

West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

Initial assessment results

System Expansion Committee | 10/10/2019



Why we are here

- Review **public feedback** on initial assessment of potential additional alternatives
- **Should any of these be added** to the list of Draft EIS alternatives identified by the Board in May



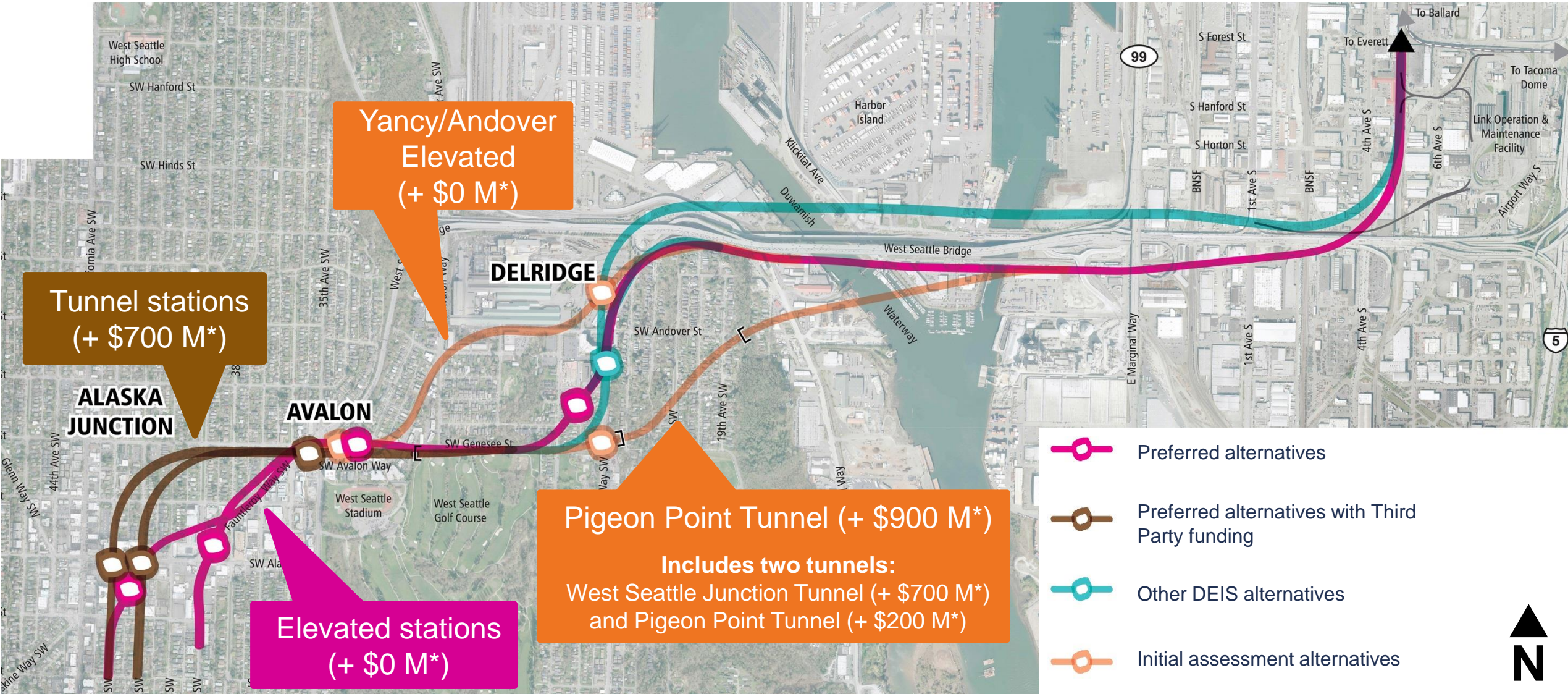
May 23rd Board Action

Identified Draft EIS alternatives:

- Preferred Alternatives
- Preferred Alternatives with Third Party Funding
- Other Draft EIS alternatives

