

# Seamless, Statewide Transportation

All Aboard Washington  
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February 24, 2022

**IT TAKES  
TRANSPORTATION**

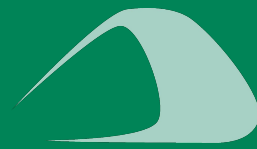
# What is World-Class Transportation?





# It's More Than Just Trains





## **It Really Boils Down to One Simple Question**

**Is it reasonably easy to  
get from here to there?**

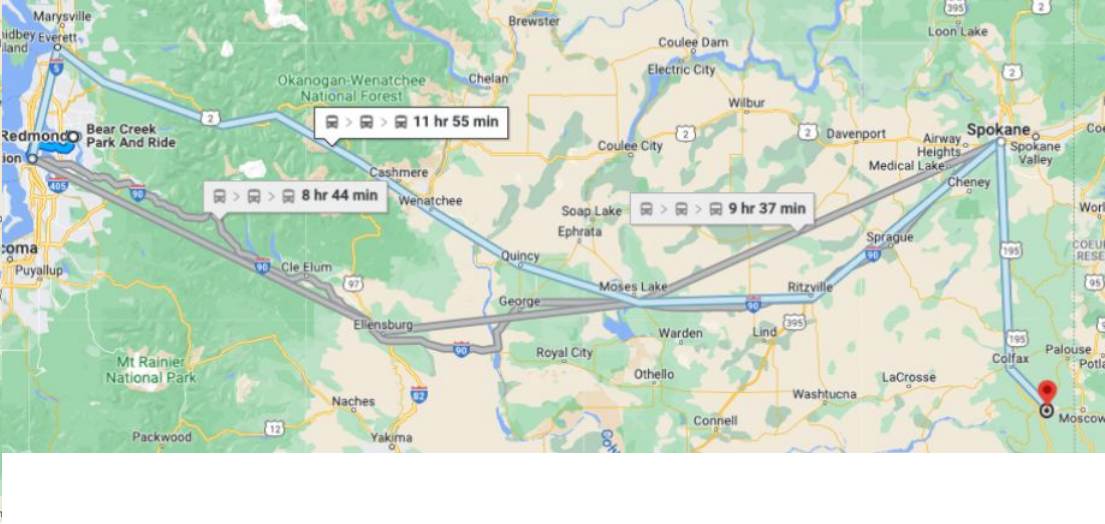
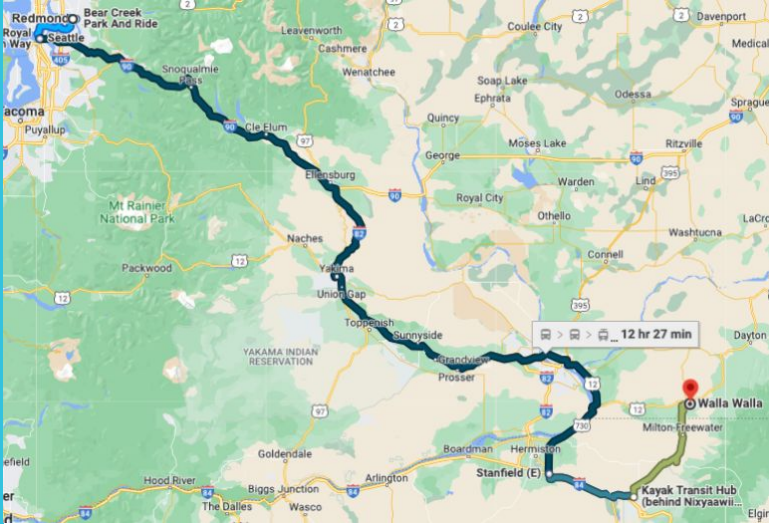
# Far Too Often, It Isn't Easy At All

Walla Walla: 12 hours 17 minutes  
(leaving at 6:19 AM)

Pullman: 11 hours 55 minutes  
(leaving at 7:20 AM)

Driving: 4 hours 25 minutes

4 hours 45 minutes





# How About High Speed Rail?



Great, but will it get you to Pullman or Walla Walla, and sometime before 2040?

## We Support High Speed Rail as Part of an Integrated System

- The High Speed Rail Alliance envisions an [integrated network approach](#) including high-speed, regional and shared-use lines.
- Almost all high-speed rail systems—including China, Japan and most of Europe—have been built on a foundation of a robust conventional rail system.

# How Do We Get To High-Speed Rail?

- Get more frequent and faster trains running as soon as possible on the existing infrastructure.
- Start planning now for high-speed rail in twenty years.



