

# *South Tacoma and Lakewood Access Improvements*

Resolution Nos. R2024-04 & R2024-05

*System Expansion Committee*

*03/14/2024*



# *Why we are here*

- Overview of staff recommendation for the Lakewood Station Access Improvements project
- Overview of staff recommendation for the South Tacoma Access Improvement project
- Today we are here to request the SEC recommend to the full Board to take action to amend the ST2 plan and select the projects to be built.

# Project Overview

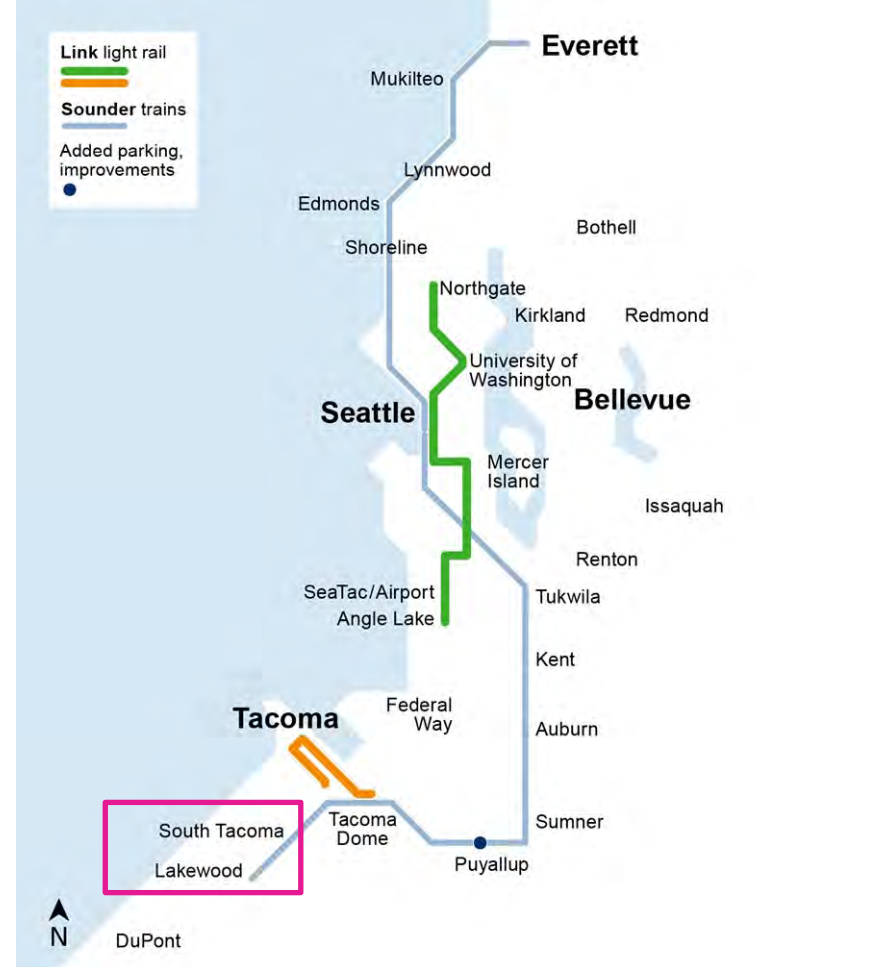
**ST2 Proposed improvements:** Capital investments to make improvements to the stations for those walking, biking, rolling and busing

**Project Goals:** Equity, affordability, access, environment, partnership and passenger experience

**Target/Affordable schedules:** 2030/2032

**Financial Plan (2023\$):**

- Lakewood \$54M
- South Tacoma \$56M



# ***Sound Transit 2 Plan Amendment***

- In addition to selecting the project to be built to improve access to Lakewood and South Tacoma Stations, these actions will also amend the ST2 Plan.
- The ST2 Plan originally defined these projects as structured parking but authorized the Board to construct alternative improvements.
- The proposed scope is a permitted plan amendment to ST2 due to:
  - Changed ridership patterns following the Covid-19 pandemic
  - Structured parking is impractical to meet the stated project purpose of enhancing rider access to the stations
  - Structured parking is unaffordable with the allocated project estimate in the financial plan

# *Stakeholder Engagement – Tacoma*

- Collaborated with City of Tacoma and Metro Parks Tacoma staff
- Briefed city and community organizations: City of Tacoma Bicycle Pedestrian Technical Advisory Group and Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities, South Tacoma Neighborhood Council, South Tacoma Business District Alliance, and the Asian Pacific Cultural Center
- Conducted two online open houses and translated into two languages to solicit input on the proposed improvements and partnered with Downtown on the Go in sponsoring a biking and walking tour to highlight improvements in South Tacoma

