bus → BRT
SR 522: Capital Investment Spectrum

Rail~Volution: Move this Bus!
October 2018
TransMilenio: BRT

Source: New York Times
bus
Speed & Reliability Improvements
SR 522 Speed & Reliability Corridor

Standard bus stops

BAT lanes implemented over time.

Frequent service
SR 522 Success

- Existing corridor ridership: ~15,000 riders per day on three bus routes
- Express type service
- Peak: 5 min or better service
- Mid-day: approx. 10 min service
- Transit priority on the corridor increased over time
Sound Transit 3

- SR 522 / NE 145th St. BRT project included in the 2016 voter approved ST3 package
- I-405 BRT much different context
  - freeway running with managed lanes
  - had been identified as the transit solution for the corridor for many years
- Capital contributions for partner BRT
SR 522 BRT Project

Existing BAT Lanes
What is Bus Rapid Transit?

BRT is a fast, frequent, and reliable transit system.

- Transit improvements
- Sheltered stations
- Off-board fare payment
- All-door bus entry and exit
- Specialized buses
- Convenient all-day service
Project schedule

**VOTER APPROVAL**

2016

**PLANNING**
2018–2020

- Project refinement (2018)
  - Jan 2019 – Board advances refined project
- Conceptual Engineering & Environmental Review (2019)
  - Jan 2020 – Board selects project to be built
  - Preliminary engineering

**DESIGN**
2020–2023

- Final route design
- Final station designs and public art
- Obtain land use and construction permits

**CONSTRUCTION**
2023–2025

- Groundbreaking
- Construction updates and mitigation

**START OF SERVICE**

2024

6 years: Planning to Start of Service
Public Thoughts

- Excitement for additional investment in transit on the corridor
- “Why will it take until 2024?”
- “But I like where my bus goes now”
- “This corridor already has great transit service and that’s why I live here!”
To BRT or Not to BRT?

• Both!
• Starting with speed & reliability improvements can lead to future BRT success
  • opportunity to increase ridership in the short term
  • build the case for future investment
  • political support based on capitalizing on previous investments
• SR 522 BRT project: what’s left is the hard stuff
Benefits of Bus Projects

- Embrace the flexibility
- Focus on goals and needs of the corridor
- Don’t necessarily need to start with this →
Thanks!
#BusLove

lacy.bell@soundtransit.org
soundtransit.org/sr522brt