

Capital Delivery Cost Workplan Update

System Expansion Committee

9/11/2025



Agenda

- Capital Delivery Cost Workplan Overview
- West Seattle Link Extension: Overview & Opportunities
- Everett Link Extension: Overview & Opportunities
- Next Steps

Cost Savings Workplan

- **Programmatic opportunities** identified as opportunities across the portfolio of projects.
- **Project opportunities** identified as unique opportunities for specific capital projects.
- Opportunities will provide benefits to include improving passenger experience, lower O&M costs as well as cost savings.

Projects Developing Cost Savings Opportunities

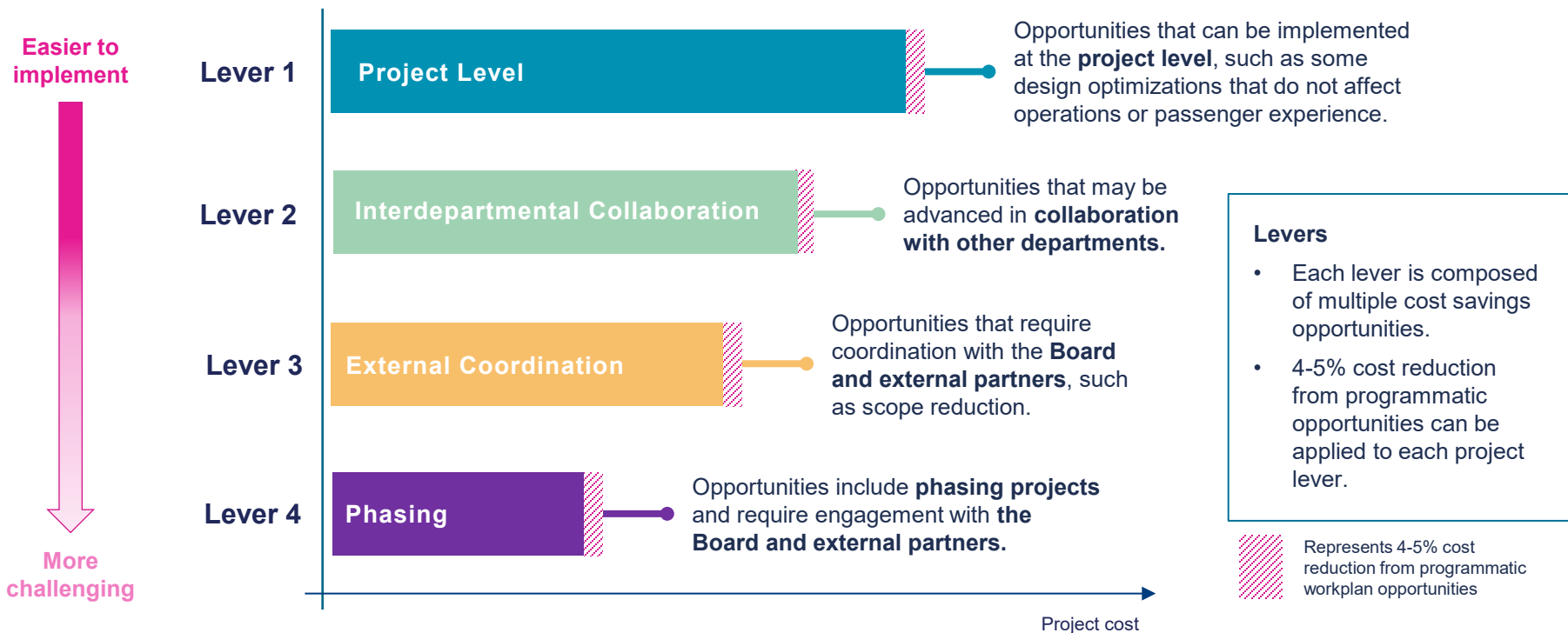
Conceptual Engineering:

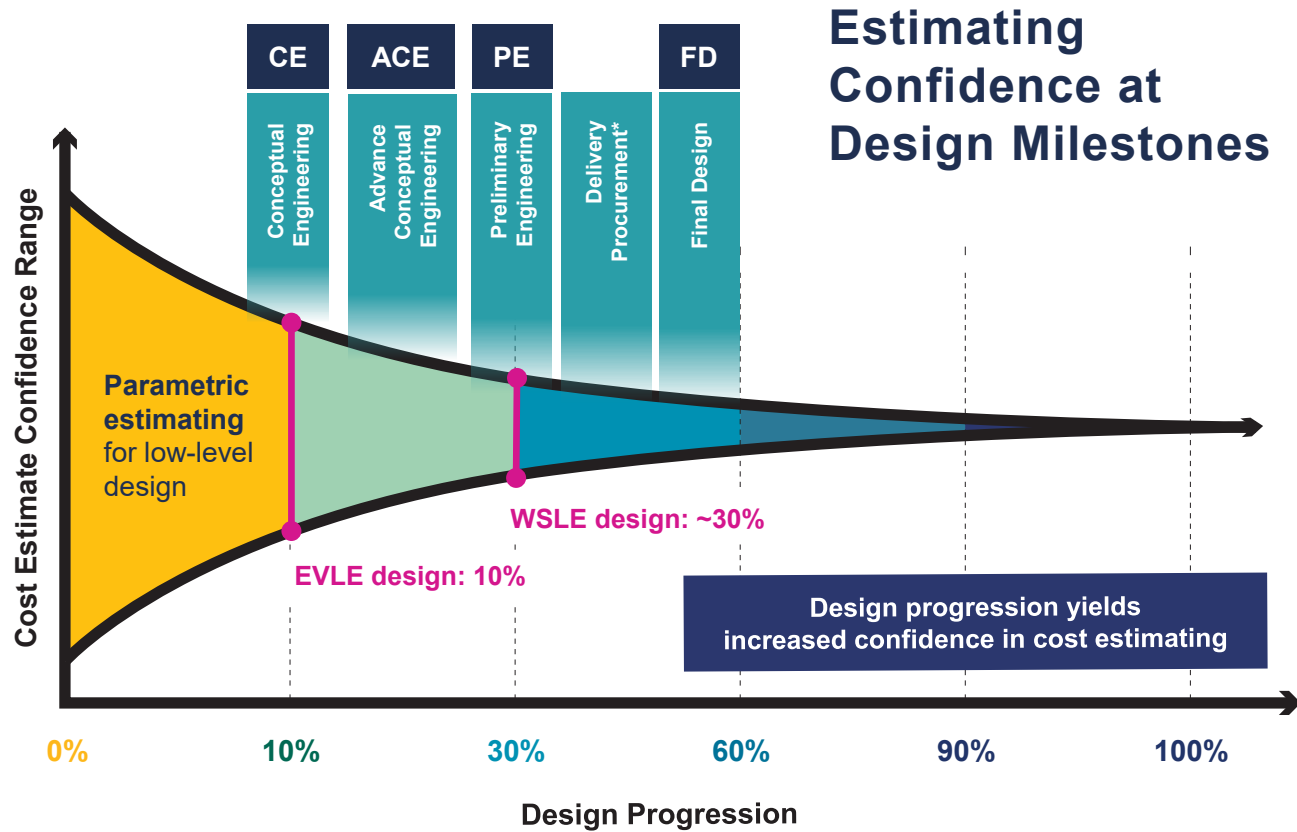
- Ballard Link Extension
- Tacoma Dome Link Extension
- **Everett Link Extension**
- Infill Stations
- Sounder Program
- OMF North

Post-Preliminary Engineering:

- STRIDE Bus Rapid Transit
- OMF South
- **West Seattle Link Extension**

Cost Savings Workplan





Early estimates used the **Parametric Method** and **Unit Cost Library (UCL) Method** to define **Rough Orders of Magnitude (ROM)**: using historical data (e.g., cost per mile of track, cost per station). Typical method for minimal to no design.