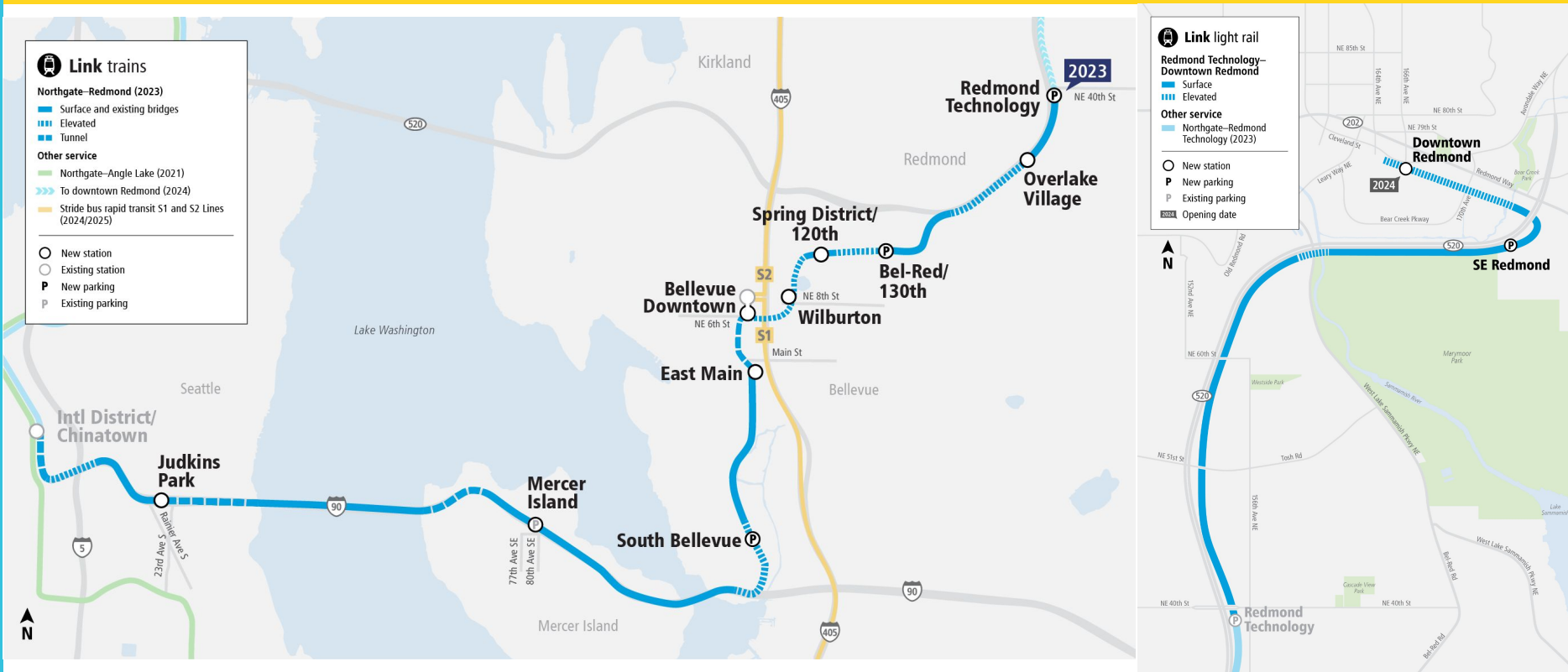
# Options Available Today

- Amtrak *Cascades* to Eugene, Portland, and Vancouver, BC (restarting in June)
- *Sounder* to Everett and Tacoma
- Amtrak *Coast Starlight* to Los Angeles
- Amtrak *Empire Builder* to Chicago





