

Project title: Transit Consolidation Briefing.

Council Bill # *interoffice use*

Agenda dates requested:

1/31/24

Briefing X
Proposed action
Consent
Action
Ordinance
Public hearing
Yes X No

Budget amendment:

Yes x No

PowerPoint presentation:

x Yes No

Attachments:

Department(s) involved:

Transit, Administration

Contact person:

Tom Hingson

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thingson@everettwa.gov

Initialed by:

Department head

Administration

Council President

Project: Exploration of Consolidation of Everett Transit and Community Transit

Partner/Supplier: Community Transit

Location:

Preceding action:

Fund: NA

Fiscal summary statement: NA

Project summary statement:

City staff, along with Community Transit staff, will provide a briefing an update on the discussions and work around a Transit Consolidation Study.

Recommendation (exact action requested of Council):

Receive update and briefing on status of exploration of transit consolidation.

More Transit
Together

More Transit Together - Transit Consolidation Study

communitytransit


EVERETT
WASHINGTON


EVERETT TRANSIT

Jan. 31, 2024

Background

In 2018, Everett Transit completed its first long range plan.

In 2019, Everett's City Council initiated the evaluation of transit services provided by Everett Transit. The City's Rethink Transit study considered three options for future provision of transit service in Everett: status quo (no change), growth, and growth through consolidation.

In 2022, at the direction of the Everett City Council, staff and a joint policy committee made up of elected officials from Everett and the Community Transit Board of Directors began to study the third option, growth through consolidation.

What is the transit consolidation study?

Joint study between the City of Everett, Everett Transit, and Community Transit funded by a state Transit Coordination Grant.

Studies what a consolidated transit system could look like if Everett Transit and Community Transit joined forces.

Considers the potential benefits and other key considerations for fixed-route bus service, paratransit, and beyond, preparing for the extension of Link light rail to Everett.

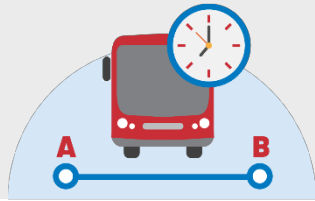
Planned for community input in 2025. The City of Everett has not yet decided whether to seek city voters' approval of a consolidation.

What's been studied?

- Draft of consolidated transit system
- Board governance
- Fleets and facilities
- Fares
- Branding
- Paratransit service

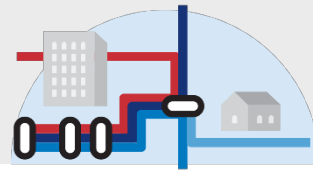
Based on Rethink Everett Transit,

What do we want a consolidated transit system to accomplish?



More Service

Make transit be **more frequent**, have **shorter wait times**, require **fewer transfers**, run **later at night**, and be **faster and more direct**



More Destinations

Provide service to **more places** and **shorter walks** to stops



More Possibilities

Provide service for people who **rely on transit** more, connect to **more job centers and destinations**, and connect to more **regional service**

What is the roadmap for this study?



Service in Everett today

Everett Transit service

- 10 total bus routes
- 3 routes with all-day service every 30 minutes or better
- 3 routes with service until 9 p.m. or later

Community Transit service

- Swift Blue Line to Everett Station
- Swift Green Line to Seaway Transit Center
- Stops at key transit centers for routes traveling through Everett



What could the Consolidated Transit System look like?

