

WSLE Cost Savings Update

System Expansion Committee

3/12/2026



Agenda

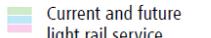
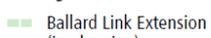
- Update on cost savings workplan for West Seattle Link Extension
- No Board action is required today

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)



WSLE preferred alternative

- ✓ Included in Sound Transit 3 (ST3) plan passed by voters in 2016.
- ✓ Provide fast, reliable light rail connections in the SODO, Delridge and West Seattle neighborhoods.
- ✓ 4.1 miles of light rail service with 4 stations.

Building blocks by workstream

Policy & planning

- Policy changes (by Sound Transit or others) that save capital and operating costs, speed project delivery, or expand financial capacity
- Updated service assumptions based on modified capital program and ridership projections

Transit operations*

- Potential new resiliency investments (e.g., modern signal system, existing tunnel upgrades)
- Revised operating & maintenance and light rail vehicle costs based on updated service assumptions

Capital delivery

- Cost savings opportunities
- Adjusted phasing and sequencing of project investments
- Updated cost allocations for shared/systemwide assets
- Potential deferral of some projects

Finance

- Updated financial planning assumptions (e.g., federal grant strategy)
- Policy changes and exercising existing available revenue authority
- Potential third-party funding opportunities

Capital delivery cost savings workplan

- Following the Board's directives from Motions Nos. M2024-59 & M2025-36
- **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

Pre-baselined 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:

