

West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

*JuNO
2/27/2020*

 **SOUNDTRANSIT**



System expansion

Sound Transit's system expansion means every few years new light rail, bus rapid transit and commuter rail stations open throughout the region, providing fast, reliable alternatives to congested roads

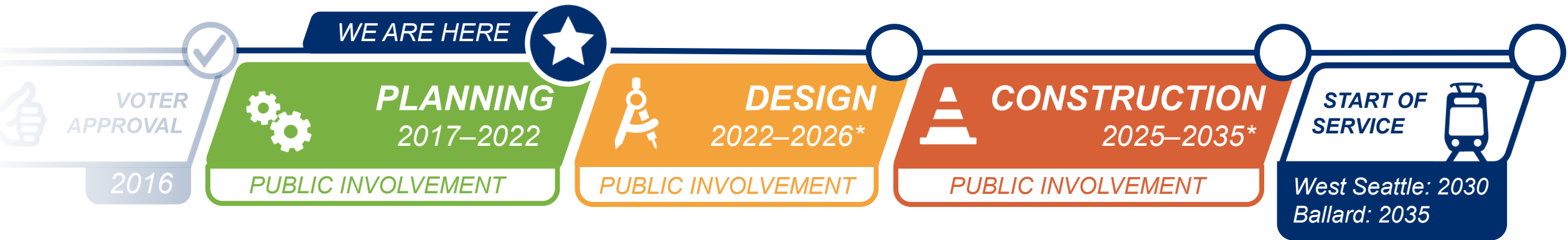


[soundtransit.org/system](https://www.soundtransit.org/system)



West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

Project timeline



PLANNING

2017–2019

Alternatives development

Feb–March 2018: Early scoping

Feb–April 2019: Scoping

May–Oct 2019: Board identifies preferred alternatives and other DEIS alternatives