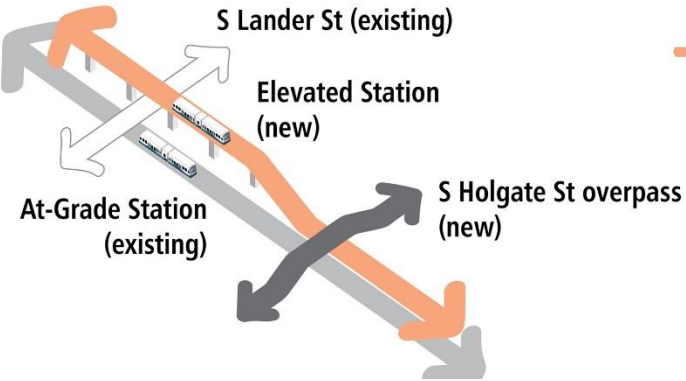
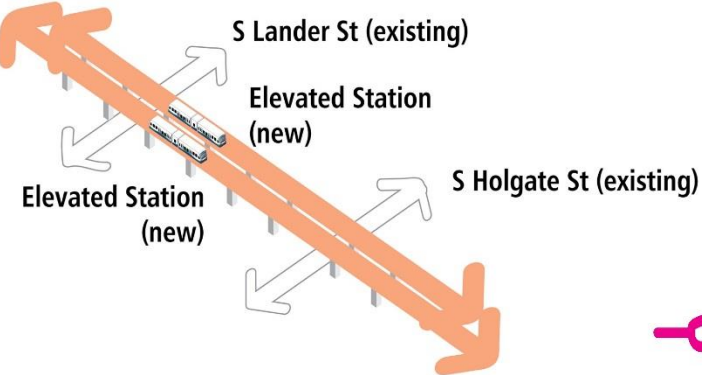
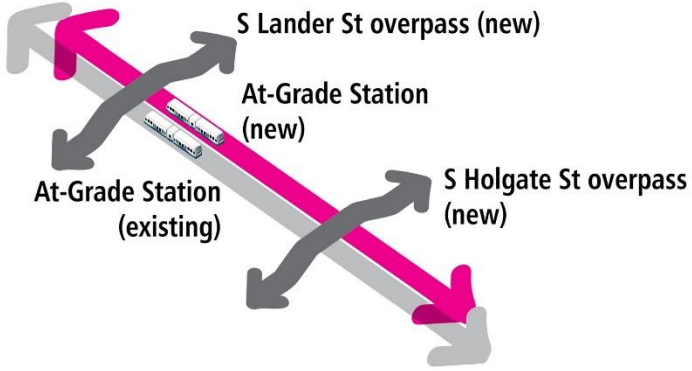
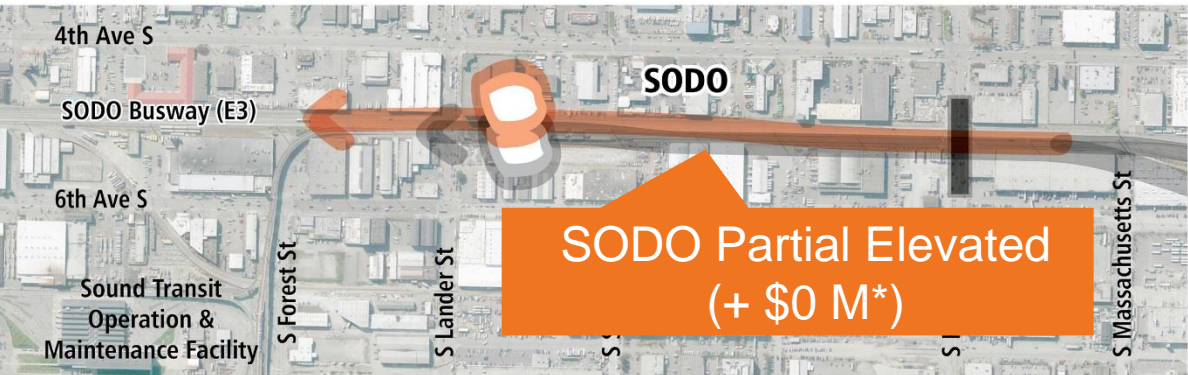
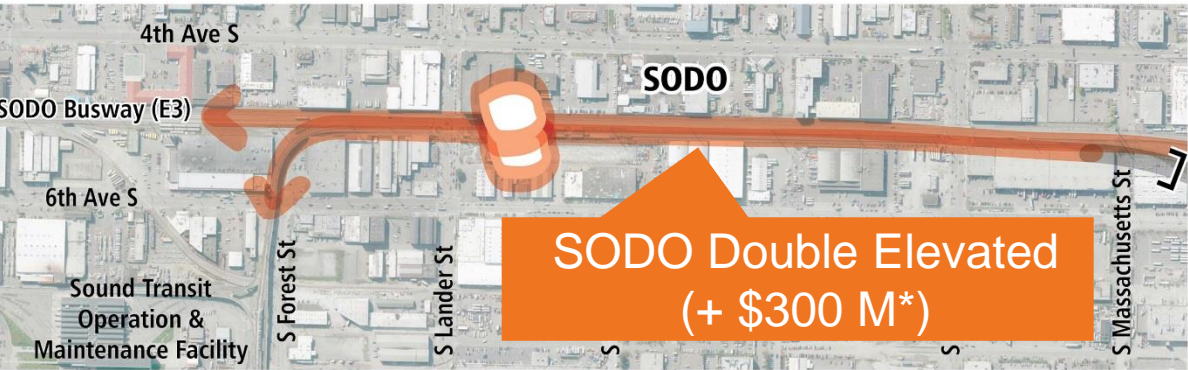
Board also requested *initial assessment* of potential *additional alternatives* suggested during EIS scoping period