- OMF South
- **West Seattle Link Extension**

Capital delivery cost savings levers



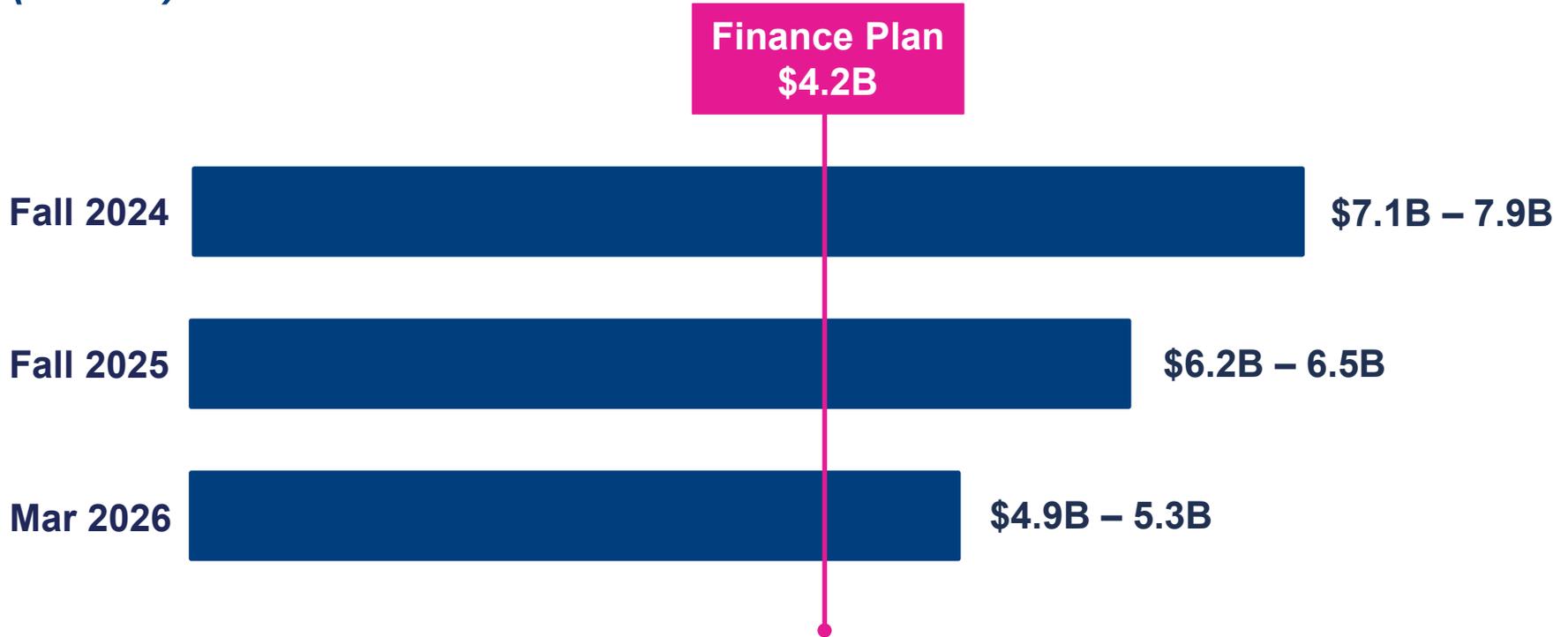
Prior Board Actions

- **October 2024:** Board Motion M2024-59 directs staff to develop a workplan to reduce cost and community effects
- **June 2025:** Board authorizes initial six months of Engineering & Design Services (EDS) contract and extends Program Management Support Services (PMSS) contract by one year
- **November 2025:** Board extends EDS contract by six months and authorizes Systems Engineering Design Services MATOC

Project cost

(2025\$)

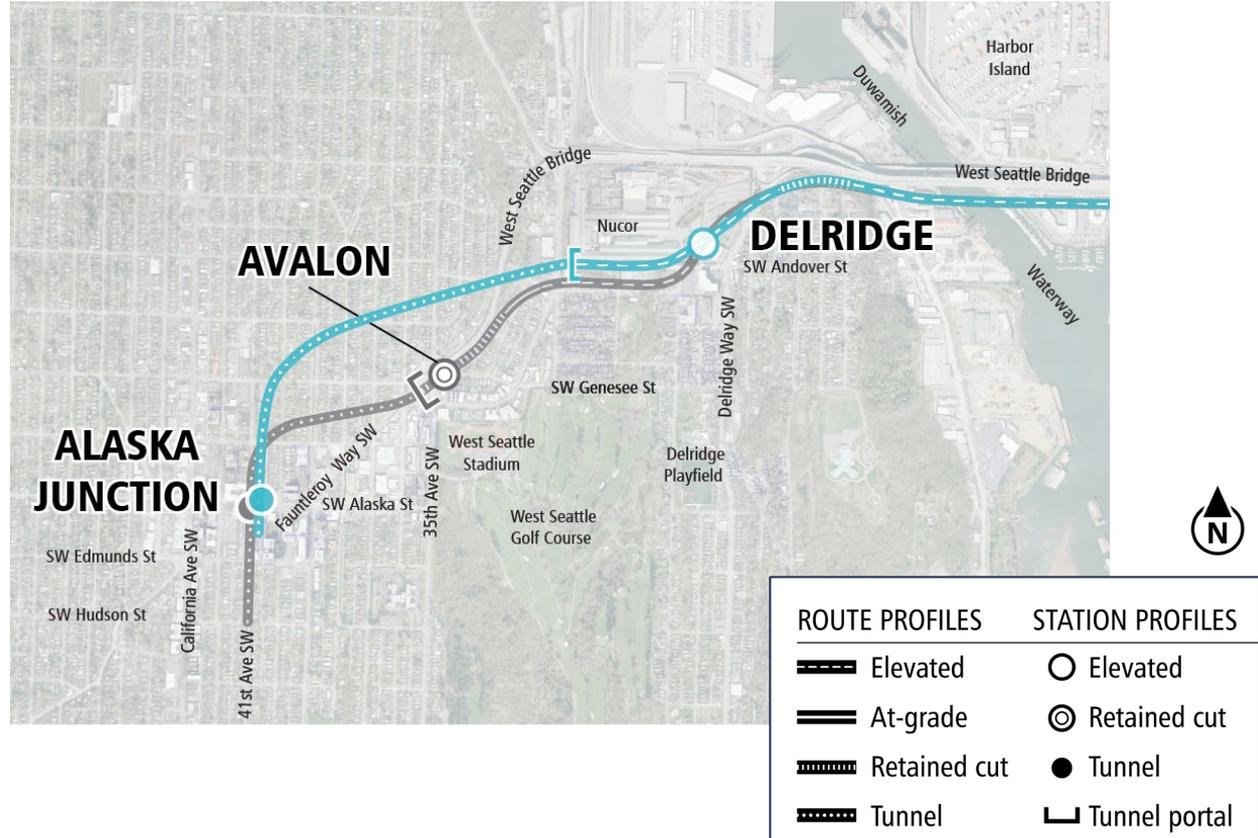
- Fall 2024 estimate adjusted for inflation
- Fall 2025 and March 2026 estimates reflect cost savings opportunities