Nearly 2x the amount of bus service

15 total bus routes in Everett (+5 routes)

Buses that come more often all day

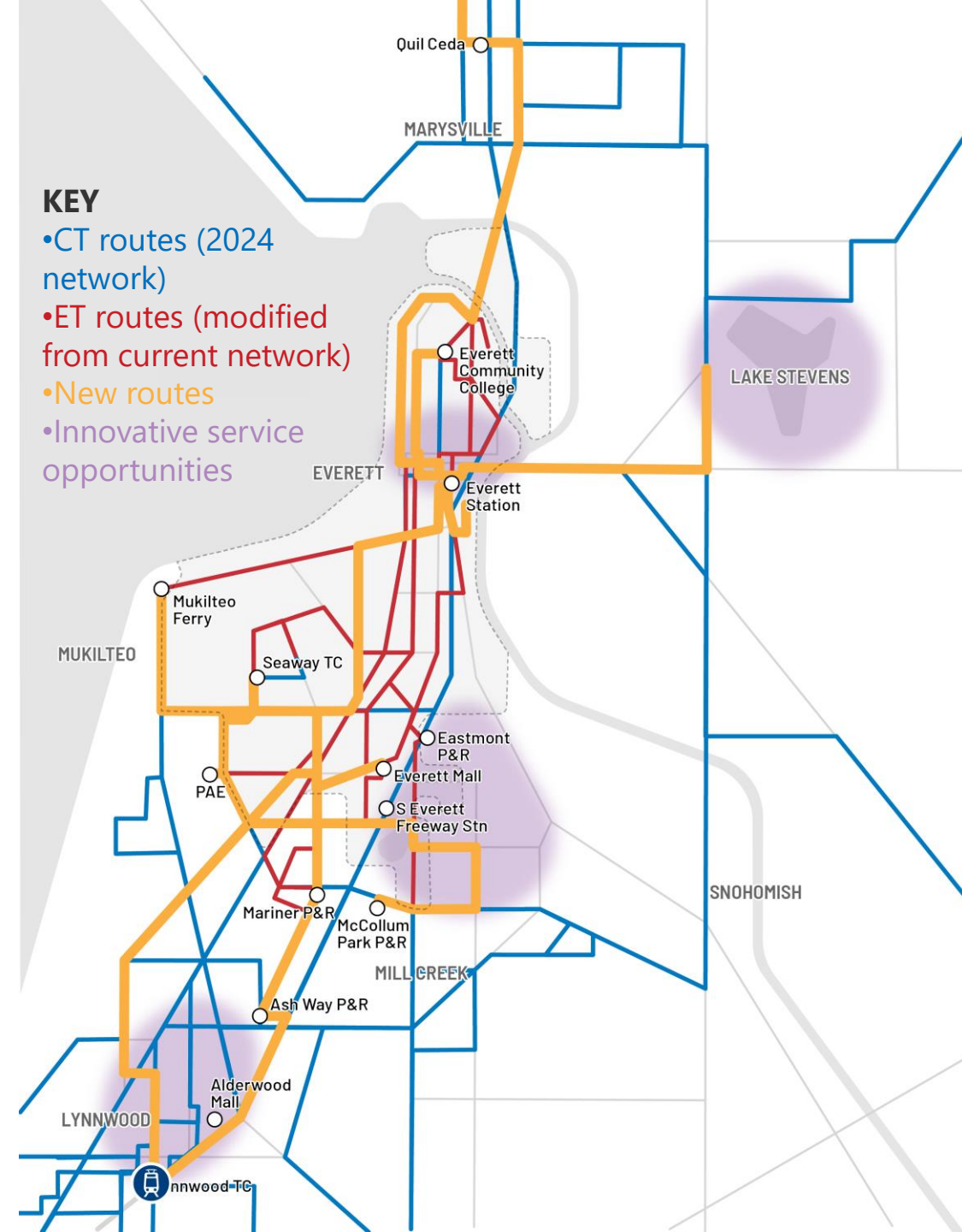
14 routes with all-day service every 30 minutes or better (+11 routes)

Better transit access at night

15 routes with service until 9 p.m. or later (+12 routes)