Draft EIS and Initial Assessment alternatives: West Seattle/Duwamish



* Compared to ST3 Representative Project.

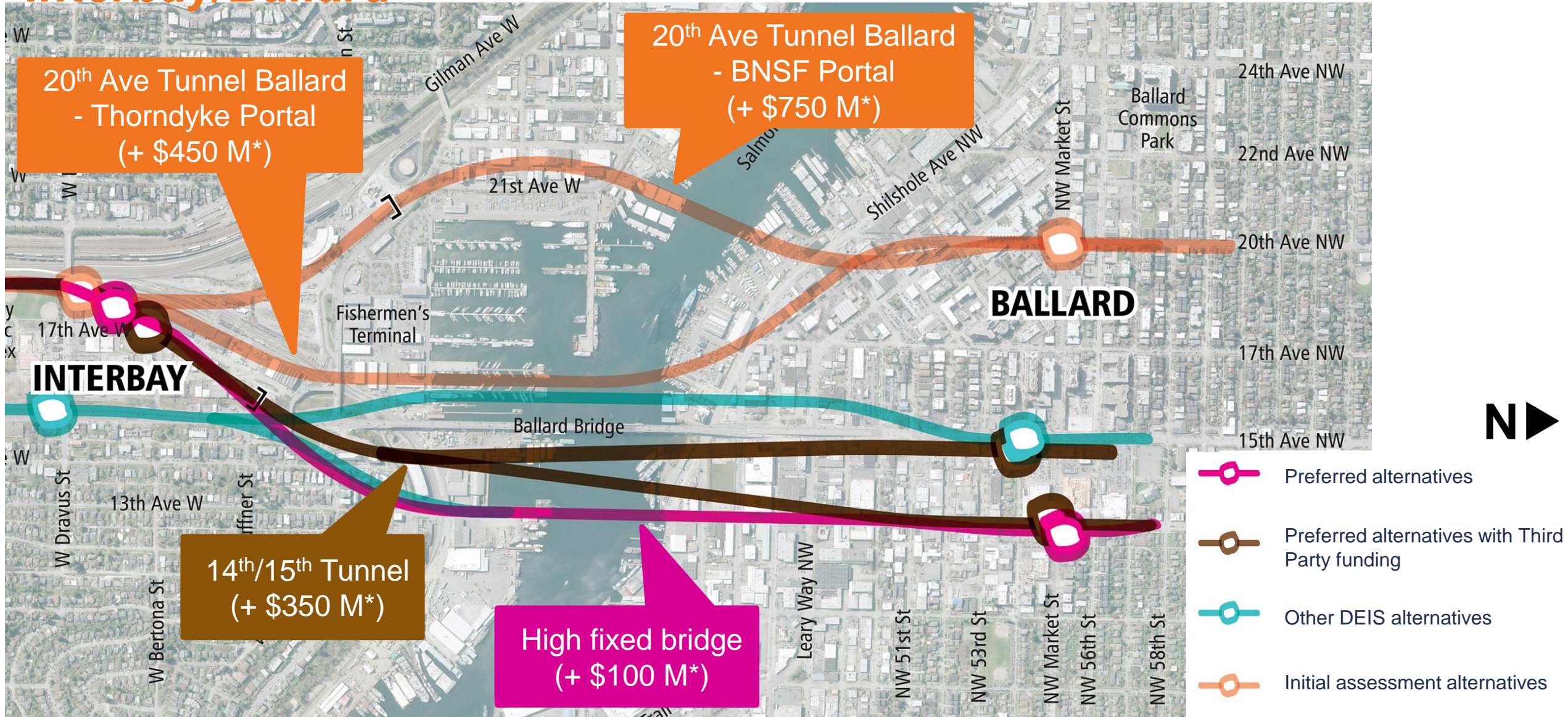
Draft EIS and Initial Assessment alternatives: SODO



-  Preferred alternatives
-  Initial assessment alternatives



Draft EIS and Initial Assessment alternatives: Interbay/Ballard



* Compared to ST3 Representative Project.