No Avalon Station

Unlocks potential for additional cost saving opportunities

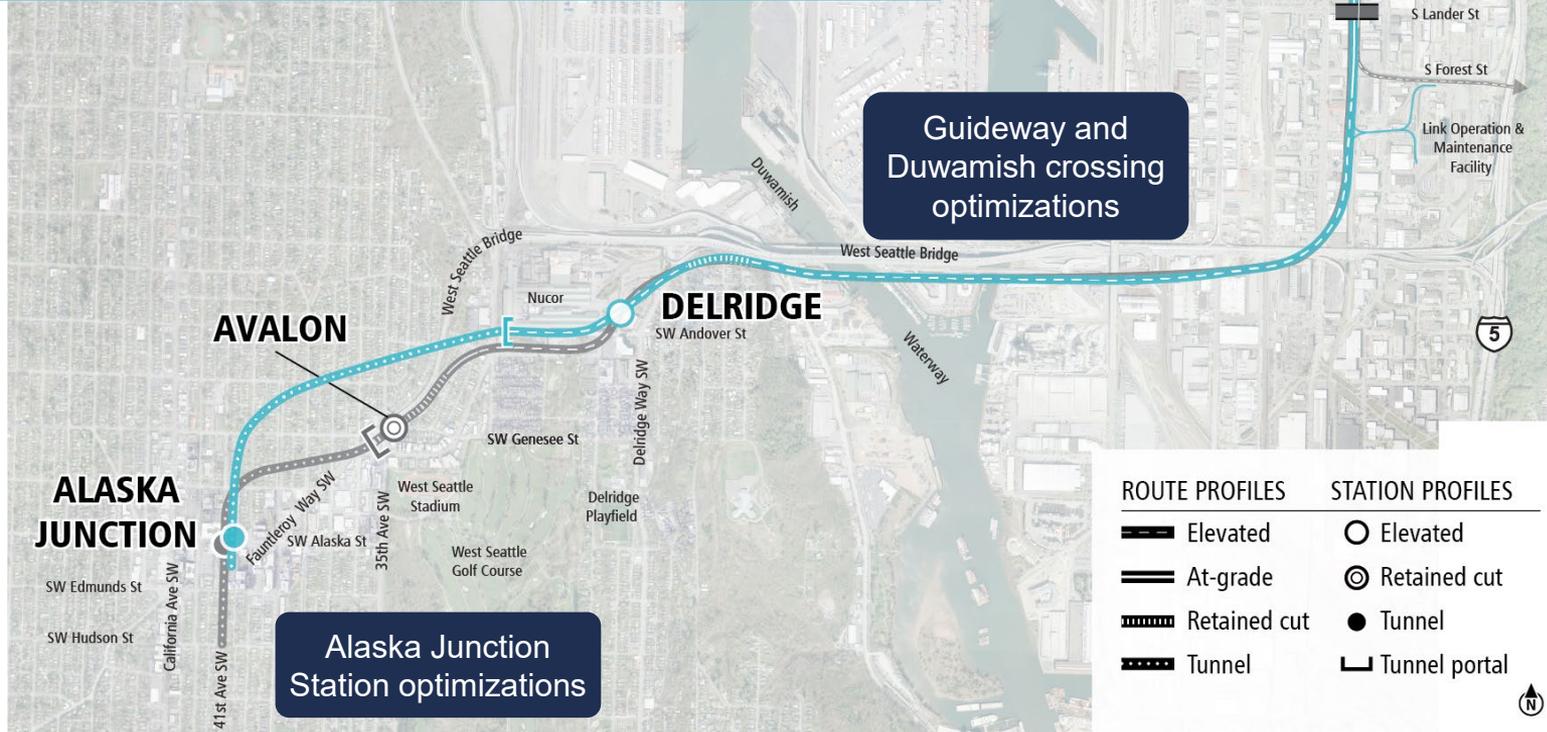
-  Board-approved alternative
-  Cost savings alternative (studied in FEIS)



