

Modern Streetcar Study



Presented to the
City Council

By the
Planning and Development Department

June 17, 2008

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Purpose

- Provide an **overview** of proposed Modern Streetcar Study.
- Answer **questions** and receive **comments**.



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Commuter/Regional Rail

Typical Characteristics

Station spacing: 2 to 5 miles

Power source: Diesel or diesel-electric engine

Right-of-way: Dedicated or shared with freight rail

Cost per mile: \$5-20 million



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Light Rail

Typical Characteristics

Station spacing: 0.5 to 2 miles

Power source: Overhead electric

Right-of-way: Dedicated

Cost per mile: \$30-70 million



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Modern Streetcar

Typical Characteristics

Station spacing: 2 to 4 blocks

Power source: Overhead electric

Right-of-way: Dedicated or shared with automobiles

Cost per mile: \$16-40 million



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Bus Rapid Transit

Typical Characteristics

Station spacing: Varies

Power source: Bus engine or overhead electric

Right-of-way: Dedicated or shared with automobiles

Cost per mile: \$2-25 million



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Modern Streetcar Study Committee

Staff recommends 15-member study committee:

- 8 Council appointees
- 7 Mayoral appointees



Target date for appointment of committee: June 30.

Target date for completion of study: December 31.

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Study Committee Tasks

Committee tasks:

- Review Fort Worth's **previous light rail transit studies**;
- Review light rail and streetcar systems in **peer cities**;
- Conduct a preliminary assessment of **costs and benefits**, including potential **funding** sources; and
- Determine if the streetcar system is **worth pursuing** at this time.



Modern Streetcars for Fort Worth
An Update on Transit Planning & Proposed Implementation Strategy

Prepared by the Transit Sub-Committee
Fort Worth Central City Redevelopment Committee 11.14.2007

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Study Committee Tasks (cont.)

If the study committee determines that a streetcar system is desirable for Fort Worth, they would perform these **additional tasks**:

- Identify the **starter corridor**.
- Identify potential **funding sources** and prepare a preliminary **funding strategy**.
- Identify **next steps** for implementation.



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Fact-Finding Trips Trip #1: Dallas

Interested City Council, T Executive Committee and Study Committee Members

- Ride **TRE** to Dallas.
- Visit **DART stations** for TOD examples.
- Receive briefing on **Dallas streetcar** plans and implementation.



Target date: July 17.

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Fact-Finding Trips

Trip #2: Pacific Northwest

Interested City Council, T Executive Committee and Study Committee Members



Portland



Seattle



Tacoma

Target date to be determined, perhaps in late September or October.

Portland Streetcar



Portland Streetcar (cont.)

- Service
 - Started: **2001**
 - Weekday ridership: over **11,800**
 - Annual ridership: **3.6 million**
 - **8-mile** continuous loop
 - **46** stations
 - **12-minute** headways
 - Stations spaced every **3 to 4** blocks
 - **Connects** with the MAX regional light rail system



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Portland Streetcar (cont.)

- Cost
 - Total capital expenditures to date: **\$103.2 million** for **4 miles** double-tracked.
 - **\$12.9 million** per track mile
 - **\$146 million** Loop Project to extend streetcar service an additional **3.3 miles**.
- Funding
 - Local improvement districts
 - Tax increment financing district
 - Parking revenues
 - Parking garage bonds

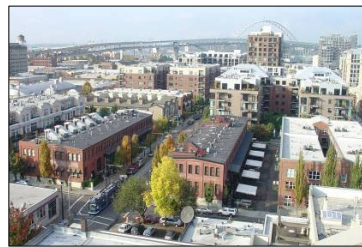


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Portland Streetcar (cont.)

- Economic Development

- Over **\$3 billion** invested in development along route since 1997.
- **Pearl District** and **South Waterfront** District revitalized.
- Developers constructed projects at:
 - **90 percent** of allowable density within **one block** of streetcar route,
 - 75 percent within two blocks and
 - 40 percent three blocks and further away.



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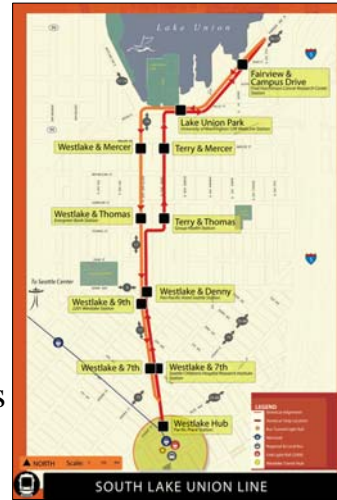
Seattle South Lake Union Streetcar



Seattle South Lake Union Streetcar (cont.)

- Service

- Started: **2007**
- Projected 2008 ridership: **380,000**
- Projected future annual ridership: **1.1 million**
- **1.3-mile** route; double-tracked
- **11** stations
- **15** minute headways
- Stations spaced every **2 to 4** blocks
- Plans to **expand** streetcar service throughout central city



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Seattle South Lake Union Streetcar (cont.)

- Cost

- Total capital expenditures to date: **\$47.7 million** for **1.3 miles** double tracked.



- Funding

- Local improvement districts
- Federal and State grants
- Sale of development rights
- Property sales proceeds



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Seattle South Lake Union Streetcar (cont.)

- Economic Development
 - **2.4 million** square feet of commercial space
 - **1,850** housing units
 - **7,000** jobs created
 - Major employers:
 - Amazon Corporate Headquarters
 - Microsoft
 - University of Washington Medical Research Center
 - Cancer Research Center



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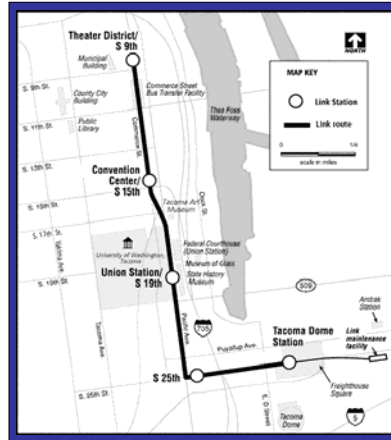
Tacoma—Link Streetcar



Tacoma—Link Streetcar (cont.)

- Service

- Started: **2003**
- Annual Ridership: **900,000**
- **1.3-mile** route; partially double-tracked
- **5** stations
- **15** minute headways
- Built to be **compatible** with Sound Transit **Light Rail** System
- **Free** to ride



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Tacoma—Link Streetcar (cont.)

- Cost

- Total cost: **\$78.2** million for 1.3 miles double-tracked
 - Construction costs higher due to being built to Light Rail standards

- Funding

- Voter approved, \$3.9 billion Sound Transit regional bus and rail plan

- Economic Development

- 2,000 residential units permitted adjacent to the route



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Rail and Development Conference

One-day conference on **passenger rail systems** and associated **development opportunities**.

- Regional Rail Systems
 - SW2NE rail project
 - Future expansion
- Modern Streetcar Systems
 - National examples of streetcar systems
 - Report from Modern Streetcar Study Committee
 - Funding options
- Transit-Oriented Development
 - Local and national examples

Target date to be determined, perhaps in late October or November. 23

Questions?

Comments?