Comparative estimates and schedule

Comparison to ST3 Representative Project		
Initial assessment alternative	Comparative Estimate (2018\$)	Schedule
Yancy/Andover Elevated	Similar	Similar
Pigeon Point Tunnel*	Requires 3 rd Party funding (+\$900 M*)	Schedule risk
SODO Elevated	Requires 3 rd Party funding (+\$300 M)	Similar
SODO Double Elevated		
SODO Partial Elevated	Similar	Similar
20 th Ave Tunnel Ballard	Requires 3 rd Party funding (+\$750 M)	Similar
20 th Ave Tunnel Ballard - BNSF Portal		
20 th Ave Tunnel Ballard - Thorndyke Portal	Requires 3 rd Party funding (+\$450 M)	Similar

Public feedback



Initial Assessment Alternatives

Community Engagement Snapshot

- ✓ *Email updates to project listserv*
- ✓ *Emails to community organizations*
- ✓ *Community briefings and meetings*
- ✓ *Media briefing*
- ✓ *Fairs, festivals, farmers markets*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering*
- ✓ *Online open house*

Initial Assessment Alternatives

Community Engagement Snapshot

- ✓ *SODO Design Coalition briefing, 8/27*
- ✓ *SODO Neighbors briefing, 8/29*
- ✓ *Email update to project listserv, 9/5*
- ✓ *Ballard Alliance Rate Payer Advisory Board briefing, 9/11*
- ✓ *Media briefing, 9/12*
- ✓ *Email update to project listserv, 9/13*
- ✓ *SODO BIA briefing, 9/13*
- ✓ *C-ID Night Market, 9/14*
- ✓ *Magnolia Farmers Market, 9/14*
- ✓ *Emails to community groups, 9/16*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering (West Seattle), 9/17*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering (SODO), 9/19*
- ✓ *Door-to-door flyering (Ballard), 9/20*
- ✓ *Fishermen's Fall Festival, 9/21*
- ✓ *NSIA briefing, 9/24*
- ✓ *West Seattle Transportation Coalition briefing, 9/26*
- ✓ *Sustainable Ballard Festival, 9/28*
- ✓ *West Seattle Farmers Market, 9/29*
- ✓ *Email update to project listserv, 10/2*
- ✓ *SODO Design Coalition briefing, 10/7*