Level 1

Cost saving opportunities that can be implemented at the **project level**

Level 1 cost savings: **\$375M - \$470M**



| ROUTE PROFILES | STATION PROFILES |
|----------------|------------------|
| Elevated | Elevated |
| At-grade | Retained cut |
| Retained cut | Tunnel |
| Tunnel | Tunnel portal |



Level 2

Cost saving opportunities that require **interdepartmental collaboration**

Level 1 & 2 cost savings: **\$560M - \$700M**



| ROUTE PROFILES | STATION PROFILES |
|----------------|------------------|
| Elevated | Elevated |
| At-grade | Retained cut |
| Retained cut | Tunnel |
| Tunnel | Tunnel portal |

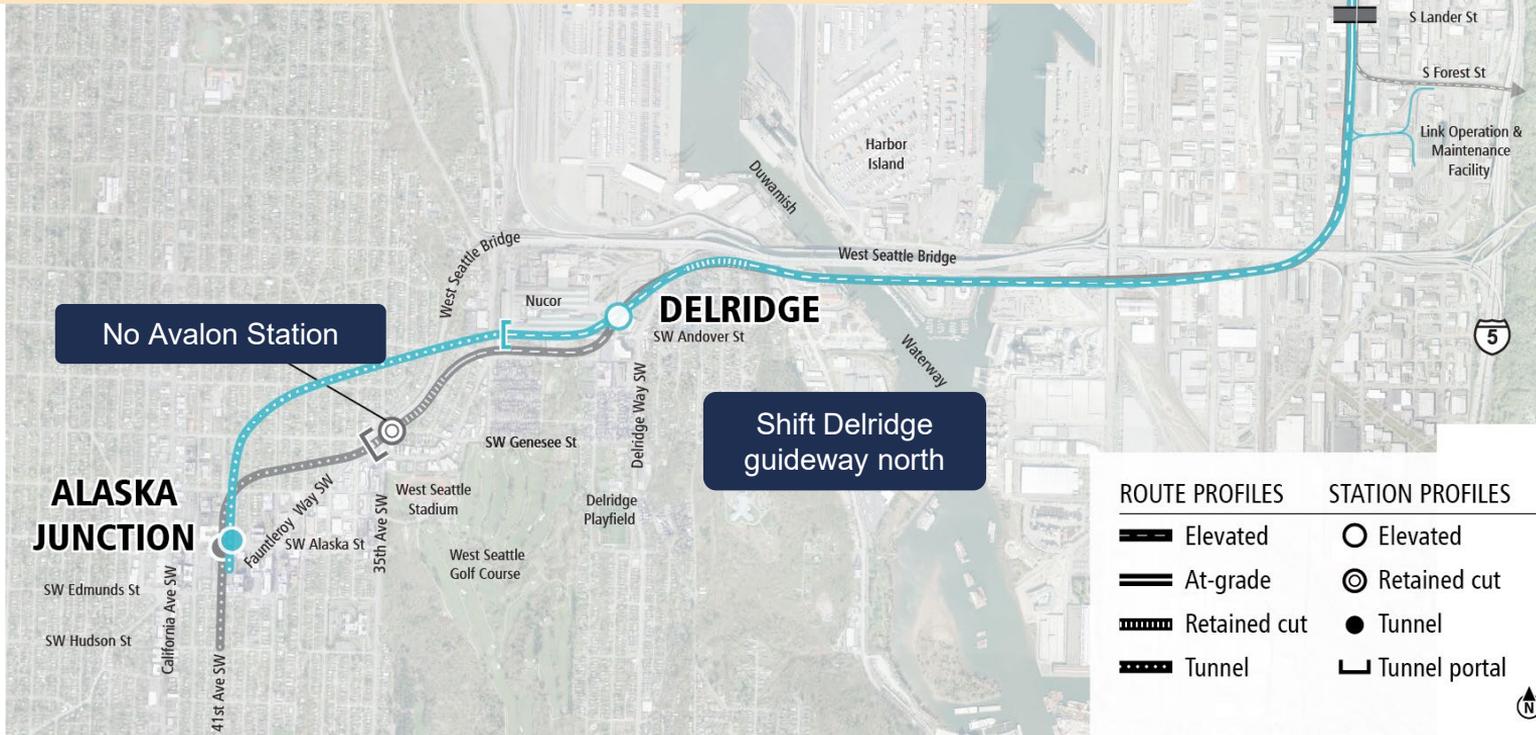


Level 3

Cost saving opportunities that require **coordination with the Board and external partners**

Level 1, 2, & 3 cost savings: **\$2.1B - \$2.6B**

Utility relocation optimization



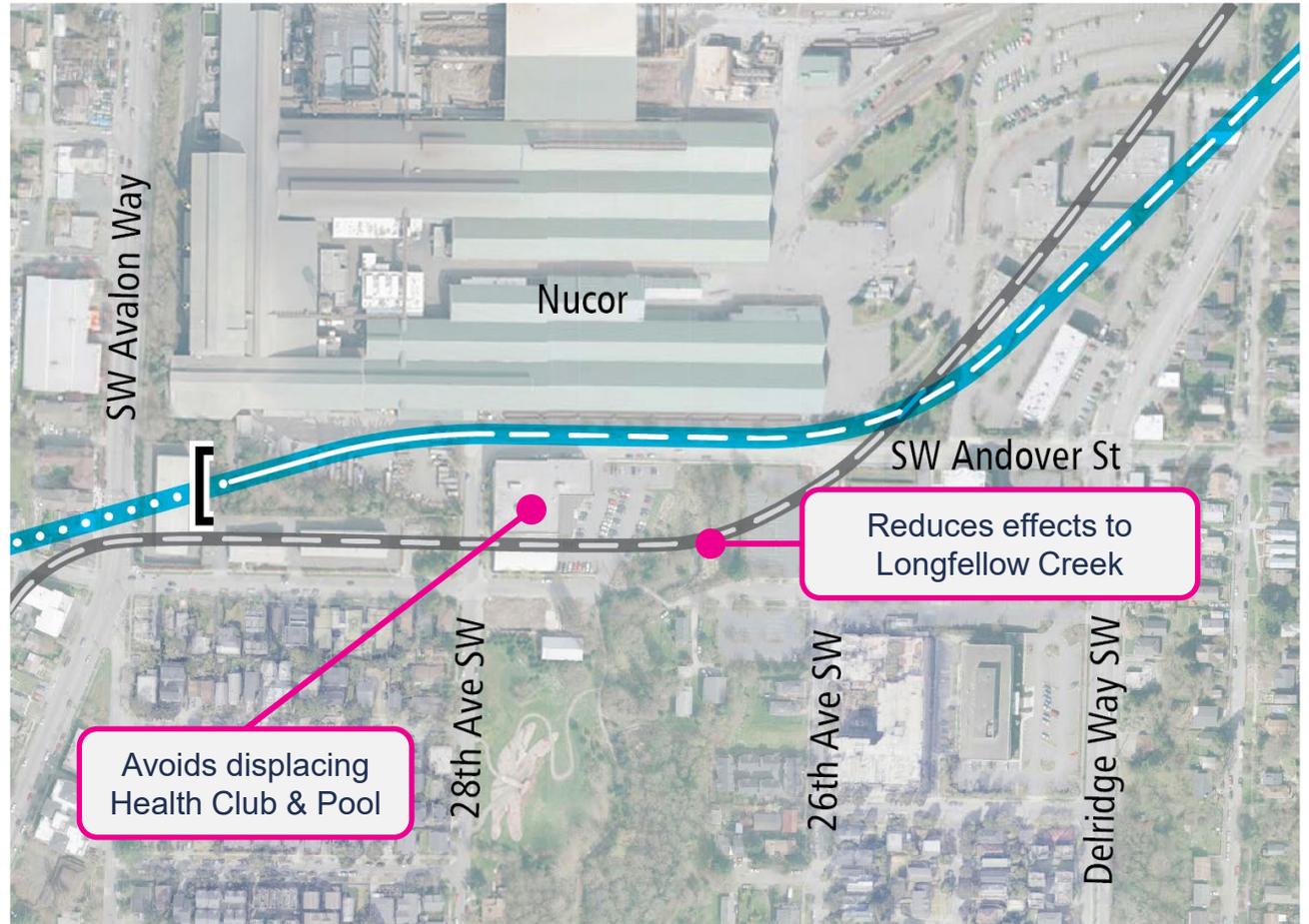
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Shift Delridge guideway north

