



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXECUTIVE
Snohomish County, Washington**

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20-004

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL AND
COUNTY EXECUTIVE EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR SNOHOMISH COUNTY
LIGHT RAIL STATION PLANNING**

WHEREAS, in 2016, the voters in the Sound Transit District approved a package of regional transit improvements known as Sound Transit 3 (ST3); and

WHEREAS, ST3 includes an extension of Sound Transit's light rail system from Lynnwood to Everett, known as Everett Link, with funded stations in unincorporated Snohomish County at 164th St/I-5 (Ash Way) and 128th St/I-5 (Mariner); and

WHEREAS, ST3 includes a provisional station at Airport Rd/SR99 in unincorporated Snohomish County and the City of Everett that is dependent on the availability of funding; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit will evaluate several alternative alignments and station locations through the Everett Link Extension alternatives analysis and environmental review process which will be completed by 2025; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Sound Transit Board to make final alignment and station location decisions for the Everett Link Extension at the conclusion of the alternatives analysis and environmental review process; and

WHEREAS, the funded stations at Ash Way and Mariner and the provisional station at Airport Rd have the potential to significantly change the land use patterns and transportation networks in the unincorporated areas between Everett and Lynnwood; and

WHEREAS, early identification of locally favored station locations by Snohomish County is necessary to update the Snohomish County Comprehensive Plan in 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works and Planning and Development Services departments have begun a joint project, named Light Rail Communities, to provide the necessary planning for land use, transportation, and other county services necessary to support the Ash Way, Mariner, and Airport Rd light rail stations; and

WHEREAS, as a first phase of Light Rail Communities it is necessary to identify and evaluate potential station locations for the Mariner station and for the Ash Way station, prior to the Sound Transit Board selecting final station locations, for use in sub-area planning and the 2023 update to the Snohomish County Comprehensive Plan; and

WHEREAS, a consultant team was hired to identify potential locations, provide a market analysis of potential residential and commercial development, evaluate land use opportunities, evaluate transit, non-motorized and other transportation access, develop conceptual designs for the potential station areas, and assist county staff with the public outreach efforts; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County will plan for the Airport Rd/SR 99 station through the subarea planning phase of the Light Rail Communities project; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of Snohomish County that information generated by the Light Rail Communities project, including its locally favored station locations, be considered by Sound Transit as it makes decisions based on its own alternatives evaluation, public outreach, and environmental review processes for the Everett Link project; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County will update planning documents after the Sound Transit Board makes final alignment and station location decisions so to remain consistent with the Sound Transit system plan; and

WHEREAS, a robust public and stakeholder outreach process was held that included:

- Four stakeholder workshops,
- Three meetings of the Agency Support Team including representatives from the Cities of Everett, Lynnwood, Mill Creek and Mukilteo, Community Transit, Sound Transit, Everett Transit, and the Washington Department of Transportation,
- Three on-line open houses, available in 10 languages, with over 7000 total participants and over 700 comments submitted,
- Two on-site open houses,
- Fifty other meetings and presentations with stakeholders and the public; and

WHEREAS, at the beginning of the planning study 14 potential sites for the Ash Way and Mariner stations were identified and through an 18-month process the consultant team determined that 2 sites rose above the rest:

- In the Mariner area, a location on a new 130th St SW between 8th Ave W and 4th Ave W,
- In the Ash Way area, a location east of I-5 and near 164th St SW;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council and County Executive do hereby:

1. Support a station location on a new 130th St SW between 8th Ave W and 4th Ave W, as the locally favored option for the Mariner light rail station;
2. Support a station location east of I-5 near 164th St SW as the locally favored option for the Ash Way light rail station;
3. Support of use of these locally favored options for planning purposes including the 2023 update to the Snohomish County Comprehensive Plan;
4. Request that Sound Transit include the county's locally favored options in their Everett Link Extension alternatives analysis process;
5. Support the inclusion of a light rail station at Airport Rd/SR 99 in Sound Transit planning for the Everett Link Extension and in county's subarea and comprehensive planning;
6. Express their understanding that the Sound Transit Board will make the final determination of station locations and alignment for the Everett Link Extension based on the alternatives analysis and EIS process conducted by Sound Transit.

APPROVED this 18th day of February, 2020.

Nate Nehring
Council Chair

Dave Somers
County Executive

Stephanie Wright
Council Vice-Chair

Sam Low
Councilmember

Megan Dunn
Councilmember

ATTEST: _____
Debbie Eco, CMC
Clerk of the Council