride lot opens
- ✓ Sammamish Park-and-Ride lot opens
- ✓ Bellevue Transit Center Rider Services Building opens
- ✓ Tacoma Link light rail carries two million riders
- ✓ Eastgate Access Ramps open to I-90
- ✓ Sounder commuter rail carries five million passengers
- ✓ ST Express bus ridership reaches 50 million
- ✓ Regional Special Needs Transportation Coordination five year plan completed

On Deck

- ✓ Final environmental study for Link light rail extension from downtown Seattle to Northgate is released
- ✓ Board approves Link light rail project extension from downtown Seattle to University of Washington
- Sound Transit reaches agreement with UW for Link light rail to reach the University
- Board adopts draft Sound Transit 2 plan for next round of regional investments
- Construction begins on track and signal improvements for future Sounder Lakewood-to-Tacoma line
- ✓ Permits certified for third Everett-Seattle Sounder commuter train
- Board adopts final Sound Transit 2 plan for next round of regional investments
- Regional Smart Card test completed
- ✓ Final design on Link light rail extension from downtown Seattle to UW receives federal approval

FOURTH QUARTER 2006



This information is also available on the Sound Transit Web site at: <http://www.soundtransit.org/newsroom/milestones/>. To sign up for electronic updates click on the "Receive E-mail Updates" icon.