Current estimate is based on **Bottom Up Method**: quantifying labor, materials, equipment, and time for each activity or component. It is more detailed, time-intensive, and typically used later in design when scope and quantities are better defined. **This method increases confidence in the estimate.**

West Seattle Link Extension



Link light rail

West Seattle Link Extension

■ Elevated route

■ Tunnel route

■ Surface route

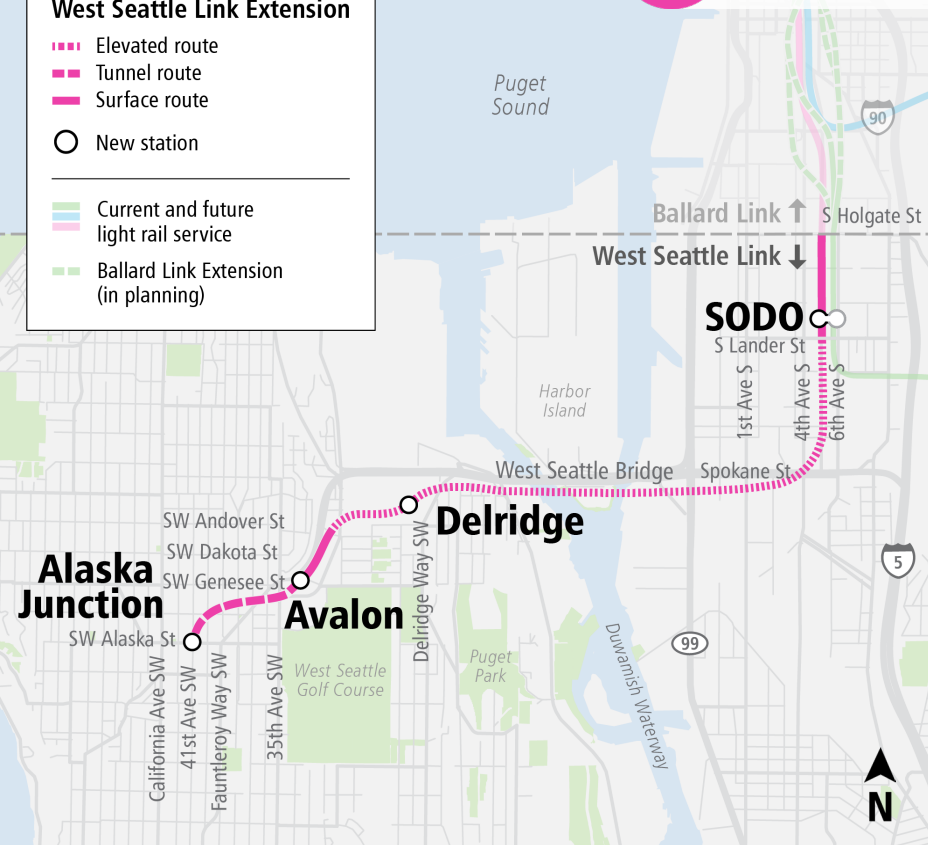


○ New station

■ Current and future light rail service

■ Ballard Link Extension (in planning)

3 Line

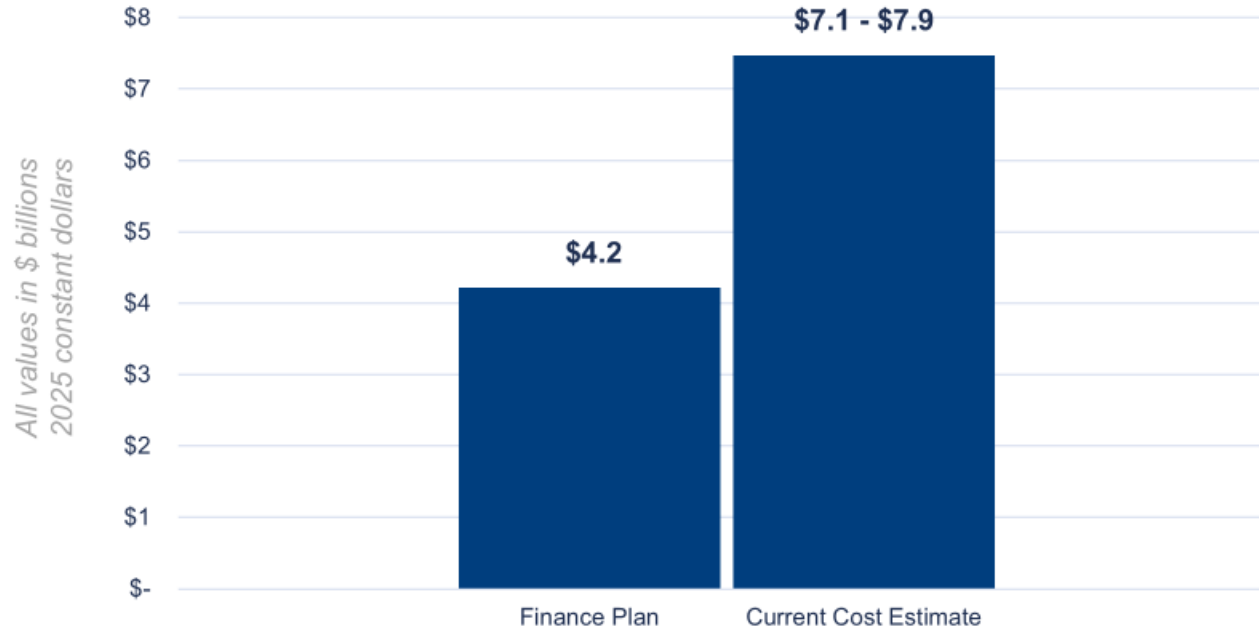


West Seattle Link Extension

- **Adds 4.1 miles** of light rail service and **4 stations** with connections in SODO, Delridge, and West Seattle.
- **Reduces transit travel** time from Alaska Junction to Westlake Station by 50% once Ballard Link Extension is complete.
- **Improves** transit service **frequency**, **reliability** and **capacity**.
- Facilitates redevelopment near stations, with focus on **affordable housing**.
- **Provides travel alternative** if West Seattle Bridge is congested or closed for repairs.
- **Facilitates future expansion** to south.