2019–2022

Environmental review

Early 2021: Publish Draft EIS

Board confirms or modifies preferred alternatives

2022: Publish Final EIS

Board selects projects to be built

Federal Record of Decision

West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions

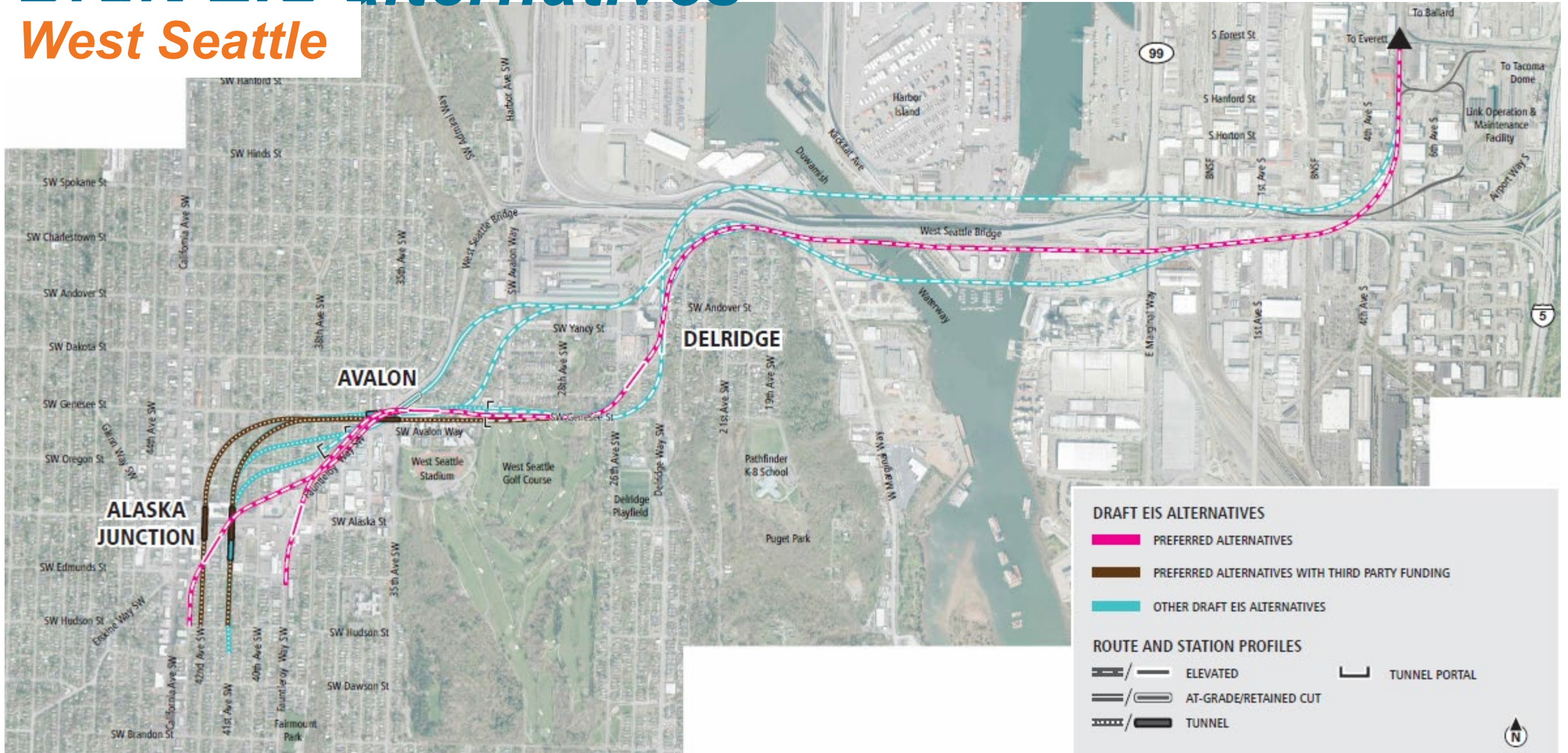
What we're studying in this phase

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



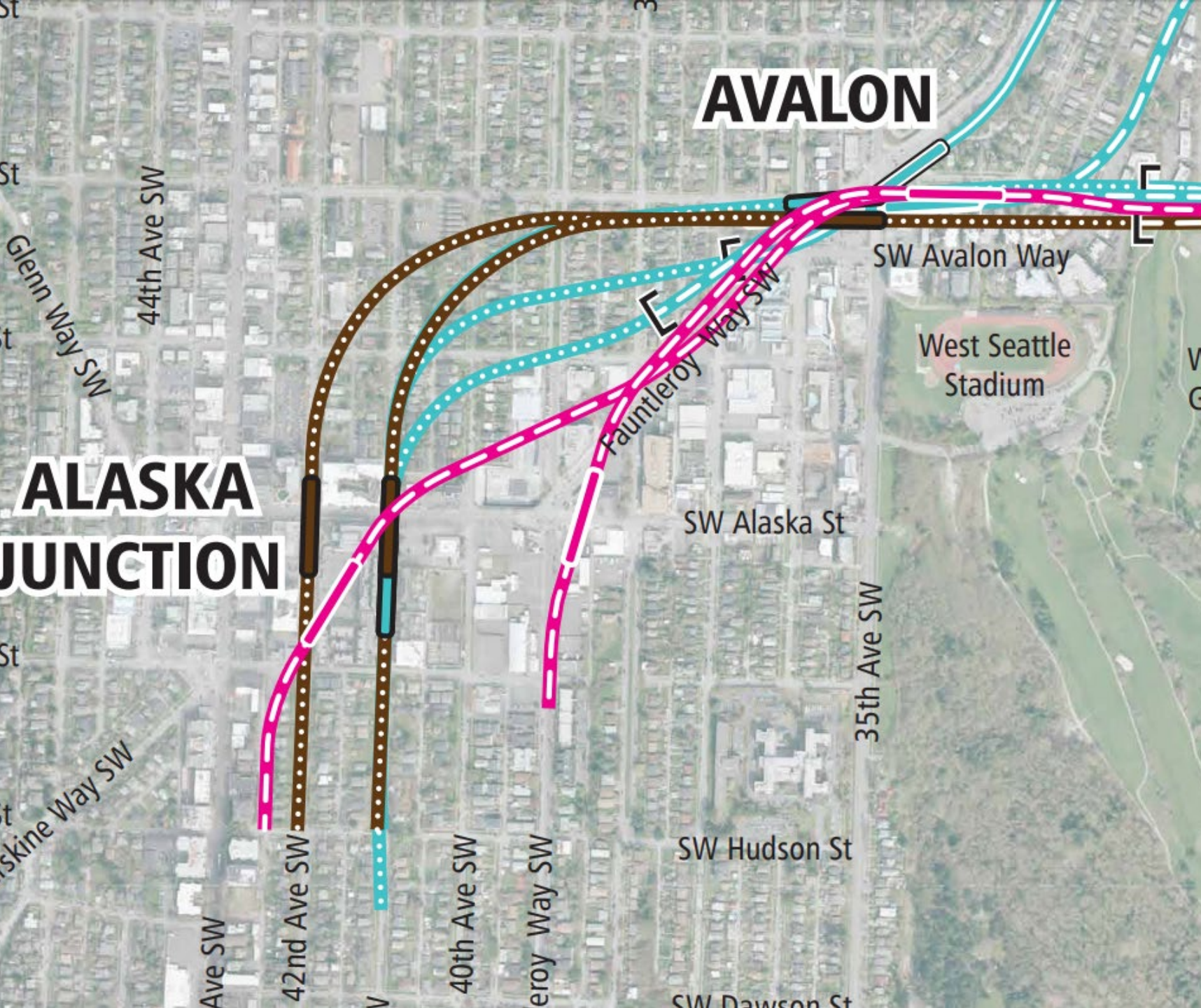
Draft EIS alternatives

West Seattle






Draft EIS alternatives

West Seattle



DRAFT EIS ALTERNATIVES

-  PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES
-  PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES WITH THIRD PARTY FUNDING
-  OTHER DRAFT EIS ALTERNATIVES

ROUTE AND STATION PROFILES

-  ELEVATED
-  AT-GRADE/RETAINED CUT
-  TUNNEL
-  TUNNEL PORTAL



Environmental review

So, what's an Environmental Impact Statement?