Online Open House highlights

Sept. 13–Oct. 4, 2019

TOTAL USERS

3,717

COMMUNICATIONS BY AREA

West Seattle = 259

SODO = 90

Ballard = 242

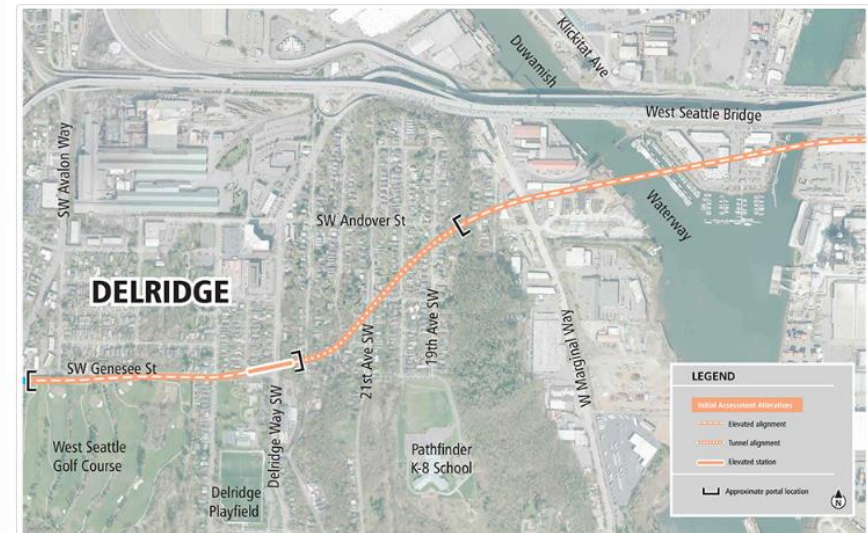
Initial Assessment

Potential alternatives in initial assessment

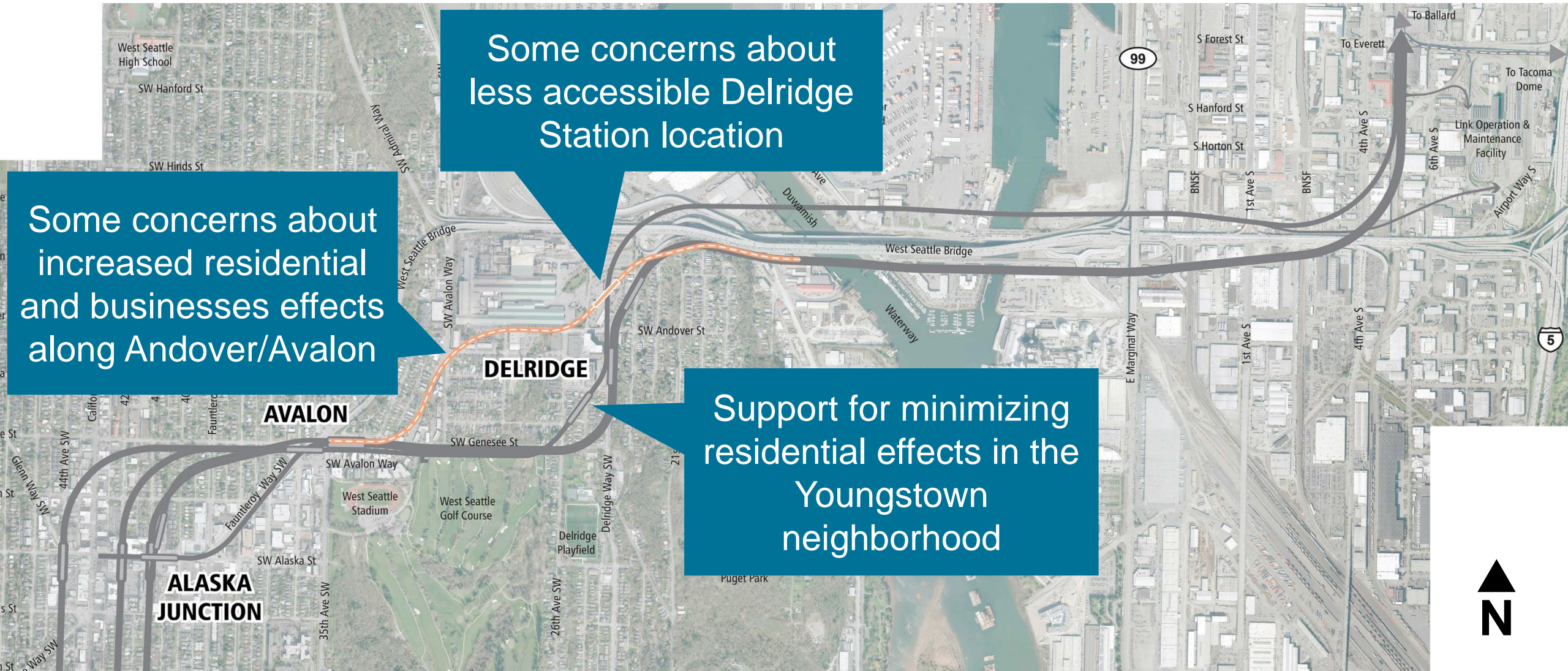
The Sound Transit Board will review the initial assessment results and community feedback in late October to determine whether any potential alternatives should be added to those previously identified for study in the Draft EIS. Below are the key differences between the potential alternatives and the alternatives previously studied in Level 3 of the alternatives development phase.

