



Full Ballard Link Line May Not Be Completed Until 2060

Description

Construction of the Ballard Link light rail in Seattle could begin by 2042. This is the best-case scenario. If things go poorly, it could take until 2060 to finish.

Sound Transit, the agency in charge, said there are big financial problems. They have a shortfall of \$7 to \$9 billion. Due to this, they will first build sections between South Downtown and Seattle Center. The other stops will wait.

This news comes because Seattle Councilmember Dan Strauss asked for a timeline. Many people want Sound Transit to be clearer about their plans. Other projects are already postponed because of money issues, but Ballard Link still has uncertain dates.

The schedule for the second light rail tunnel under Downtown Seattle also changed. It is now set to open in 2042.

Sound Transit is looking for ways to save money and find new funding. They hope to progress in the next few years. They want to avoid a long wait and complete the project as soon as possible.

Vocabulary List:

1. **construction** //kən'strʌkʃən// (noun): building of structures like roads or rail
2. **scenario** //sə'neəriə// (noun): a possible future situation or plan
3. **shortfall** //ˈʃɔrtfɔl// (noun): an amount of money that is missing
4. **timeline** //ˈtaɪmˌlaɪn// (noun): a plan showing when things will happen
5. **postponed** //pəʊst'pəʊnd// (adjective): delayed and planned for a later time
6. **funding** //ˈfʌndɪŋ// (noun): money used to pay for a project

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. When could the construction of the Ballard Link light rail potentially begin?

Option: 2025



- Option: 2042
- Option: 2060
- Option: 2030

2. What is the estimated shortfall for Sound Transit?

- Option: \$2 to \$4 billion
- Option: \$5 to \$6 billion
- Option: \$7 to \$9 billion
- Option: \$10 billion

3. Which sections will be built first for the Ballard Link light rail?

- Option: South Downtown and Seattle Center
- Option: North Seattle and Ballard
- Option: Downtown and Bellevue
- Option: University District and Capitol Hill

4. What year is the second light rail tunnel under Downtown Seattle now set to open?

- Option: 2025
- Option: 2030
- Option: 2042
- Option: 2050

5. Who asked Sound Transit for a timeline regarding the project?

- Option: Seattle Mayor
- Option: Dan Strauss
- Option: Governor of Washington
- Option: City Council

6. What does Sound Transit hope to find to help with the project?

- Option: New partners
- Option: Savings and new funding
- Option: More contractors
- Option: Technological advancements

True-False

7. The construction of Ballard Link light rail is expected to start in 2040.



8. Sound Transit faces a financial shortfall.
9. All stops for the Ballard Link light rail will be built at the same time.
10. Dan Strauss is a Seattle Councilmember.
11. The proposed second light rail tunnel under Downtown Seattle is now set to open in 2040.
12. Sound Transit plans to complete the project quickly.

Gap-Fill

13. Construction of the Ballard Link light rail could begin by _____ in the best-case scenario.
14. Sound Transit has a financial shortfall of _____ billion.
15. The first sections to be built are between South Downtown and _____ Center.
16. The schedule for the second light rail tunnel under Downtown Seattle also _____ changed.
17. This news comes because Seattle Councilmember Dan Strauss asked for a _____.
18. Sound Transit is looking for ways to save money and find _____ funding.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 2042 2. \$7 to \$9 billion 3. South Downtown and Seattle Center 5. Dan Strauss 6. Savings and new funding

True-False: 7. False 8. True 9. False 10. True 11. False 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 2042 14. 7 to 9 15. Seattle 16. has 17. timeline 18. new

CATEGORY

1. Business - LEVEL1

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