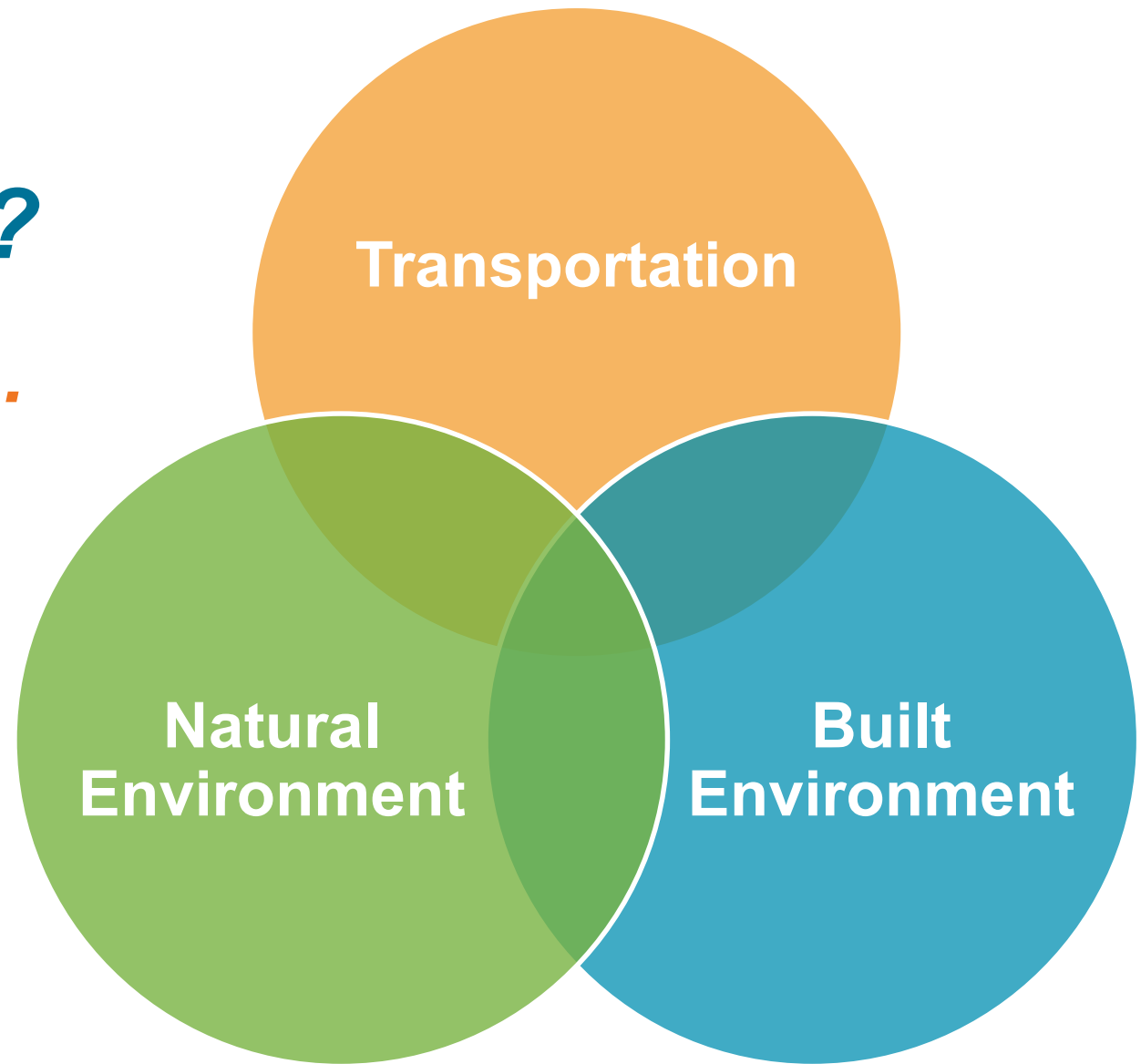
Or, "EIS" for short.

Provides agencies and the public an understanding of environmental consequences and assists in decision-making.

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- ✓ Scope
 - ✓ Range of alternatives
 - ✓ Potential impacts
 - ✓ Potential mitigation

What is typically studied in an EIS?

How a project affects...



EIS studies:

Transportation impacts

- ✓ Ridership
- ✓ Transit operations
- ✓ Regional and local traffic
- ✓ Non-motorized facilities and modes
- ✓ Freight movement
- ✓ Marine navigation
- ✓ Parking

EIS studies:

Natural environment impacts

- ✓ Air quality and greenhouse gas emissions
- ✓ Ecosystems and fish and wildlife habitat
- ✓ Water resources
- ✓ Geology and soils

