

Federal Way Link Extension Seattle, Washington (November 2021)

The Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) is building the Federal Way Link Extension, which is a 7.8-mile light rail transit (LRT) line that will extend from the existing Angle Lake Station to the Federal Way Transit Center in south King County. The project will operate as the southernmost segment of Sound Transit's north-south light rail line and offer connections to numerous local and regional bus lines, including some of the region's bus rapid transit lines. The project will serve population, employment and education centers and provide opportunities for transit-oriented development. The project will provide a one-seat ride from South King County to major regional centers such as Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, Downtown Seattle, University of Washington, Northgate and points north to Lynnwood.

Operating in an exclusive right-of-way, the project generally parallels Interstate-5 (I-5) on an elevated or at-grade alignment. The project includes the construction of three stations. The stations will feature new parking facilities providing a total of approximately 1,200 parking spaces. The project includes the purchase of 20 light rail vehicles (LRVs) and will provide the track work and train operating systems for the LRVs that are electrically powered using an overhead contact wire and a 1,500-volt traction power supply system. Fare collection will be off-board and will utilize a "proof of payment" system. The project scope also includes train control and signals, communications, traction power supply and distribution, and fare collection systems and equipment.

Service is planned to be provided from 5:00 AM to 1:00 AM on weekdays and 6:00 AM to midnight on weekends, with trains every eight minutes during weekday peak periods and every ten minutes during weekday off-peak periods and on weekends. The forecasted daily ridership using current year inputs of population and employment is 22,100 linked trips. The estimated daily ridership in 2035 is 40,700 linked trips.

The total project cost under the FFGA is \$3,160.7 million. The Section 5309 New Starts funding share is \$790.0 million.

Status

Sound Transit identified the corridor as a priority for a light rail extension as part of the Sound Transit 2 (ST2) plan passed by voters in November 2008. Following completion of an alternatives analysis in January 2013, and publication of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in April 2015, Sound Transit selected a locally preferred alternative (LPA) in July 2015. The project entered New Starts Project Development in August 2016. After completion of the Final EIS in November 2016, a final LPA was selected in January 2017, and adopted into the fiscally constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) in May 2018. FTA issued a Record of Decision (ROD) in March 2017, completing the environmental review process. The project was approved into New Starts Engineering in April 2019. Sound Transit and the FTA entered into an FFGA in January 2020 with revenue operations scheduled

for December 2024. Most of the significant contracts have already been awarded. Construction activities are proceeding with utility relocation and guideway construction along the alignment as well as work at the three (3) proposed station sites, SR-99 bridge, and Midway Landfill. Approximately 27% of construction is complete.

Section 3005 of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation ("FAST") Act (Pub. L. 114-94; Dec. 4, 2015) authorized FTA to award Federal major capital investment funds for final design and construction of the Federal Way Link Extension Project. Through FY 2021, Congress has appropriated \$297.71 million in Section 5309 New Starts funds for the project.

Reported in Year of Expenditure Dollars		
Source of Funds	Total Funds (\$million)	Appropriations to Date
Federal: Section 5309 New Starts	\$790.00	\$297.71 million in total appropriations through FY 2021
Other Federal: FHWA Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement & FTA Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula	\$18.00	
Local: Sound Transit Dedicated Tax Revenues and Bonds	\$1,723.23	
Transportation Infrastructure and Finance Innovation Act Loan Funds (TIFIA)	\$629.47	
Total:	\$3,160.70	

NOTES: The Source of Funds and Total Funding numbers are as established at the signing of the FFGA. The sum of the figures may differ from the total as listed due to rounding

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