



**Snohomish County**  
**Office of the Executive**  
**Aaron Reardon**  
*County Executive*

## **News Release– April 26, 2007**

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### **SOUND TRANSIT APPROVES SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXPANSION**

Executive Aaron Reardon today announced the Sound Transit (ST) Board has approved a motion to finalize the Sound Transit 2 Regional Transit System Plan that extends Sound Transit light rail lines north to the Ash Way/164<sup>th</sup> terminus, including transit stations at Mountlake Terrace, Lynnwood Transit Center, Alderwood, and Ash/164<sup>th</sup>. The ST motion adopted today also includes funding for a Mukilteo Station parking garage, a permanent station in Edmonds for Sounder Commuter Rail, and additional service hours for ST Express Bus service.

The Sound Transit 2 System Plan, and the expansion of light rail to the Ash Way/164<sup>th</sup> terminus, is a culmination of months of negotiations towards creating a three-county mass transit system connecting major population centers in Snohomish, King and Pierce Counties.

Reardon, a Sound Transit Board member, thanked Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels and the Snohomish and Seattle Sound Transit delegation for their cooperation in achieving the expansion to the Ash Way/164<sup>th</sup> terminus, “This is a major collaborative step forward to reduce transportation congestion, provide transit options, promote safety and improve mobility.”

The plan will substantially expand the regional mass transit system providing service for individuals traveling to and from Snohomish County, while providing relief to major traffic problem areas. In addition to expanding light rail, the ST2 plan prepares for potential high-capacity transit extensions in future phases by providing funds for a planning study from 164<sup>th</sup> Street/Ash Way to Everett.

Combined with the regional transportation investment district (RTID) package, Reardon says, “Snohomish County is making a strategic investment in our major corridors for the 21st century and beyond.”

The finalized Sound Transit package and the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID) projects will be placed on the November ballot for voter approval.

For additional information contact Katie Kuciemba, Snohomish County, 425.339.3783