2021 Financial Plan vs. Current Cost Estimate (2025\$) Comparison

Drivers of Cost Growth

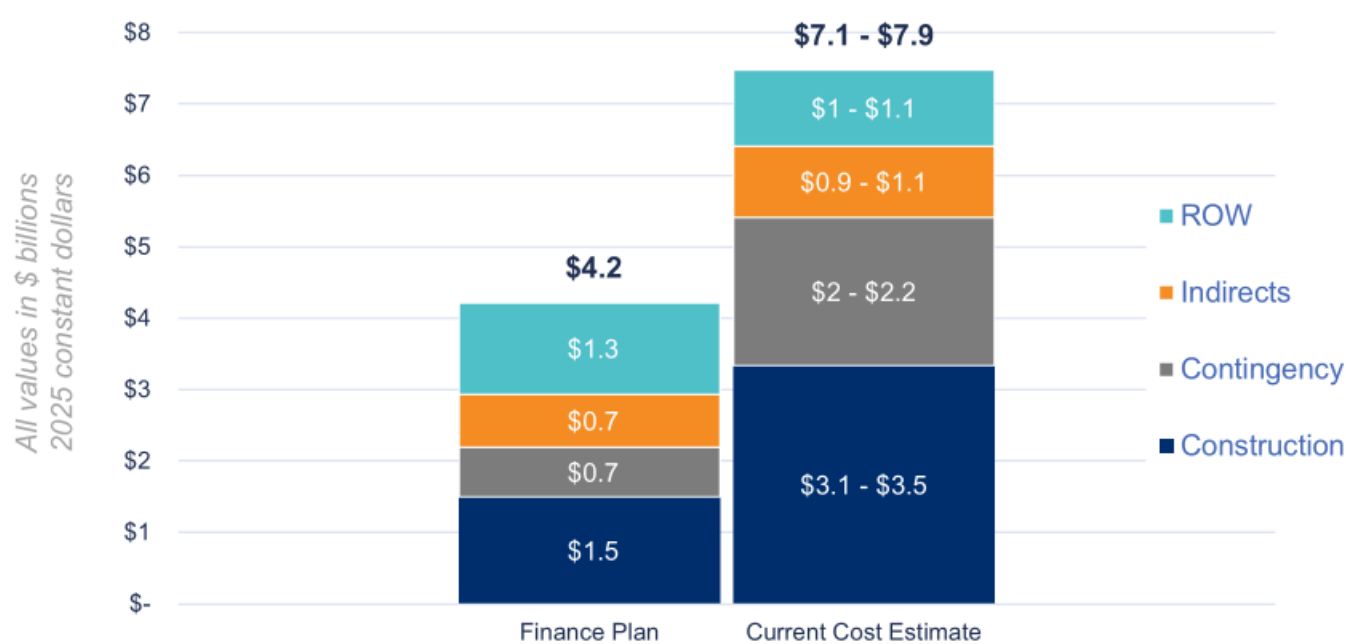


WSLE

- Bottom up **cost estimating** used for current estimate.
- No cost savings levers applied to the ranges on this slide.
- Total contingency for the current cost estimates includes construction design allowance and change order contingency, ROW contingency, and professional services contingency.
- **All numbers shown are in 2025 \$**

2021 Financial Plan vs. Current Cost Estimate (2025\$) Comparison

Drivers of Cost Growth

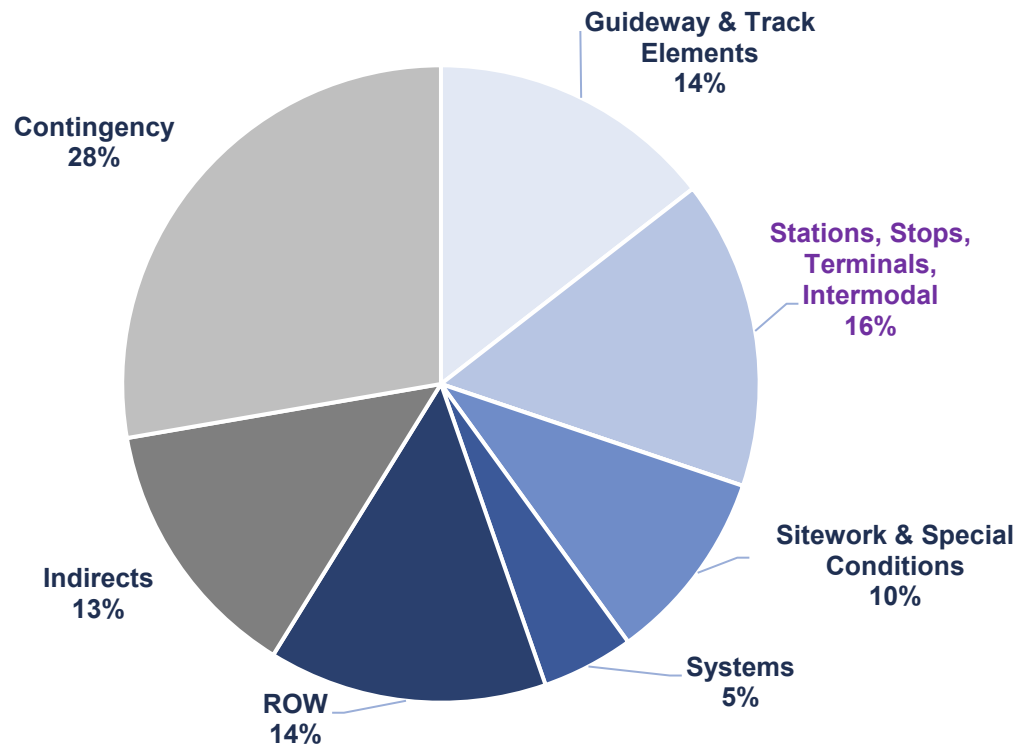


WSLE

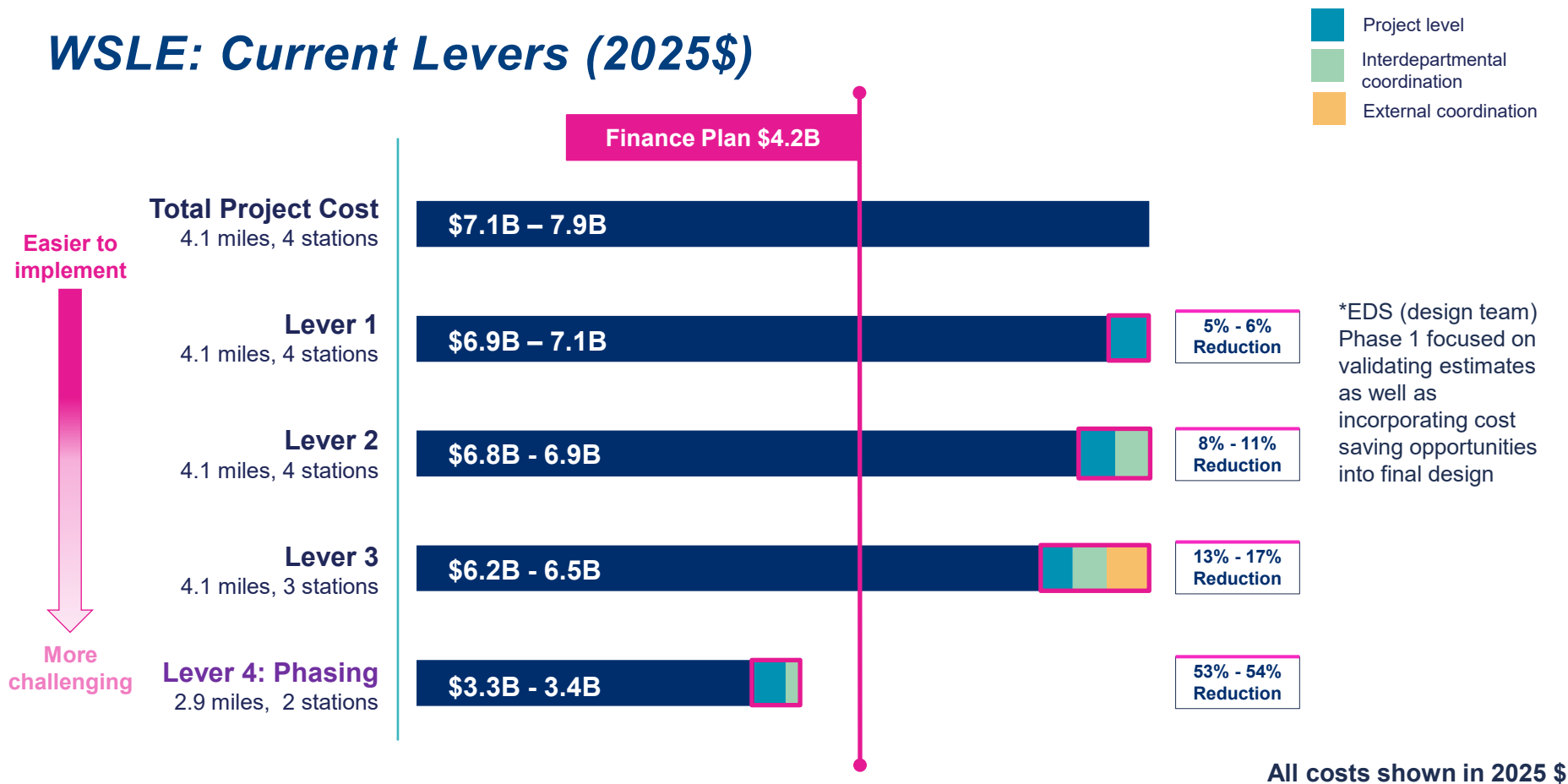
- Construction increases reflect current market conditions
- Contingency allocation aligned with FTA Oversight Procedure 40
- Indirects will be carried as a percentage of hard costs (dependent on project complexity and durations)
- ROW costs have contingency removed, reallocated to Contingency bucket
- **All numbers shown are in 2025 \$**
- No Cost Savings reflected

