

Swift Bus Rapid Transit Orange Line

Everett, Washington

Small Starts Project Development

Information Prepared November 2018

The Snohomish County Public Transportation Benefit Area, known as Community Transit (CT), proposes to implement bus rapid transit (BRT) in a 10.5-mile corridor between Edmonds Community College in Lynnwood and the McCollum Park and Ride in Mill Creek. The project would connect with CT's two other Swift BRT lines, as well as Sound Transit's Lynnwood Link Extension light rail project that is anticipated to open in 2024. The project includes 13 stations, one of which is the reconstruction of an existing transit center at the McCollum Park & Ride at the eastern terminus, as well as 16 vehicles, Business Access and Transit lanes along a portion of the route, and transit signal priority. The project would serve an additional two stations that are being built as part of the Swift Green Line, which is currently under construction. CT estimates the capital cost of the project to be between \$67 and \$77 million, and plans to seek approximately \$35 to \$40 million in Small Starts funding from the Capital Investment Grants program.

CT believes that the project would meet a critical need for improved east-west transportation options in Southern Snohomish County. The project corridor includes several important trip generators, including Edmonds Community College, Lynnwood Transit Center, Alderwood Mall, Mill Creek Town Center, and three park and ride lots. These locations account for over 4,000 weekday transit trips as is. The proposed fast, frequent and reliable service would connect regional growth and activity centers, and support economic vitality. CT anticipates that the project would also help to reduce traffic congestion, particularly near Interstate 5 (I-5) interchanges, given that the project would connect with Sound Transit's north-south Link light rail (which will parallel I-5) at the Lynnwood Transit Center.

A locally preferred alternative (LPA) was adopted in the region's fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in May 2017. CT expects to adopt a refined LPA in May 2019 and anticipates completion of the environmental review process with receipt of a Documented Categorical Exclusion in Spring 2020. CT hopes to receive a Small Starts Grant Agreement in early 2021, and start revenue service in 2024.