# Easier Local Connections Coming Soon

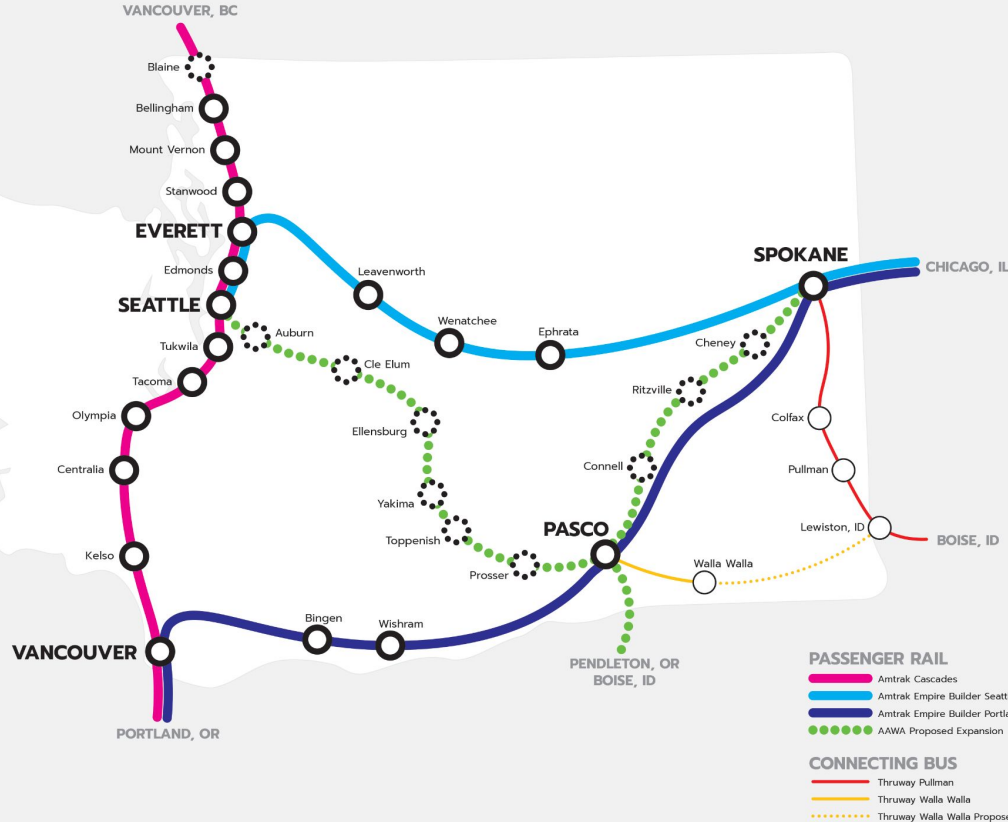


## Our Vision

A transportation network that:

- Provides **seamless**, door-to-door connectivity for our region's people and goods
- Offers **economic, environmental, and equity benefits** to all communities

# WASHINGTON VISION MAP



## Our Vision

- Frequent Amtrak trains crossing the entire Northwest
- More stations
- A competitive freight rail system
- Better connections to other modes



# Economy, Environment, Equity

Rail is an ideal option for addressing ‘the 3 Es’



## Economy

Intercity passenger trains help strengthen local economies across the Northwest.



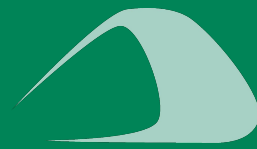
## Environment

Intercity passenger trains provide low-emissions regional transportation.



## Equity

Intercity passenger trains connect communities small and large.

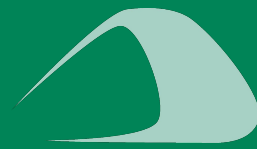


## **Economic Benefits**

Easy travel options help strengthen local economies throughout the Northwest.

On average, communities receive \$84 per day-trip visitor, and \$366 per overnight visitor, according to Experience Washington.

**ECONOMIC JUSTICE  
TAKES TRANSPORTATION**



## Environmental Benefits

Rail is the optimal low-impact freight and passenger ground transportation option.

Rail does not contribute to [salmon die-off related to tires.](#)



# Equity Benefits

A good freight and passenger rail network contributes to high quality of life in our region for everyone.

- **Improves reach** of local services
- **Expands access** for all communities





# AAWA's 2022 Legislative Priorities

1. **Restore Pre-Pandemic Rail Services**
2. **Expand Research on a Complete, Statewide Passenger and Freight Rail Network**
  - Follow in [Virginia's footsteps](#)
3. **Form a Washington Rail Advisory Committee**
  - Give rail users and stakeholders a louder voice, similar to the [Ferry Riders Opinion Group](#) and [organizations in other states](#)
4. **Improve Rail Safety**
  - [HB 1418](#)

# How You Can Help

- 1. Ask Legislators to Support Local Match Funding for IIJA**
  - Flexible match funds prepare us for federal grants
- 2. Rethink the Conversation on Transportation and Access**
  - Be open-minded, discuss a broad list of ideas
- 3. Priority Projects List**
  - Locally-supported projects to bring to Olympia
- 4. Support AAWA!**

# Thank You!

Support AAWA's Work and Vision

(360) 529-5552

[aawa.us/support](https://aawa.us/support)