Cost Drivers: WSLE

- 4.1 miles of **aerial, at-grade, and tunnel guideway** and **1 at-grade, 1 elevated, and 2 tunnel stations**
- One Link transfer Station (SODO)
- High-level fixed Bridge over Duwamish
- Connection to OMF-C
- Tunnel stations in West Seattle Junction
- ROW costs reflect location in high-density urban corridor



WSLE: Current Levers (2025\$)



All costs shown in 2025 \$

SODO Station and Foundation Optimization

Benefits

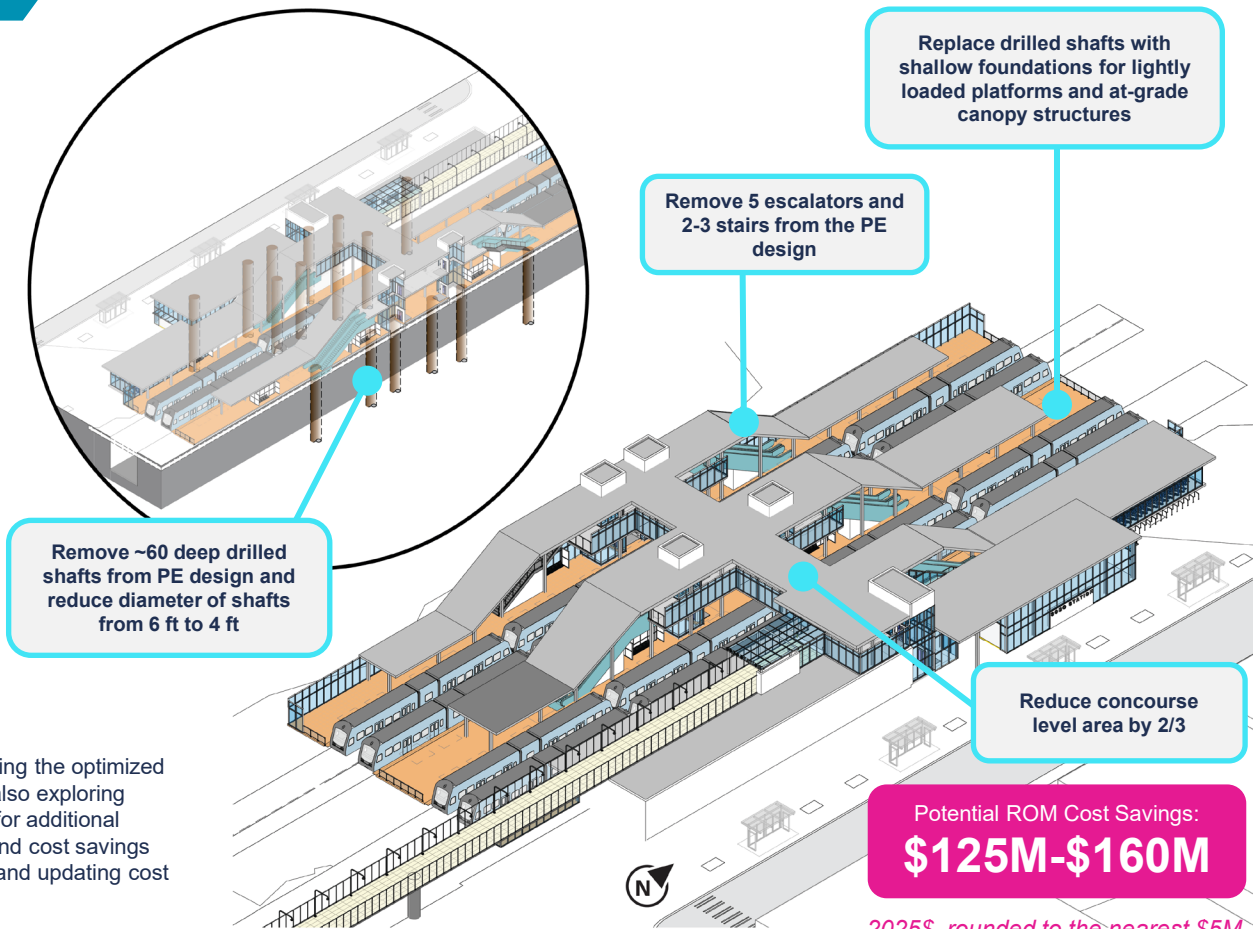
- **Reduces cost.**
- **Reduces station footprint**, platform widths, vertical transportation elements, and concourse-level area.
- **Maintains passenger experience.**
- Reduces the required number and diameter of deep shaft foundations.
- Allows for more efficient west shoofly track arrangement.
- **No noticeable impact on ridership or TOD.**

Considerations

- Passenger experience and safety
- Construction safety

EDS Phase 1

- EDS is validating the optimized design while also exploring opportunities for additional optimization and cost savings opportunities and updating cost estimates.