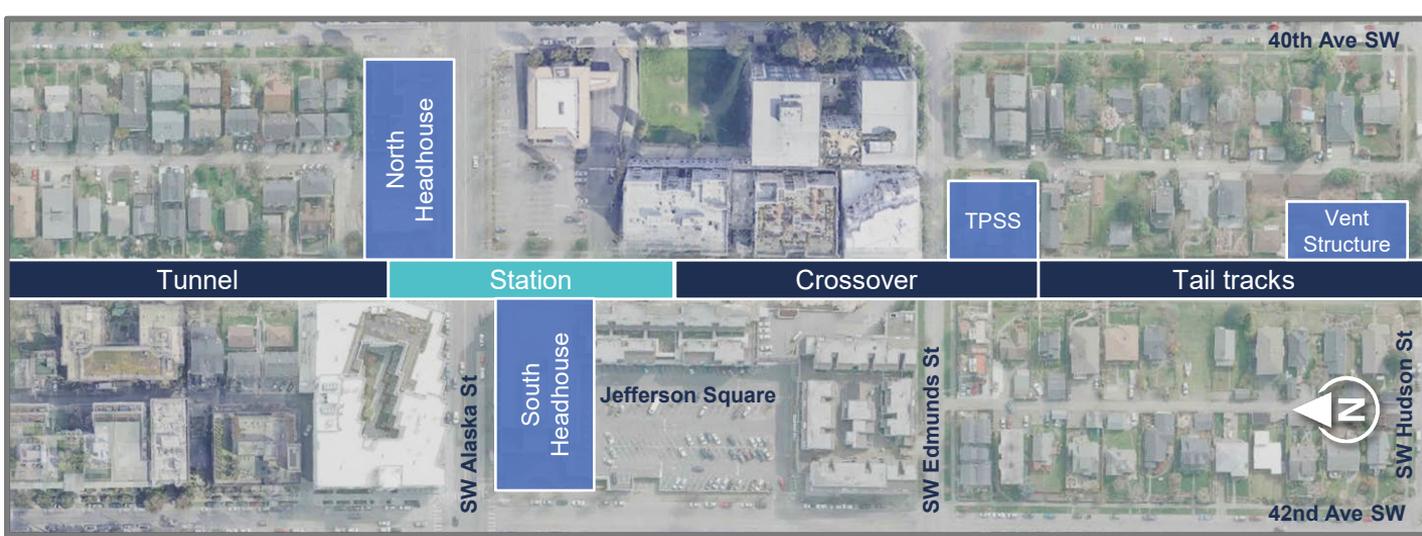
- Board-approved alternative
- Cost savings alternative

