



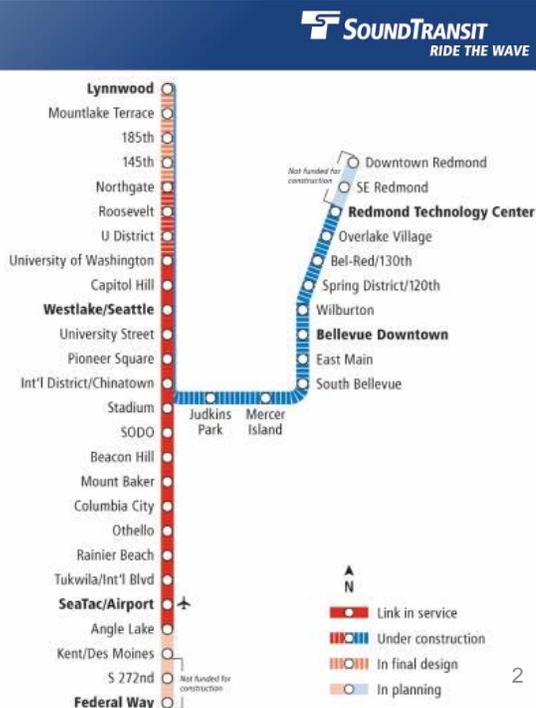
# East Link Extension Project Update

Business Resource Forum  
November 14, 2016

**SOUNDTRANSIT**

## Link light rail system

- 19 miles of light rail with 16 stations currently in service
- University Link and Angle Lake opened in 2016
- Northgate 2021
- Lynnwood 2023
- Kent / Des Moines 2023
- East Link 2023
- 50+ mile system





# East Link overview

**Length:** 14 miles

**Ride times:**

- Mercer Island to UW: 20 min.
- S. Bellevue to Intl. District: 14 min.
- Overlake Transit Center to Bellevue Transit Center: 10 min.

**Rider projection:** 50,000 daily by 2030

**Budget:** \$3.7 billion (YOE \$)

**Start of Service:** Targeted 2023



# East Link timeline



90%  
DESIGN



## Judkins Park Station

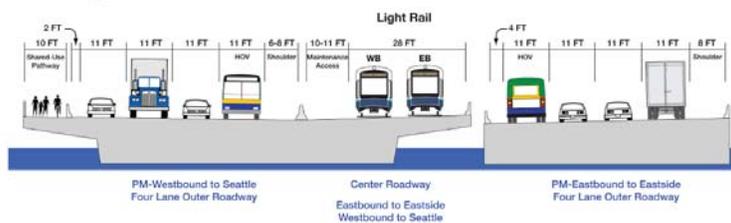
Platform view looking west

# Preparing I-90 for light rail

## At completion of I-90 Two-Way Transit Project



## At completion of East Link



## Getting Across the Expansion Joints



# UNPRECEDENTED CONNECTIONS

**A** part of the light-rail extension program known as the East Link Extension Project, Sound Transit, which plans, builds, and operates express bus, light-rail, and commuter train services for the urban areas of King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties, proposes to install light-rail tracks on the Homer M. Hadley Memorial Bridge, the widest and fifth-longest floating bridge in the world. Owned and operated by the Washington State Department of Transportation, the floating structure currently carries westbound and reversible lanes of Interstate 90 across Lake Washington between Seattle and Mercer Island. The approximately 5,700-ft long bridge includes concrete box girder approach spans supported by deep foundations, and transition spans connecting the approach and floating spans. Since there is no precedent in civil engineering practice, the placement of light-rail across the floating bridge presents unique challenges, including the design of a novel track bridge system to accommodate multi-dimensional movements at the existing expansion joints at which transition spans are connected to approach and floating spans. While all of the types of movement required have been accommodated for other structures, no structure has had to accommodate all of these movements together in the magnitudes required on this bridge.

In view of the importance of the floating bridge, the design requirements to ensure passenger comfort, and the complex design of the track bridge system, a robust program was developed to evaluate concepts, prepare detailed designs, conduct physical tests, and procure a system to carry light-rail vehicles from the fixed structures to the floating structure while meeting the necessary specifications for rider comfort and structural behavior. The work to evaluate and confirm the proposed concept designs included nonlinear finite-element analysis, detailed design, component testing, and full-scale prototype testing. These steps were required to evaluate the dynamic response of both the floating bridge and the track bridge under moving train loads and typical and extreme bridge movements. For this turnkey research, development, and demonstration project, Sound Transit required the services of an integrated team that would include experienced structural, civil, and track engineers, as well as fabricators and contractors. This approach provides Sound Transit with the full resources of an integrated project team in which each member is ideally suited for its task on each phase of this unique, complex, and technically challenging assignment.