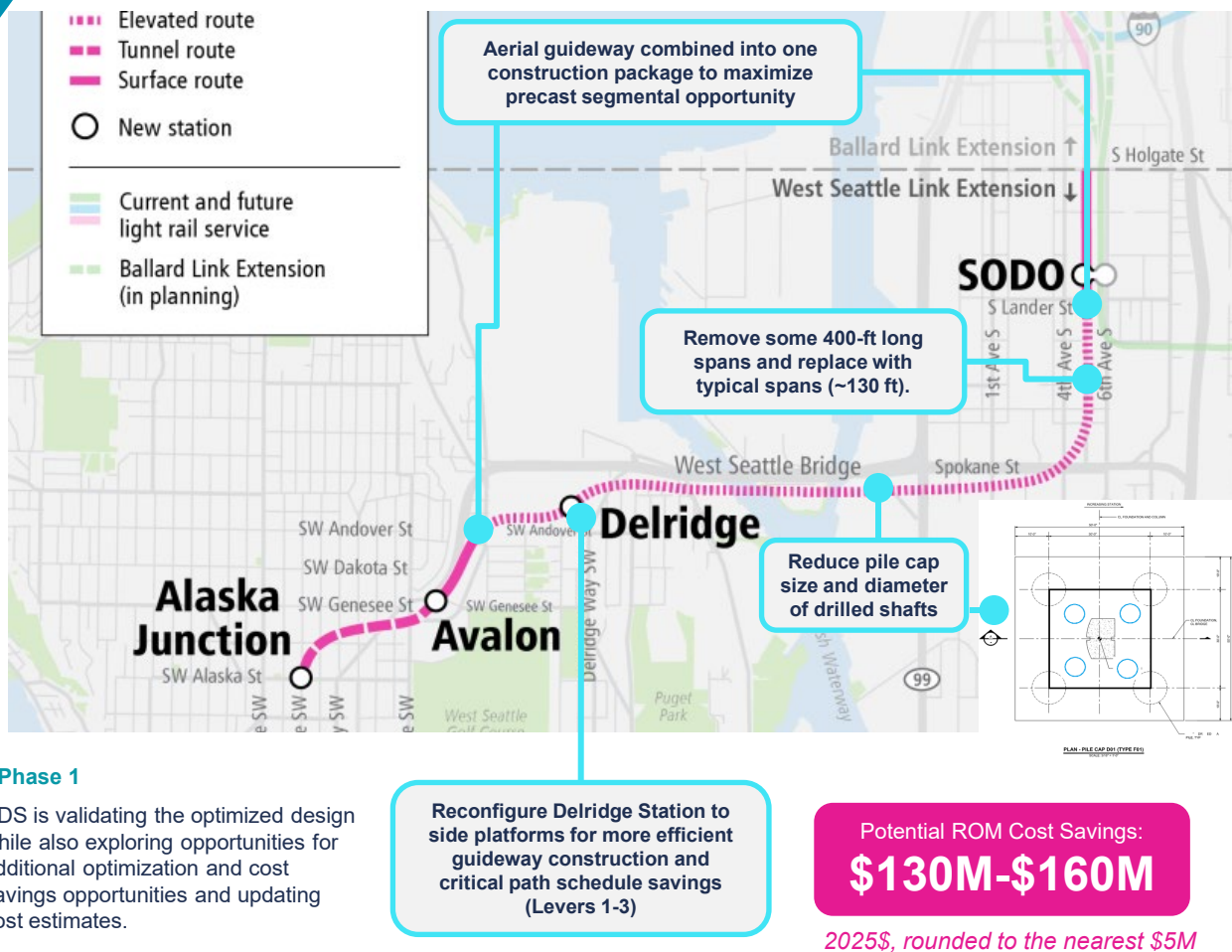


Benefits

- **Reduces costs and SODO-area environmental impacts** by removing ground improvements.
- **Reduces costs and environmental impacts** by reducing pile cap and shaft size.
- Provides further pile length cost-saving optimization opportunities.
- Fabricates precast segments **offsite and off the critical path**.
- **Improved safety and quality** through modular construction and standardization.

Considerations

- Additional field investigations and seismic studies required.
- Additional off-site ROW and investment may be required for a precast yard.
- Maximum benefits realized by combining opportunities: foundation optimization, Delridge side platforms, and Duwamish Crossing precast segmental construction.



West Shoofly

SODO Station West Shoofly

New temporary track configuration allows trains to keep moving while the station and permanent track are under construction.

Benefits

- Maintains 1-Line service throughout construction.
- Minimizes service and passenger experience disruptions.
- Reduces the need for temporary shoofly facilities as opposed to PE design.
- Reduces property acquisition requirements.

Considerations

- Property savings assume the pocket track for the new BLE project can be eliminated.
- Service shutdowns and schedule cutovers for the shoofly would be carried out across long weekends to minimize disruptions.
- Internal and City of Seattle approval needed at Lander Street and Holgate Street crossings.
- Requires ST operations collaboration.
- Potential travel alternatives during station shutdown.

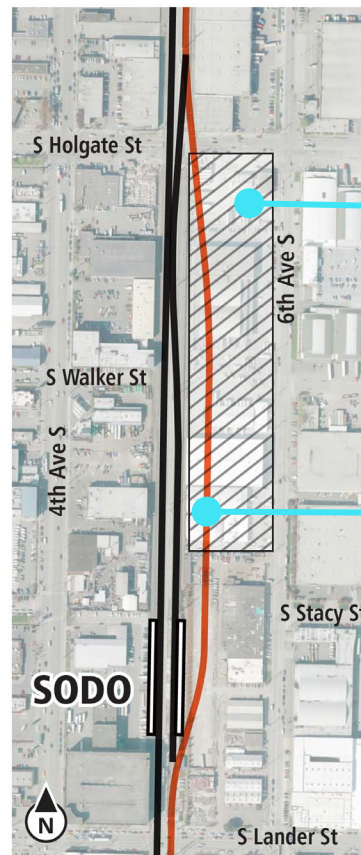
Spine segmentation contained in E3 busway; additional property acquisition not required assuming new BLE pocket track can be eliminated

West shoofly constructed on permanent 3 line tracks

West shoofly eliminates 1/3 mile of temporary tracks from the PE Design



East Shoofly



Additional property acquisition required for temporary tracks

Temporary tracks for east shoofly from preliminary design.

*Cost savings result from ROW and not from construction costs

Potential ROM Cost Savings:
\$115M-\$140M

2025\$, rounded to the nearest \$5M

Alaska Junction Station Optimization

Benefits

- **Eliminates construction and minimizes ROW costs** on 41st Ave SW, south of SW Edmunds.
- **Reduces maintenance needs** by relocating remote fan plant and TPSS into station headhouse.
- **Reduces truck traffic** in the West Seattle area during construction.
- **Minimizes excavation** at crossover
- Improved terminal processing time potentially **saves ~3 minutes**, to be confirmed by rail simulation scenarios.

Considerations

- Passenger experience accessing transit and junction needs further study.
- Maintenance requirements for TPSS and tunnel ventilation system in the station headhouses need more assessment.
- EDS will investigate how to reduce potential TOD impacts by avoiding south headhouse encumbrances.

*Eliminates tail tracks
Moves the crossover to the north of the platform
Reduces crossover from a Number 10 to a Number 8 to shorten the crossover cavern length.*



EDS Phase 1

- EDS is validating the optimized design while also exploring opportunities for additional optimization and cost savings opportunities and updating cost estimates.

Potential ROM Cost Savings:

\$190M-\$235M

2025\$, rounded to the nearest \$5M

Avalon Station Elimination

Benefits

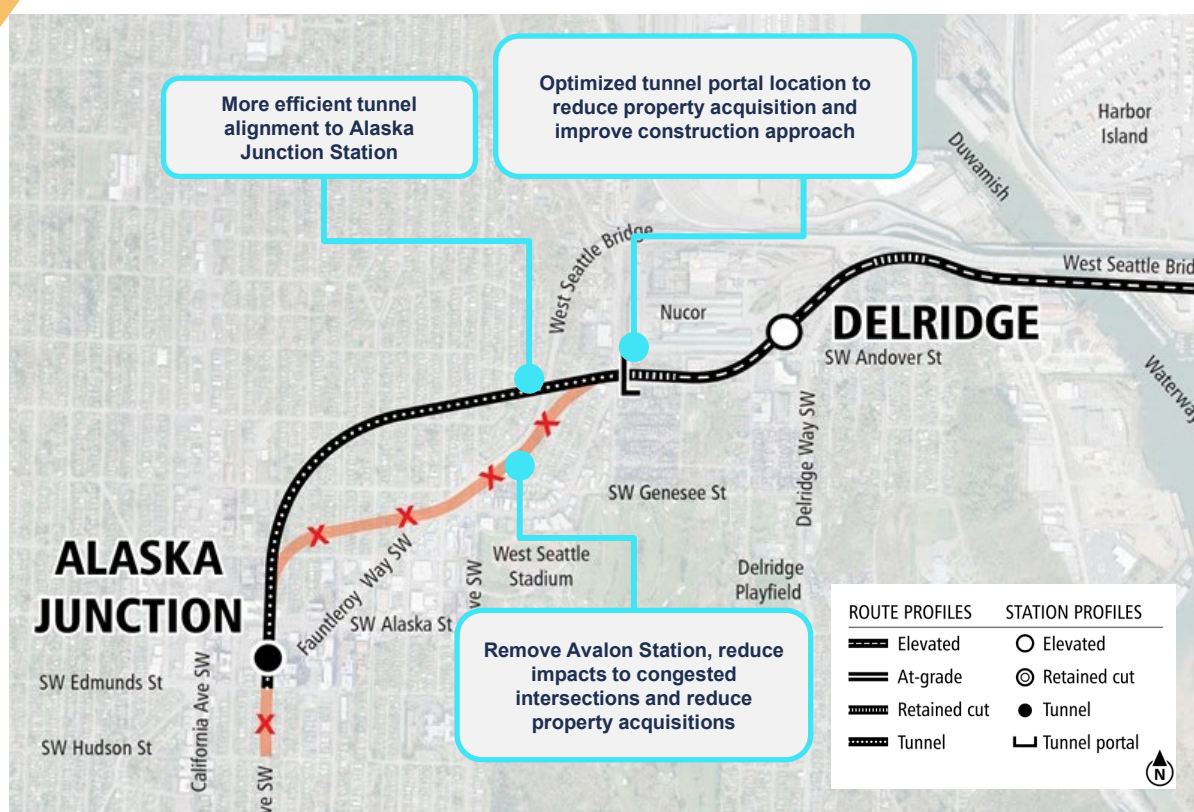
- Included in FEIS
- Cost and schedule savings
- **Allows more direct alignment** between Delridge Station and Alaska Junction Station
- **Minimizes disruption** to areas of concern for the City of Seattle and property owners/residents
- Opportunity to shift tunnel portal construction eastward
- **No notable impact on ridership** from full build

Considerations

- Removes TOD opportunities.
- Requires Board action and City of Seattle coordination.

EDS Phase 1

- Confirm guideway alignment from Delridge Station to new portal location to potentially reduce impacts to Longfellow Creek and Health Club property.
- Confirm portal location and modified alignment to Alaska Junction Station.
- Update cost estimates.



Potential ROM Cost Savings:

\$375M-\$470M

2025\$, rounded to the nearest \$5M

WSLE Alignment: Phasing

Delridge MOS (in FEIS)

- Starts just north of SODO Station and extends to 500 ft south of Delridge Station
- Does not provide pocket track or Hi-Rail access
- Connection to OMF Central and SODO configuration undergoing operational modeling and service simulation.
- Provides transit integration to the south (White Center and Burien)
- Requires additional bus stops and layovers spaces at Delridge Station
- Ridership: 17k daily trips on project (24k-27k for full build)



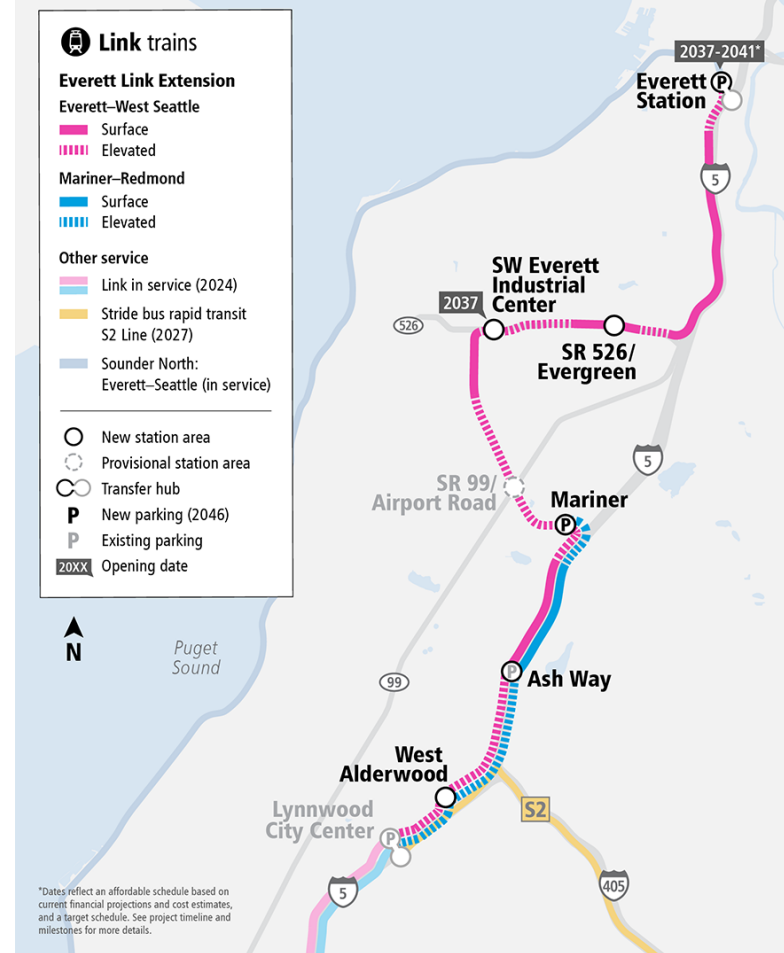
Next Steps for WSLE

- ✓ **Strategic approach to final design** will allow the project team to reduce costs while giving the Board maximum flexibility
- ✓ **Continuing to identify cost savings and community impact reductions.**
- ✓ **Utilizing Board-approved allocated budgets** allows the project team to minimize cost and schedule delays while providing off-ramps
- ✓ **Staying on schedule** alleviates cost growth due to inflation and market conditions

Everett Link Extension

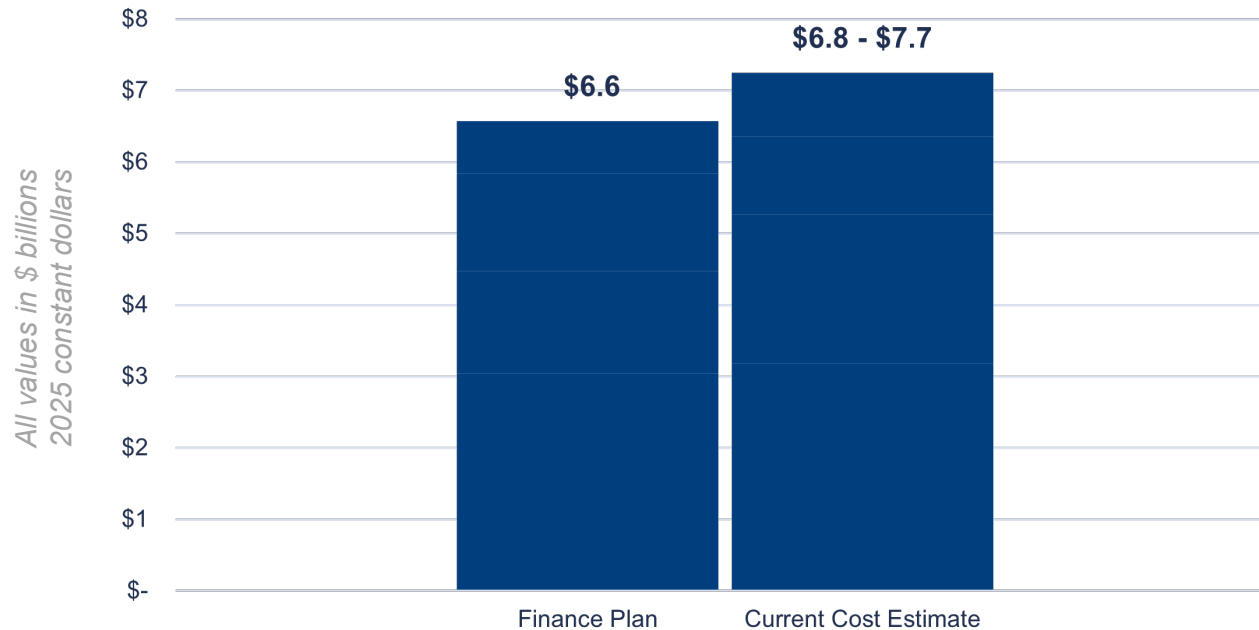
Everett Link Extension (EVLE)