EIS studies: Built environment impacts

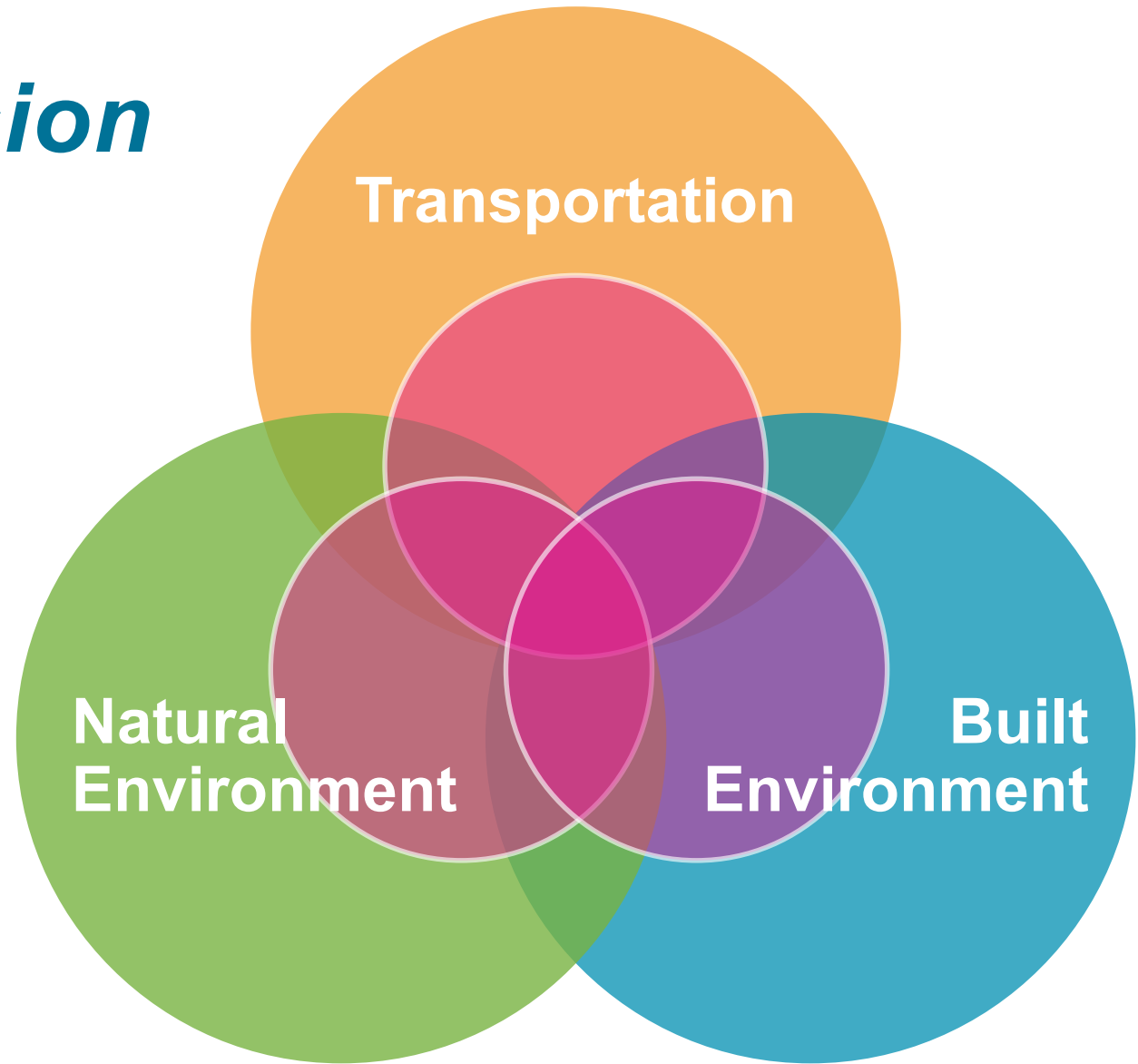
- ✓ Noise and vibration
- ✓ Economic effects
- ✓ Visual resources
- ✓ Parks resources
- ✓ Land use
- ✓ Acquisitions, displacements and relocations

EIS studies: Built environment impacts

- ✓ Energy use
- ✓ Hazardous materials
- ✓ Public services / utilities
- ✓ Impacts on low income and minority populations
- ✓ Cultural, historic and archaeological resources
- ✓ Neighborhoods and community facilities