# ***Stakeholder Engagement – Lakewood***

- Collaborated with City of Lakewood staff to review and discuss the proposed improvements
- Briefed local public organizations: Springbrook Connections, Lakewood Boys and Girls Club, and Clover Meadows Apartments
- Conducted two online open houses and translated into two languages to solicit input on the proposed improvements

# ***Delivery approach & cost management***

## ***Project delivery approach***

- ST to manage final design and construction of station area improvements
- Cities to manage final design and construction within city right-of-way
  - Early agreement on scope
  - Capped reimbursement agreements to maintain cost within Financial Plan value
  - No ST permits (or associated costs) for improvements in public ROW

# ***Parking and changed condition***

## ***Background:***

- ST2 Project Templates identified parking structure and non-motorized improvements as the representative project
- Evaluated non-motorized and surface parking options during conceptual engineering & SEPA environmental review

## ***Changed conditions:***

- Sounder parking utilization/ demand at these stations has not recovered and construction of additional parking would result in more underutilized parking and would not deliver any enhanced access benefit to riders
- Parking structures unaffordable within the current Financial Plan estimate



# Opinion of Probable Cost

	Opinion of Probable Cost Range	Financial Plan Estimate
Lakewood Access	\$47M - \$54M (2023\$)	\$54M (2023\$)
South Tacoma Access	\$56M - \$64M (2023\$)	\$56M (2023\$)

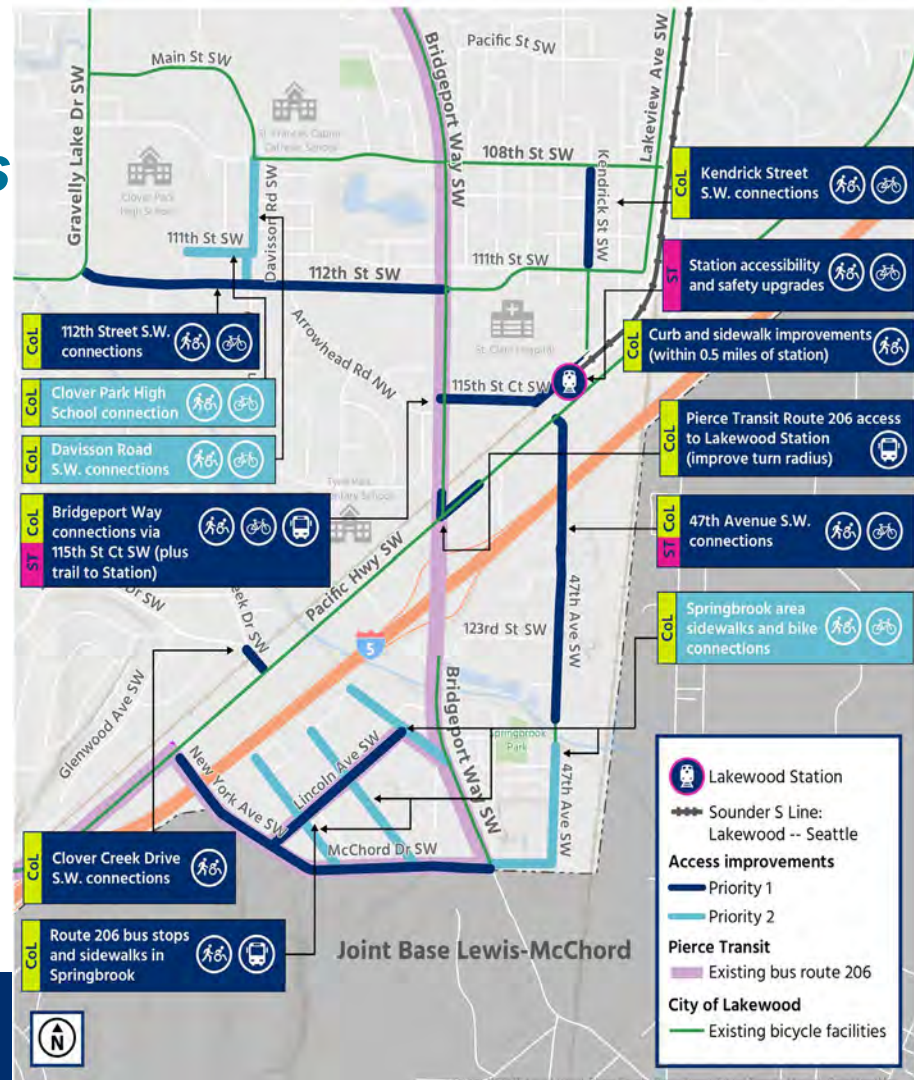
## Cost Management:

- Conducted a Quantitative Risk Analysis on the cost estimate and the low and high ranges are based on results from that analysis
- Recommendation developed within the Financial Plan and tiered to provide flexibility should final costs exceed conceptual costs.
- City management of improvements located in City ROW provide opportunities to control scope and costs.