20th Ave Tunnel Ballard SODO Elevated Yancy/Andover Elevated **Pigeon Point Tunnel**

Pigeon Point Tunnel



What we have heard: *Yancy/Andover Elevated*



What we have heard: *Pigeon Point Tunnel*

Support for minimizing business and residential effects in Youngstown and Pigeon Point

Some concerns about construction and property impacts associated with tunneling through Pigeon Point

Concerns about additional cost and schedule

Support for further south Delridge Station location for better access

What we have heard: **SODO Double Elevated**

Interest in grade separated alignment, *without overpasses*, to minimize traffic, freight and business effects

Support for retaining the SODO busway

SODO

Some concerns about long-term service disruptions of existing link service during construction

Concerns about additional cost

S Holgate St

S Forest St

S Lander St

S Stacy St



What we have heard: SODO Partial Elevated (refinement)

Some support for lack of overpass at Lander

Support for retaining the SODO busway

SODO

S Holgate St



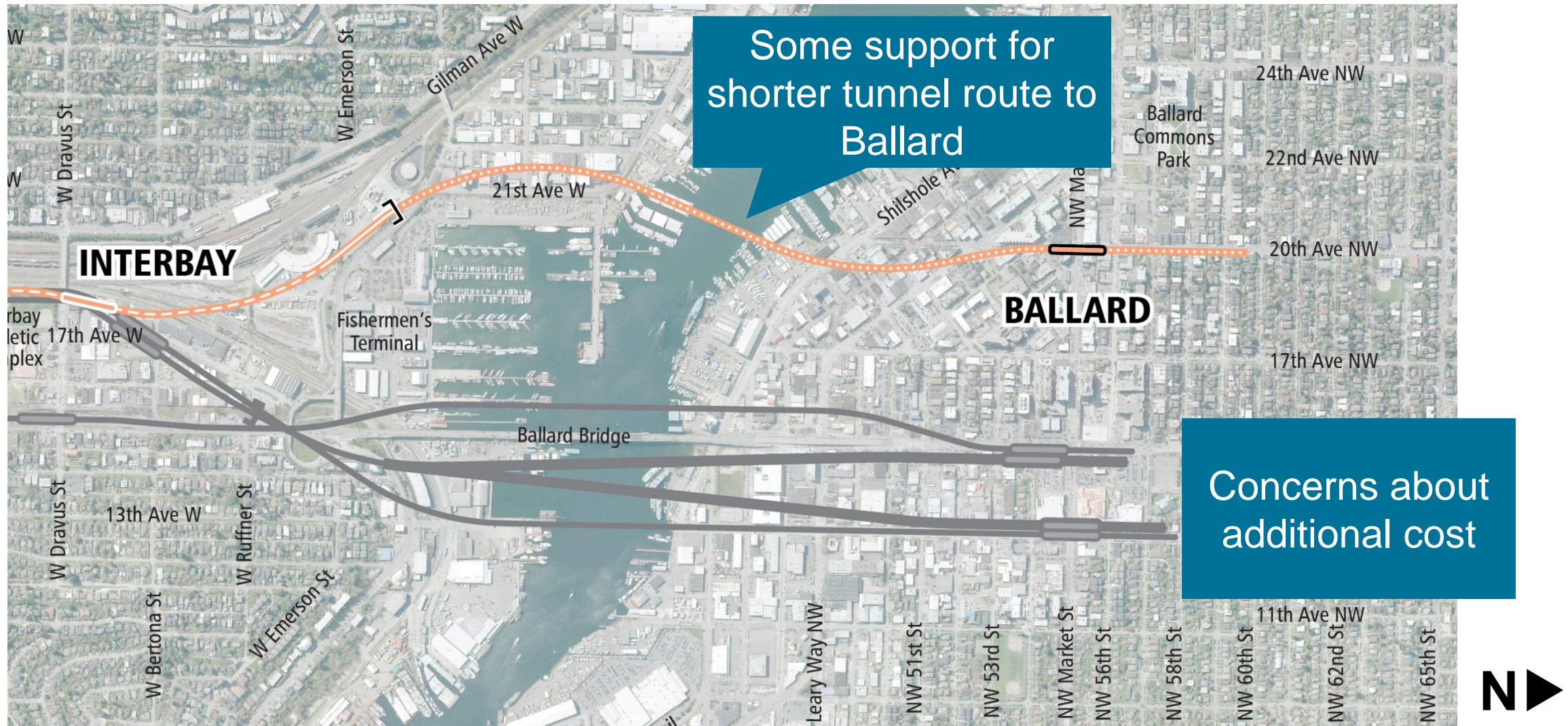
S Forest St

S Lander St