*Sound Transit's plan to operate light-rail vehicles on one of the longest floating bridges in the world has no precedent. But that did not stop an intrepid team of designers from developing and testing a novel system for ensuring the safe passage of light-rail vehicles across Lake Washington on the movable joints of the 5,700-ft long Homer M. Hadley Memorial Bridge.*

**By Thomas Cooper, P.E., P.Eng., M.ASCE, John Sleavin, P.E., Andy Foan, C.Eng, and Travis Thonstad**



[66] Civil Engineering MARCH 2014



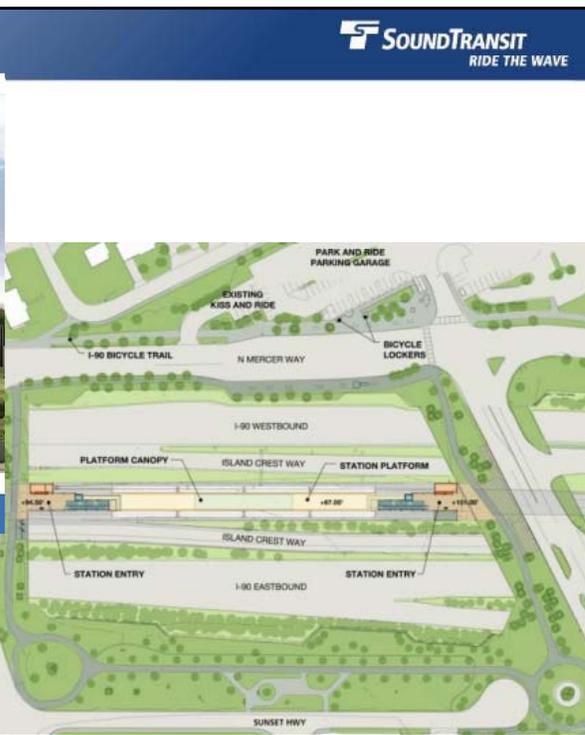
As part of plans to install light-rail transit tracks on the Homer M. Hadley Memorial Bridge, Sound Transit hired a design team to develop a novel track bridge system to accommodate multi-dimensional movements at certain expansion joints on the floating structure, approach. Full-scale prototype testing of the track bridge system involved the use of actual Sound Transit light-rail vehicles to verify the performance of such movements as track bridge components, track fasteners, and rail expansion joints.

90% DESIGN

**West Headhouse - Perspective @ 77th Ave Entry**

Mercer Island Station - MIAO Presentation October 26, 2014 11 of 43

## Mercer Island Station



# FINAL DESIGN



View of station looking east

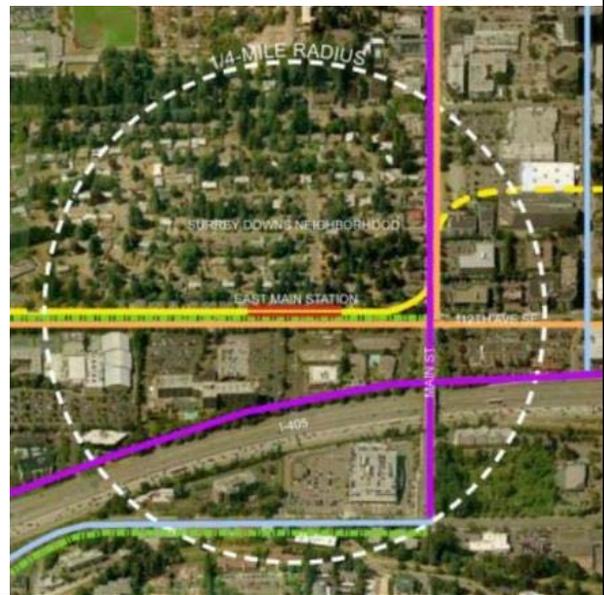


## South Bellevue Station

# FINAL DESIGN



Station plaza looking west from 112th Ave. SE



## East Main Station

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION



### Downtown Tunnel



## UNDER CONSTRUCTION



### Downtown Bellevue Tunnel & SEM



#### What is it?

- This tunneling method removes soil slowly, in small sections using an excavator and cutting equipment. The ground is quickly supported by spraying concrete on the face of the excavation.

#### Why this method?

- The downtown Bellevue tunnel is approximately 2,000 feet long. The length of the tunnel, along with soil conditions and location of the Bellevue Downtown Station at the northern portal make this location suitable for SEM tunneling method.

#### Benefits

- Less disruption to surface streets means fewer traffic impacts
- Fewer noise and vibration impacts than cut-and-cover
- Less soil is removed from the ground, resulting in fewer dust impacts and construction traffic

# FINAL DESIGN

## Bellevue Transit Center



Aerial View From BTC

# FINAL DESIGN



## I-405 crossing



# FINAL DESIGN



Aerial station view looking northwest



## Wilburton Station

# FINAL DESIGN



Entrance from 120th Ave. NE



Platform view looking west

## Spring District/120<sup>th</sup> Station

# FINAL DESIGN



Platform view looking east



## Bel-Red/130<sup>th</sup> Station



Station aerial view looking toward SR 520

## Overlake Village Station



30% DESIGN



Station aerial view from north



**Redmond Technology Center Station**

**SOUNDTRANSIT**  
RIDE THE WAVE



**SOUNDTRANSIT**  
RIDE THE WAVE