- **16-mile light rail extension** from Lynnwood to Everett with **6 new stations**, completing the north corridor.
- **Faster, reliable travel** shortening commute and takes cars off I-5 and SR-99.
- **Stronger economy & jobs:** Connects residents to 100,000+ regional jobs and supports growth around stations, including the Paine Field/Boeing hub.
- **Transit Equity & affordability:** Expands access for diverse communities, lowers household transportation costs, and ensures ADA-accessible service.
- Multimodal access with **seamless bus, bike, and pedestrian connections**.



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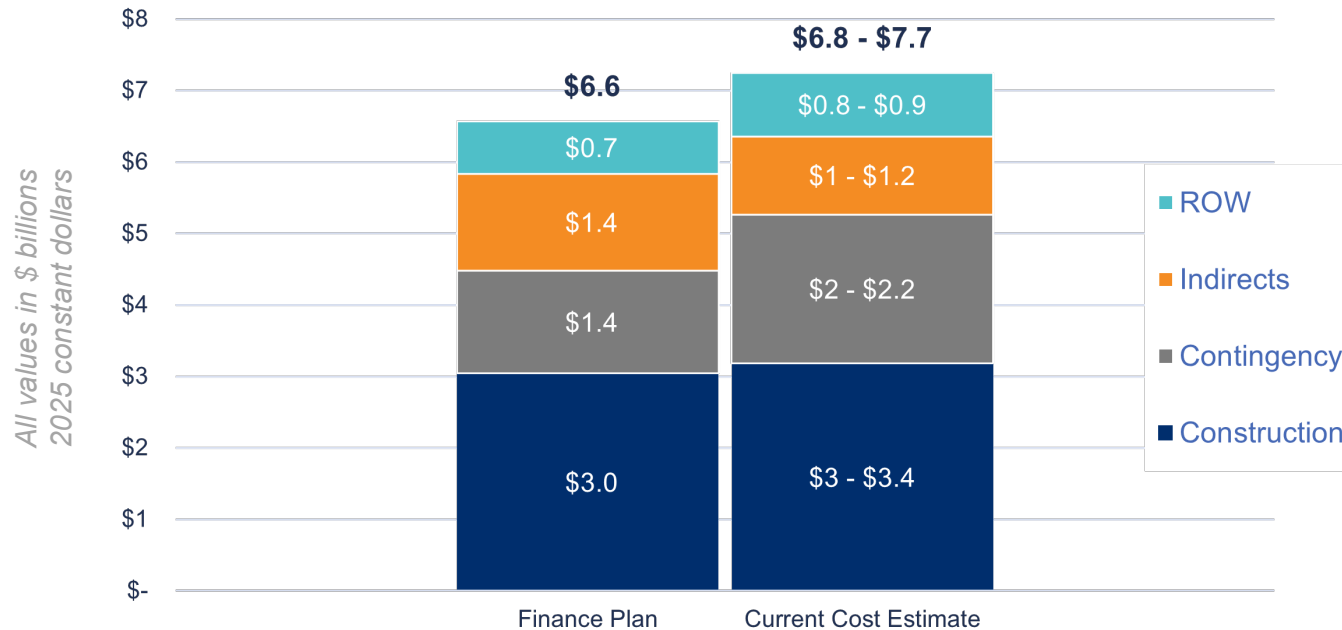


EVLE

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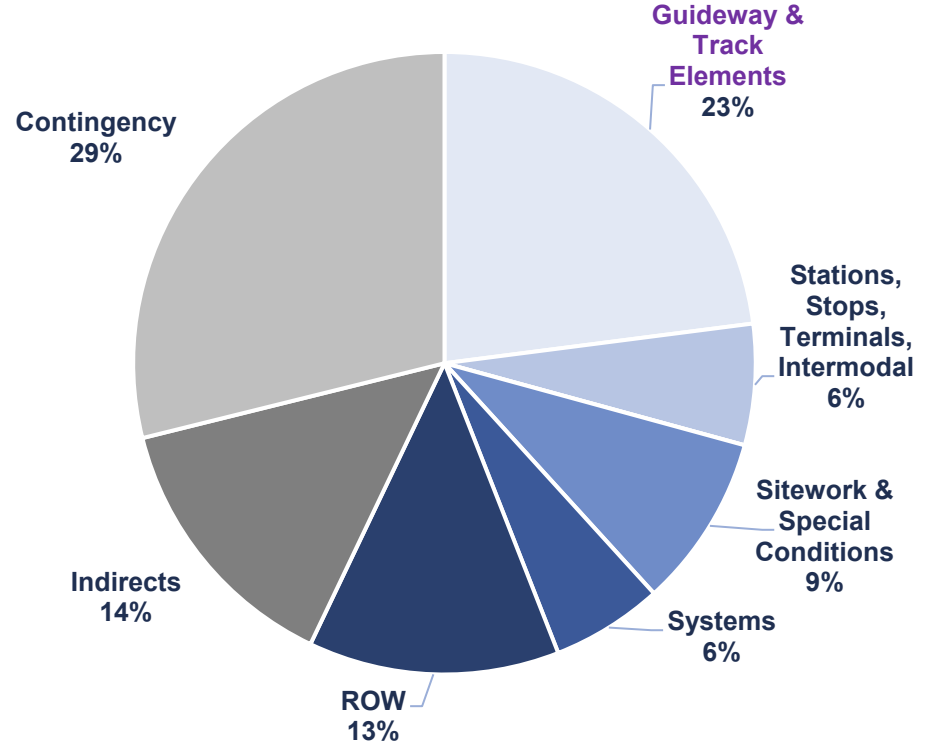


EVLE

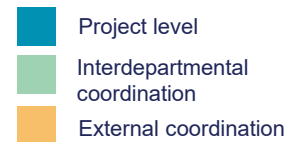
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Cost Drivers: EVLE

- **11.5 miles of aerial guideway** – elevated structures are significantly more expensive than at-grade or surface alternatives.
- Right-of-Way (ROW) costs include WSDOT compatibility requirements.