S Stacy St

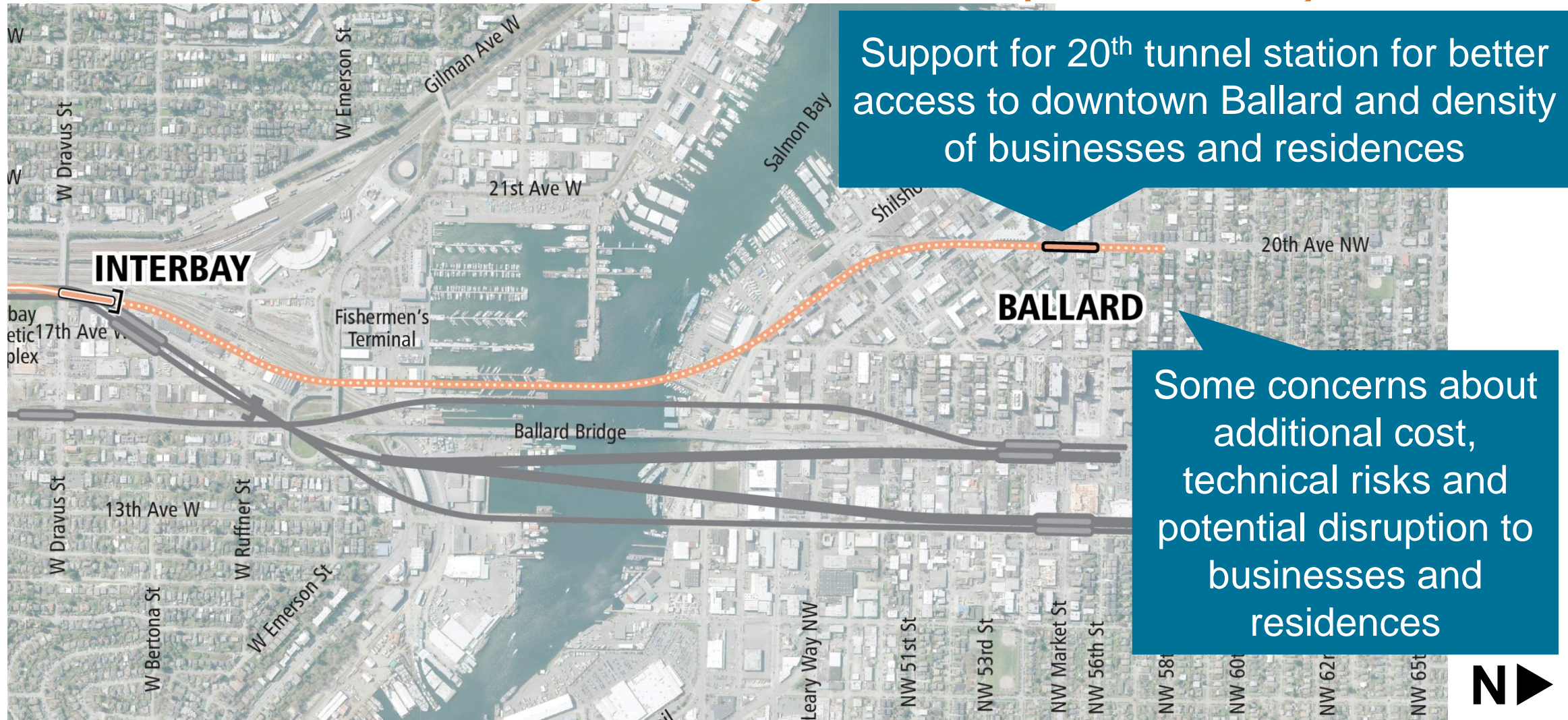
Concerns about additional cost and limited improvement to transit reliability compared to at-grade alternative

What we have heard: 20th Ave Tunnel Ballard – BNSF Portal



What we have heard:

20th Ave Tunnel Ballard – Thorndyke Portal (refinement)



FTA feedback

FTA general comments

- Concern with large number of alternatives:
 - Increase cost of technical analyses and EIS
 - Additional schedule to complete EIS
 - Many alternatives require 3rd party funding

FTA comments on specific alternatives

West Seattle

- Concern: Alternatives with high schedule risk
- Positive: Potential avoidance of Section 4(f) and historic properties

SODO

- Concern: Double elevated alternative shut down of Central Link service
- Concern: Alternatives with substantial impacts to US Postal Service facility
- Positive: Alternatives that maintain use of the E3 busway

Ballard

- Concern: Alternatives requiring substantial BNSF property
- Positive: Alternatives that avoid permanent in-water structures

Thank you.



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

