Sound Transit

Creating communities in the era of climate change

Rail Volution
Oct. 29, 2008
Transit key to livable communities

• Regional population will grow by 30% by 2030
• Gas prices $4/gallon
• Highway congestion throughout the day
• Existing services nearing capacity
• Concern about the environment

= Increased public appetite for mass transit
Where it’s working: Kent Station

• Mixed-use development:
  • 11 restaurants
  • 14-screen movie theater
  • Community college branch
  • Adjacent to transit garage

• Newly opened:
  • 80,000 sq. ft. of retail

• Coming next:
  • 140 residential units
  • Expanded college space
Area in transition: Rainier Valley
Partnership: KWA Senior City

- Mixed-use development
- Low-income senior housing
- Commercial space
- Social services office
Planning ahead: University Link

First major project with sustainability as guiding principle for design, construction and operation

Comprehensive ‘sustainability analysis’ conducted with design team

Strategies include:

- Salvaging & recycling demolition materials
- Natural lighting & ventilation
- Low-maintenance landscaping
- Early planning of TOD at station sites
Example:
Capitol Hill Station

- 4 TOD sites available beginning in 2015
- Coordination w/City, community during next year
- Developer(s) to be selected in 2012-2013
- Goal to have some ready to open with station in 2016
Transit expansion

Nov. 4 ballot issue

If approved, it would provide convenient train access for:

- 70% of residents
- 85% of businesses
Sound Transit 2: GHG analysis

- Reduces GHG emissions by 100,000-180,000 metric tons of CO$_2$e annually, equivalent to:
  - 48,000 fewer tons of landfill waste, or
  - 1,900 fully loaded gasoline tanker trucks, or
  - 12,300 single family homes going 100% green, or
  - 1,000 acres of forest land preserved.

- Catalyst for others to substantially improve reduction of VMT and GHG emissions
Further actions that could be taken

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Typical VMT reduction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Walking &amp; cycling improvements</td>
<td>5-15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Compact, mixed, multi-modal development</td>
<td>10-30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transit lanes &amp; other priority features</td>
<td>5-10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parking pricing &amp; management</td>
<td>10-30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Road pricing</td>
<td>10-30%</td>
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<td>Pay-as-you-drive pricing</td>
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We’re all in this together

- Transit benefits communities
- Solutions within reach
  - Partnerships
  - Leadership, political will
  - Policies to encourage transit use
  - Sky’s the limit