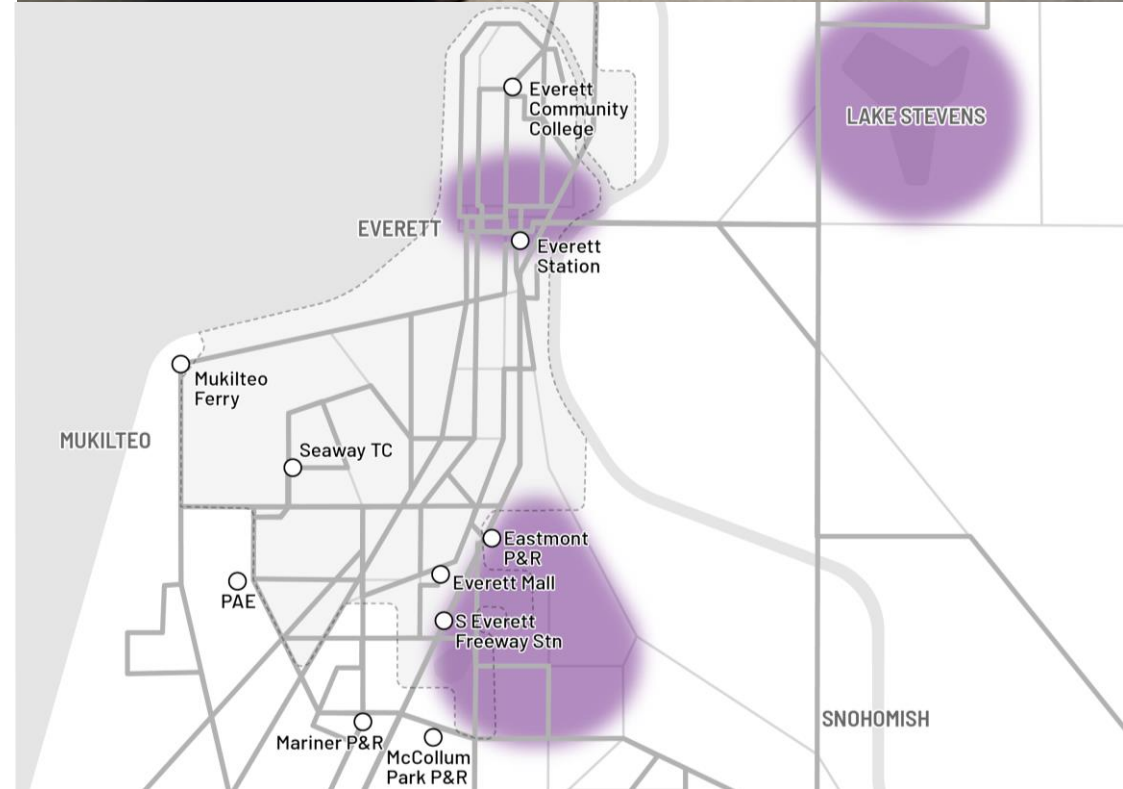
Better regional connections

More access to **surrounding communities** and direct services to **light rail**



Innovative service opportunities

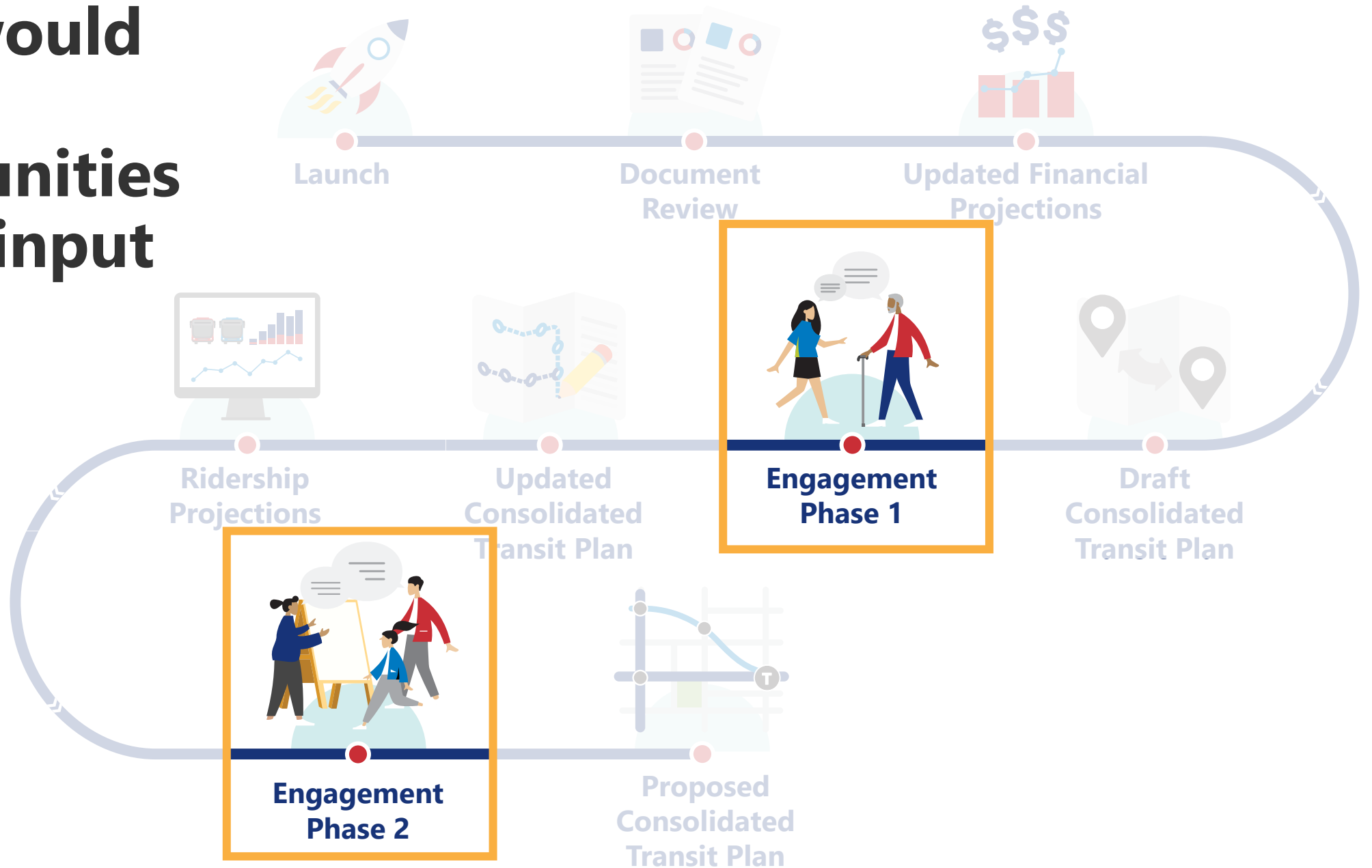
- Expand the reach of fixed-route transit
- Examples: CT Zip Alderwood Shuttle
- Two innovative service zones recommended in Everett:
 - Downtown Everett
 - Eastmont/Silver Lake



Next steps

- Initial status updates:
 - Everett City Council (Jan. 31)
 - Community Transit Board of Directors (Feb. 1)
 - Joint ATU unions (Feb. 2)
- Updates with stakeholders (Feb. 2 - June, 2024)
- Broad community engagement (2025)

There would be two opportunities to give input in 2025



How the community can get involved in 2025



Pop-up Events in the Community



Project Website



Social Pinpoint Map to View and Comment on Changes



Community Workshop



Online Community Survey



What's the decision-making process for a potential consolidation?

- Everett City Council would decide whether to propose consolidation. **No decisions have been made about whether to seek those approvals.**
- If the council decides to propose consolidation:
 - Council would call for an election within the city.
 - Community Transit's Board of Directors would need to approve a proposed consolidation.
 - City voters would then make the final decision by casting their votes on a ballot measure.

Thank You!