



Federal Investment Has Increased Mobility and Economic Opportunity in Seattle, One of the Fastest Growing Regions

Starting next year, second light rail line will connect 71,000 people to The University of Washington, one of the largest employers in the Northwest

The people in the Seattle Metropolitan area will have greater travel choices by 2023 thanks to a 50-mile regional light rail system that will have been made possible by federal funding. The 16-mile Link light rail line will undergo dramatic expansion during the next decade and create more than 100,000 jobs.

Supported by \$500 million in federal funding, the initial light rail segment opened in 2009 and has created more than 31,000 jobs. The now popular system operates 15.6 miles from downtown Seattle to Sea-Tac International Airport and serves more than 31,000 riders on an average weekday. It also connects downtown Seattle to airport businesses, sports fans to stadiums, and visitors to area hotels, shopping districts, and other amenities.

The second light rail segment, University Link, begins service early next year. The 3.15-mile extension, which received \$813 million in federal funding, will offer connections to the densely populated Capitol Hill neighborhood, Husky Stadium at the University of Washington, and the university's world-renowned medical and research center. It will connect an estimated 71,000 riders to nearly 21,000 jobs, education and medical services, and popular Husky games by 2030.

A third light rail project under construction opens south of the airport later next year. Part of a 1.6-mile extension, the Angle Lake Station will provide South King County residents access to job centers at Sea-Tac International Airport and in downtown Seattle. The \$383 million project, which received nearly \$34 million in federal funding, will create an estimated 4,000 jobs and serve 5,000 weekday boardings by 2030.

Sound Transit is committed to supporting minority and women-owned businesses. In partnership with the Federal Transit Administration, the agency works to ensure participation of small and disadvantaged business enterprises. Sound Transit has an annual DBE goal of 12.4% and met its goal last year. Small and DBE business participation on the University Link project is expected to exceed the agency's project goal of 7.4 percent. To date, fifty-six percent of dollars invoiced by small businesses were owned by people of color and 44 percent were owned by women.

Federal partnerships are fundamental to providing the transportation infrastructure that will serve a rapidly growing population and support a vibrant regional economy.