



Ballard Link Extension

NEPA Scoping Information

Sound Transit has been collecting feedback to identify potential alignments and inform our study of Ballard Link Extension (BLE) alternatives since 2017. Sound Transit is now developing a new National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Supplemental State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Draft EIS for the BLE. The NEPA EIS process includes a scoping comment period.

NEPA scoping comment period Oct. 24 – Dec. 9 2024

This scoping comment period is intended to collect feedback on the project Purpose and Need, project alternatives, and potential topics to be studied in the BLE Draft EIS. Based on public feedback, we are conducting an extended 45-day comment period.

You may have submitted comments during our previous comment period for NEPA/SEPA scoping in 2019 and/or in response to the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions (WSBLE) Draft EIS in 2022. We will carry forward public feedback and comments collected from the start of the project as part of the ongoing environmental review phase. We invite you to share additional and new feedback with us.

Visit our online open house to learn more about the BLE project, anticipated timeline, and route and station options (also known as alternatives)



soundtransit.org/ballardlink-design



How to comment



Online: soundtransit.org/ballardlink-design



Email: blescoping@soundtransit.org



Mail: Ballard Link Extension,
c/o Lauren Swift, Sound Transit,
401 S. Jackson St. Seattle, WA 98104



Phone: 206-903-7223

Attend a scoping meeting:

Scoping Meeting #1

Nov. 7, 5 – 7 p.m.

Union Station
401 S Jackson St.
Seattle, WA 98104

Cantonese, Mandarin, and Vietnamese interpretation and translated materials will be available. ASL interpretation will be provided. Refreshments and activities for children will be provided.

Scoping Meeting #2

Nov. 13, 5 – 7 p.m.

National Nordic Museum
2655 NW Market St.
Seattle, WA 98107

ASL interpretation will be provided. Refreshments and activities for children will be provided.

How did we get here?

2018-2019

Early scoping and scoping for the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions (WSBLE) projects.

2022

WSBLE Draft EIS publication and 90-day comment period.

March and July 2023

Following the Draft EIS comment period, the Sound Transit Board directed Further Studies of BLE alternatives which led to Board actions that added new alternatives and modified the preferred alternatives for BLE.

2025

Given additional environmental review needed for project refinements, Sound Transit will publish a new BLE NEPA Draft EIS/SEPA Supplemental Draft EIS, anticipated in 2025.

Project timeline and next steps

At the conclusion of the NEPA scoping process, Sound Transit will publish a new BLE NEPA Draft EIS/SEPA Supplemental Draft EIS in coordination with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), with publication anticipated in 2025. There will be another comment period after the Draft EIS is published in which we will ask for feedback about the potential environmental impacts and benefits of each alternative as well as proposed actions that will help mitigate impacts.

After consideration of the Draft EIS and comments, including relevant comments from the 2022 West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions Draft EIS, the Sound Transit Board will confirm or modify the previously identified preferred alternatives. FTA and Sound Transit will then publish a Final EIS, expected in 2026, that includes responses to the comments received on the Draft EIS. After the publication of the Final EIS, the Sound Transit Board is expected to select the project to build. FTA will then issue a Record of Decision for the project, concluding the environmental process and planning phase.



Questions?

Contact the Community Engagement team:
ballardlink@soundtransit.org or 206-903-7223.

401 S. Jackson St., Seattle, WA 98104 | main@soundtransit.org
soundtransit.org | 888-889-6368/TTY: 711 | To request information
in alternative formats call 800-201-4900/TTY: 711 or
email accessibility@soundtransit.org.



Interpreter 800-823-9230

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