# Lakewood Station

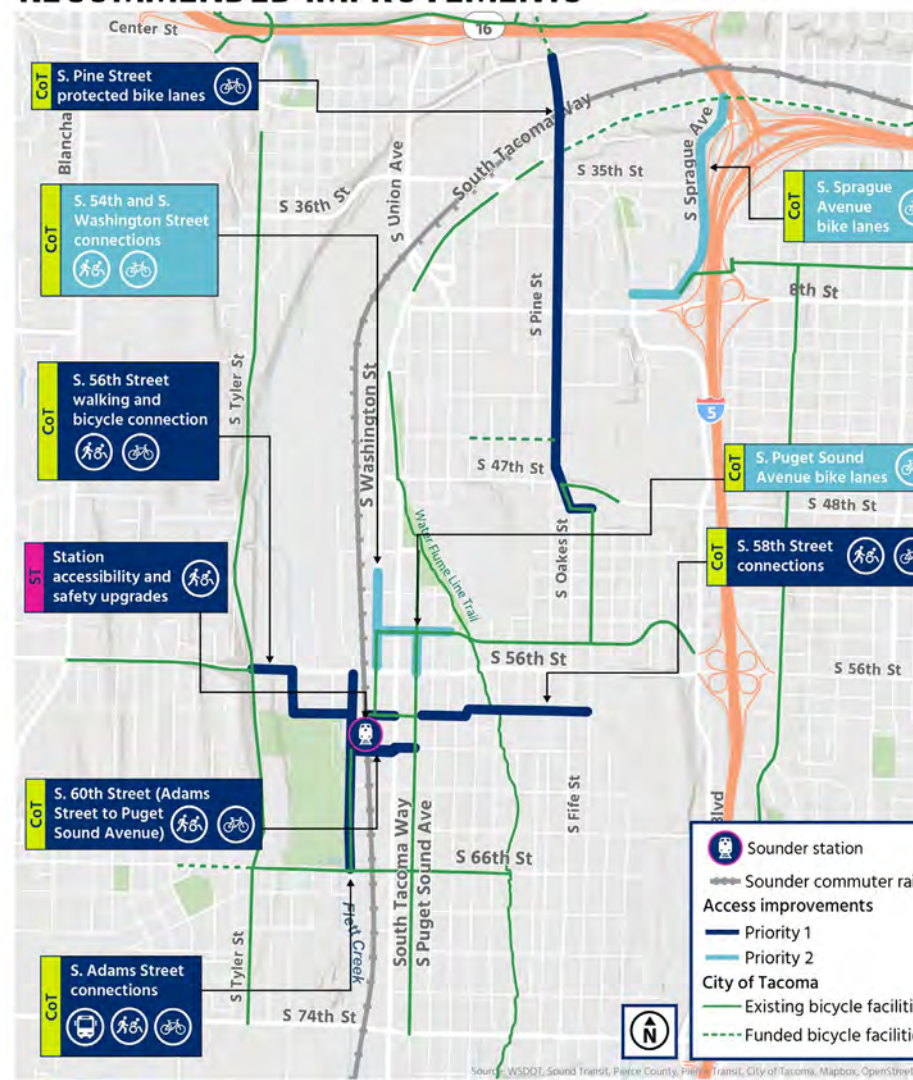
## Recommended Improvements

- **At Station:** curb ramps & sidewalk improvements, wayfinding, PA system, expanded tactile pavers
- **Priority 1:** ~5 miles of bicycle facilities and sidewalks and transit stop improvements
- **Priority 2:** Additional non-motorized improvements



# South Tacoma Station Recommended Improvements

- **At Station:** curb ramps & sidewalk improvements, lighting, wayfinding, PA system and expanded tactile pavers
- **Priority 1:** ~6 miles of bicycle facilities and sidewalks
- **Priority 2:** Additional non-motorized improvements



# ***Staff Recommendation - Lakewood & South Tacoma***

## ***Key Considerations & Trade-offs***

- Adopt the station improvements to be delivered by Sound Transit
- Adopt Priority 1 improvements
- Adopt Priority 2 improvements - will be delivered if there is remaining funding after all Priority 1 improvements are complete
- Remove parking investments for further consideration

# Next Steps

Action	Lakewood	South Tacoma
Board: Select Project to be Built	March 2024	March 2024
Board: Project Baseline, Budget Amendment and Funding Agreements	Q3 2024	Q3 2024

*Thank you.*



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