Equity and inclusion

Environmental justice focus within each area of the EIS

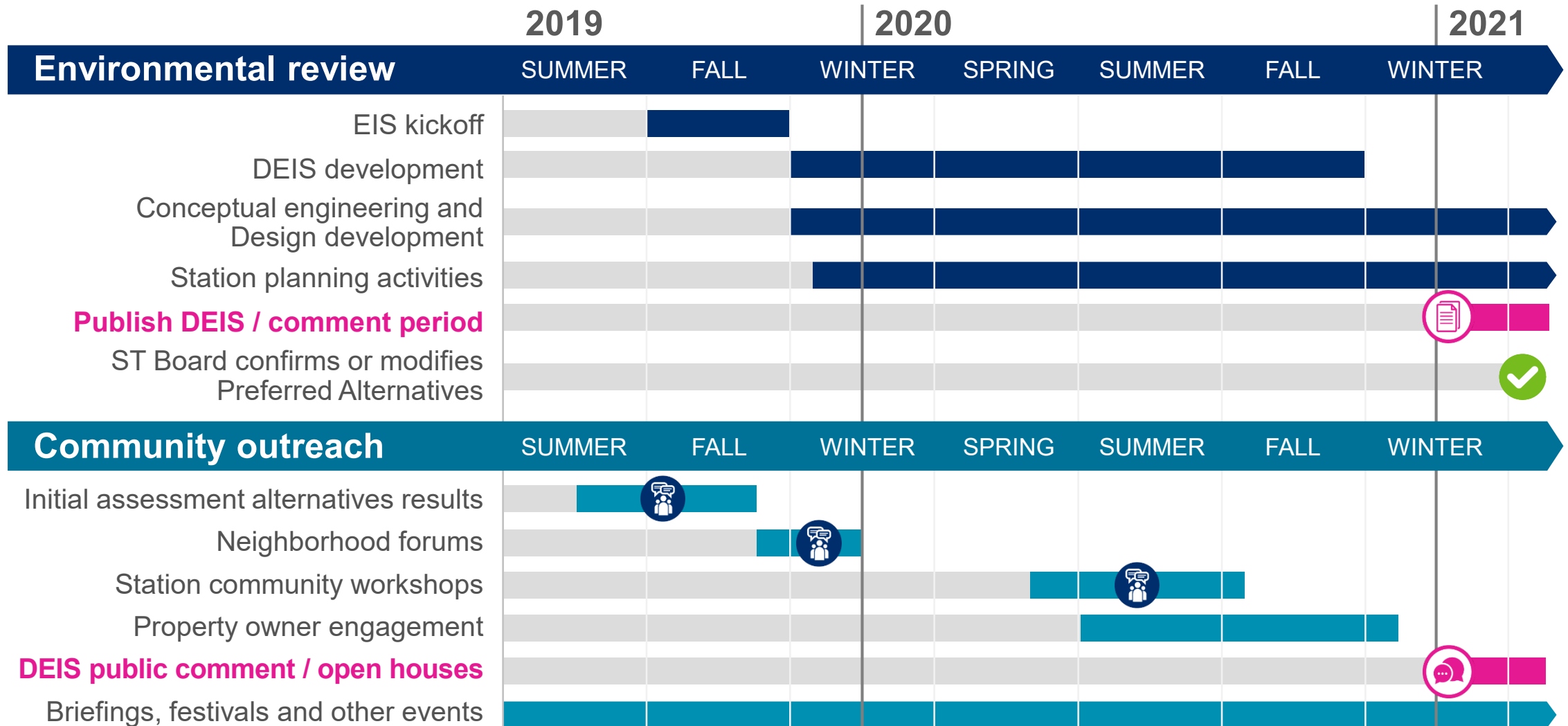


EIS studies:

Environmental justice

- ✓ Describes demographics
- ✓ Evaluates whether project disproportionately impacts minority and low-income communities
- ✓ Considers potential project benefits such as improved access to opportunity
- ✓ Documents what we hear from outreach efforts

Community outreach and collaboration



 *wsblink@soundtransit.org*
(206) 903-7229



soundtransit.org/wsblink

