

2025 Service Plan preview

And next steps for ST2 Completion

Rider Experience and Operations Committee

8/1/24

Why we are here

- Briefing only, no action needed today.
- Provide overview of the various components of the 2025 Service Plan before we request Board approval in the fall
- Highlight how 2025 Service Plan is a significant step towards ST2 completion in 2026

2024 Service Context

Spring

- Implemented reduced service levels on South Corridor regional bus service
- Initial 2 Line segment opened from South Bellevue to Redmond Technology on April 27, 2024

Fall

- Lynnwood Link Extension opening August 30th
- I-5 North bus restructure to be implemented Sep 14th

2025 Service Plan

Downtown Redmond Link Extension

ST Express service levels in South Corridor

Downtown Redmond Link Extension Service Plan

3.4-mile extension will serve two new stations on the 2 Line

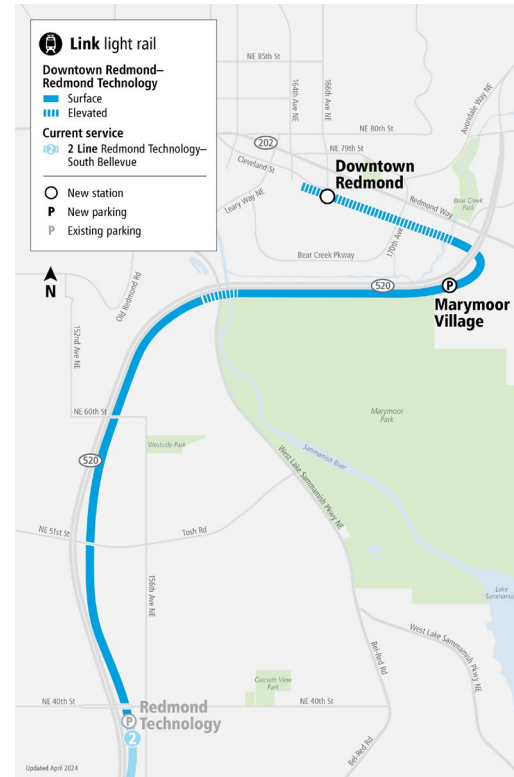
Anticipated to open in Spring 2025

Continue existing 2 Line service levels

- All-day and all-week at 10min headways
- 5:30am – 9:30pm
- 2 car trains

We project ridership between 6,900 and 8,200 average weekday boardings by Q4 2025

- Average weekday ridership on the initial 2 Line segment is just under 4,000



Recent South Corridor ST Express service reductions

In Spring 2024, we implemented a 10% reduction on Pierce Transit operated service due to ongoing staffing challenges.

Riders have reported crowding on routes serving Downtown Seattle and Tacoma

590* (Tacoma - Seattle)	Downtown Tacoma stops and ~1/2 weekday trips suspended
580* (South Hill - Puyallup)	Route Suspended
577 (Federal Way - Seattle)	All midday trips and most Sunday trips suspended
578 (Puyallup - Seattle)	Some evening trips suspended
594 (Lakewood 0 Seattle)	Some low ridership weekday and Sunday trips suspended

**Major service change; requires Board action if projected to remain for more than 1 year*

Responding to reduced ST Express service levels

- Higher capacity buses are now allocated in early morning when there is the most demand
- We have adjusted the schedule for the Fall 2024 service change to better match trip-times with high ridership demand
- We are working with our operating partners to determine if there is a possibility of restoring recent reductions

This summer we are seeking public input about service restoration priorities, if feasible.

Additional Board action formalizing the spring service reductions will be required in October if we are unable to restore these reductions.

Looking to ST2 Completion

Link light rail

2024 service

- 1 Lynnwood–Angle Lake
- 2 Redmond Technology–South Bellevue

Future service

- 1 Lynnwood–Federal Way
- 2 Lynnwood–Downtown Redmond

- N Sounder N Line
- S Sounder S Line
- ST Express Bus



Light rail extensions complete the ST2 buildout

After DRLE opens, two more openings will complete the ST2 Link system:

- The 2 Line connects to the 1 Line
- The 1 Line extends to Federal Way

As we learn more about project completion timelines, we will seek Board approval for Link service plans.

- We will include information about frequency, hours of service, travel times, projected ridership and capacity on our light rail vehicles

Link light rail

2026 service

- 1 Lynnwood–Federal Way
- 2 Lynnwood–Redmond

- N Sounder N Line
- S Sounder S Line



The ST2 build-out delivers a connected transit system

Riders will experience significant benefits in mobility and access across the region:

- Improved frequency between downtown Seattle and Lynnwood, where Link is busiest
- New Link service will allow riders to more reliably complete trips
- Connections between Link and bus service will provide access to new destinations across the region, directly or with one transfer

How ST Express will serve the new ST2 transit system

We recommend no bus restructures until after the 2 Line connects to the 1 Line

After we have determined Link service levels, we will request Board approval for how regional bus service can be restructured to serve the new light rail system.

- We anticipate implementing the restructures in 2026
- We will factor in major regional events such as the World Cup and significant construction impacts on I-5

Restructure plans will include details to show how service will work

Routing



Access to destinations

Frequency



Wait for next bus or train

Service Span



When service is available

Travel Time



Duration of journey

Transfers



Number of vehicles boarded

Next steps

Summer: Public comment on 2025 service plan components including South Corridor ST Express service levels and Downtown Redmond Link Extension.

October: Summarize public comment, recommend Board adoption of Service Plan in coordination with budget process.

Ongoing:

- Develop service plans for the new Link extensions, completed ST2 system
- In coordination with transit partners, analyze opportunities for ST Express to connect to the new transit system
- Update Board as information about service becomes available, propose 2026 Service Plan in October 2025.

Thank you.



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