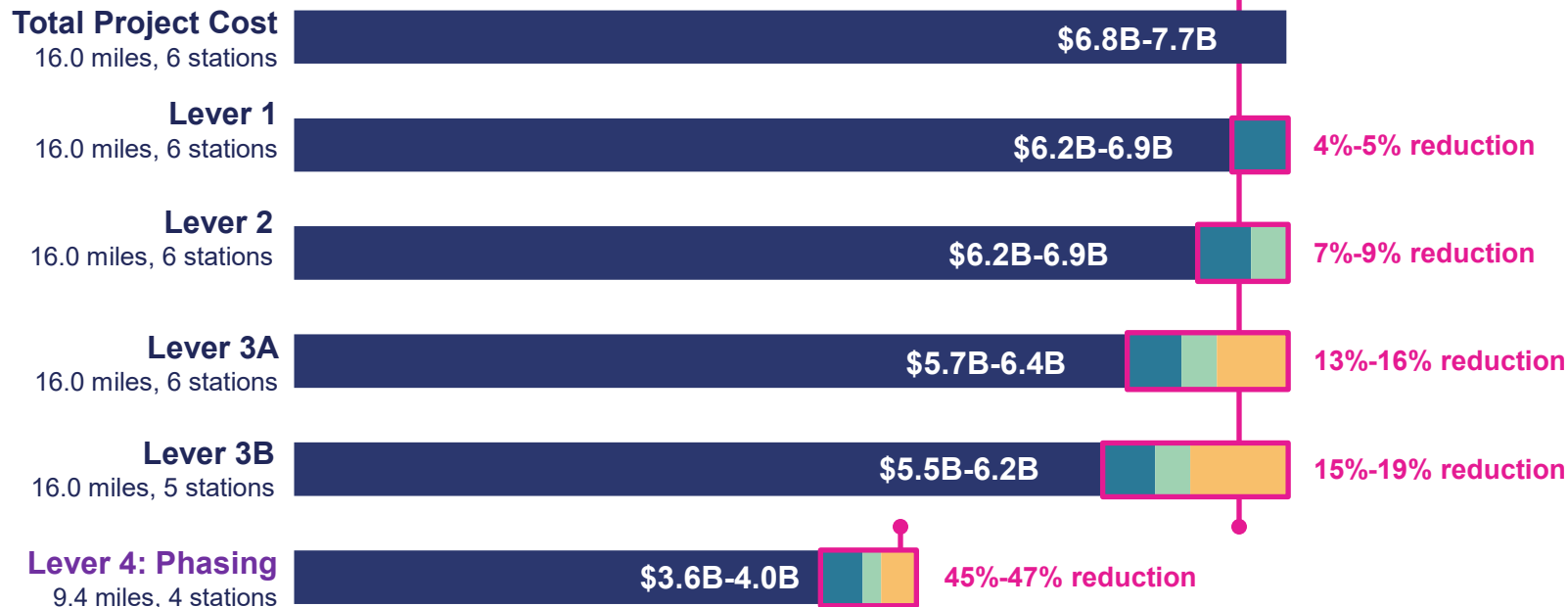
EVLE Cost Saving Levers (2025\$)*



Easier to implement



More challenging



All costs shown in 2025 \$

Ash Way Station Optimization

Benefits

- **Reduces** cost by converting aerial guideway to at-grade
- **Improved** station site layout with better access, improved pedestrian connectivity to 164th, and reduced visual impacts
- **Reduces** acquisitions on Four Square Community Church property
- **Eliminates** interaction with on/off ramps in WSDOT ROW
- **Reduces** transmission pole impacts

Considerations

- **Construction Phasing** is more complicated with 164th undercrossing
- Impacts to Walmart parking could be more costly than estimated



Ash Way Station Area
Shows general location of ASH-D



Shoreline North/185th Station
Example of similar type of station

Potential ROM Cost Savings:

\$25M-\$30M

2025\$, rounded to the nearest \$5M

West Alderwood Pocket Track

Benefits

- **Reduces** ROW costs and 24 business acquisitions by eliminating wide pocket track along 33rd Ave
- **Reduces** costs by reducing wide aerial guideway that supported pocket track and moving the pocket track to an at-grade section of guideway
- **Reduces** visual impacts guideway by reducing massing in the Lynnwood city center areas

Considerations

- Requires **design deviation** to increase pocket track spacing beyond the 10-mile requirement to 11.3 miles
- Pocket track is no longer adjacent to a station so requires additional access for operators at the new location



Potential ROM Cost Savings:

\$70M-\$85M

2025\$, rounded to the nearest \$5M

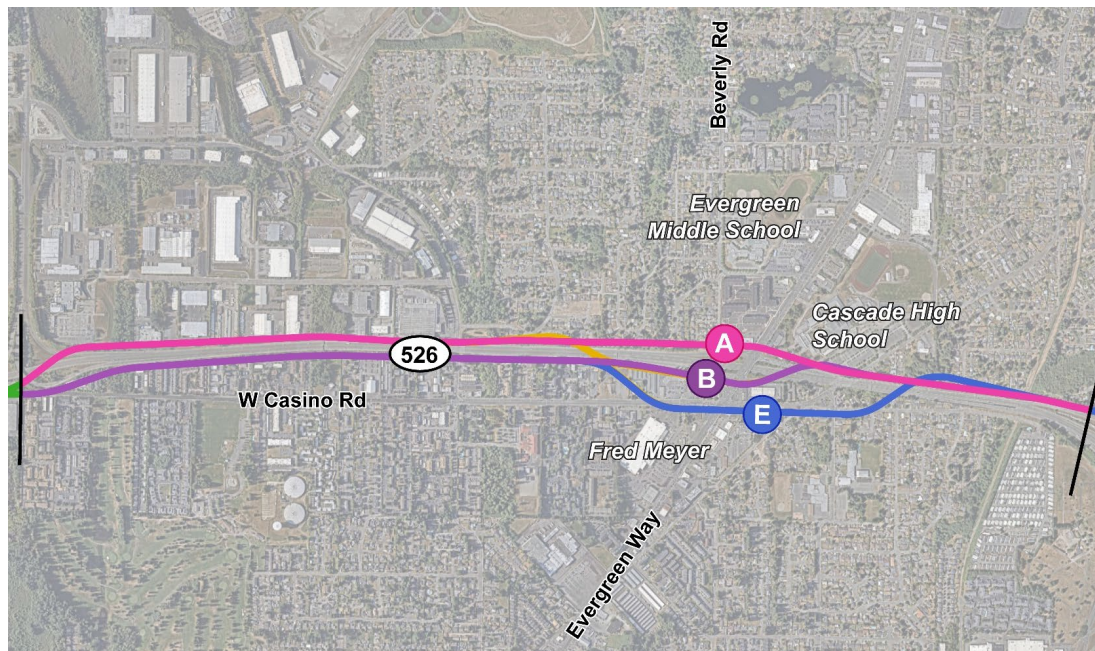
SR 526 / Evergreen Optimized Property

Benefits

- **Reduces** property impacts and displacements
- **Eliminates** 2 long span crossings over SR 526

Considerations

- Requires guideway curve **design deviations** adjacent to EGN-E station
- Requires use of WSDOT compatibility/expansion zone
- Creates **pinch points** where edge of guideway is within 10 to 15 feet of residential buildings



Potential ROM Cost Savings:

\$80M-\$100M

2025\$, rounded to the nearest \$5M

SW Everett Industrial Center Guideway

Benefits

- **Reduces** cost by converting 4,000 ft of aerial guideway to at-grade guideway
- **Eliminates** platform mezzanine at SW Everett Industrial Center station
- No additional at-grade crossings

Considerations

- **Increases** impacts to Community Transit vehicle storage facility
- **Closes** 94th access to Airport Rd and required construction of new public roadway connection to 100th St SW



Potential ROM Cost Savings:

\$65M-\$80M

2025\$, rounded to the nearest \$5M

Next Steps for EVLE

- ✓ **Advance into next phase** with design to budget strategy while retaining flexibility
- ✓ **Apply cost levers** – 1 & 2 to narrow the financial gap
- ✓ **Maintain schedule certainty** and publish DEIS in January 2026
- ✓ **Continue to provide updates** on progress

Thank you.



 [*soundtransit.org*](https://soundtransit.org)