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Reconfigure Alaska Junction Station

Board-approved
alternative

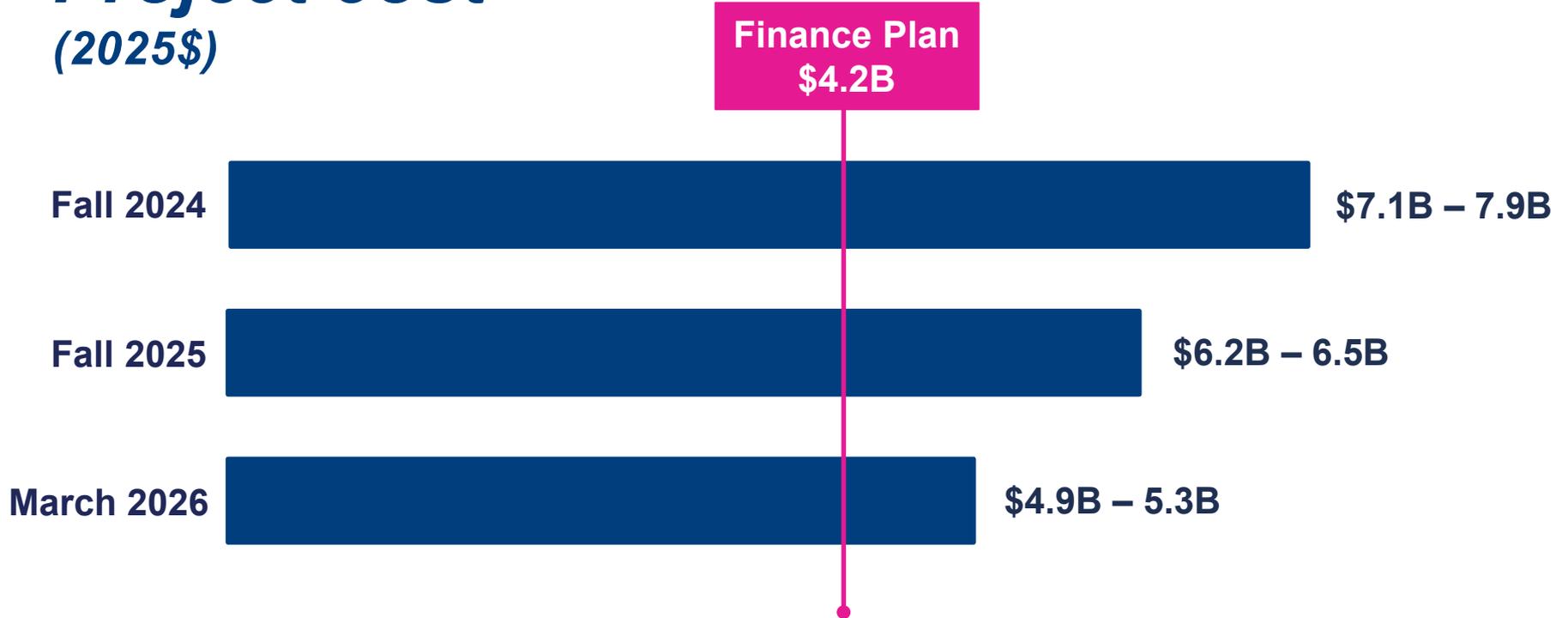


Cost savings
alternative



Project cost (2025\$)

- Fall 2024 estimate adjusted for inflation
- Fall 2025 and March 2026 estimates reflect cost savings opportunities



Next steps: Q2 & Q3 2026

- Inform Enterprise scenarios with cost savings analysis
- Continue integrating cost savings opportunities and coordinate with third parties
- Community outreach and engagement
- Potential Board action to eliminate Avalon Station
- Potential Board action to advance Final Design and right-of-way acquisition, pending Enterprise decisions

Thank you



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