

Prop. 1: What you pay, what you get

Proposition 1, on the ballot Nov. 6 urban areas of King, Pierce and Snohomish counties, is the biggest local transportation tax measure in state history. It promises 186 miles of new road lanes, 50 miles of light rail, several park-and-ride stations, and partial funding for a new Highway 520 floating bridge.

Proponents are asking voters to commit to a generation's worth of projects. They say the region needs to prepare for more than 1 million newcomers by 2030, around the time all the work would be finished. Opponents say the cost is too high, the rail projects won't ease congestion, and the road lanes add to global warming.

What you would pay:

New sales and car-tab taxes would cost the average household somewhere around \$200 to \$300 in the first year, rising with inflation. These taxes could be reduced in the late 2030s — if projects stay on schedule and on budget.

SALES TAX

Current tax on a \$10 purchase: **89 cents***

Increase for Sound Transit: **5 cents**
Increase for roads: **1 cent**

* The current sales tax ranges from 85 cents to 89 cents (rates of 8.5 to 8.9 percent) on a \$10 purchase, in urban Snohomish, King or Pierce counties. That includes an existing Sound Transit sales tax of 4 cents per \$10 purchase.

CAR TAX

Car-tab taxes for roads would increase \$80 a year per \$10,000 of vehicle value. Motorists already pay a smaller car-tab tax for Sound Transit, a \$30 state fee, and weight fees.

Existing taxes on a typical*

\$10,000 vehicle to be paid in 2008: **\$86**

Increase: **\$80**

* Example is 2005 four-door Honda Civic

TOTAL \$17.8 BILLION

(Plan was devised in 2006, so all figures are in 2006 dollars)

The total rises to \$38 billion with inflation, operating costs, short-term financing and overhead through 2027, when the projects are to be completed. An oft-cited \$47 billion figure includes debt payments, but not operating costs, after 2027.

Where the money would go:

ROADS \$7 BILLION

The plan would add lanes in several spots throughout the region where projects are not already funded by state gas taxes. Even with Proposition 1 money, a new Highway 520 bridge — one of the largest road projects — would still require tolls and gas taxes.

SOUND TRANSIT \$10.8 BILLION

Most Proposition 1 money would pay for light rail. One early version of the plan called for 30 miles of rail, but public comments spurred Sound Transit to propose 50 miles, reaching Tacoma and Snohomish County. An Eastside segment would reach Microsoft, but stop short of downtown Redmond.

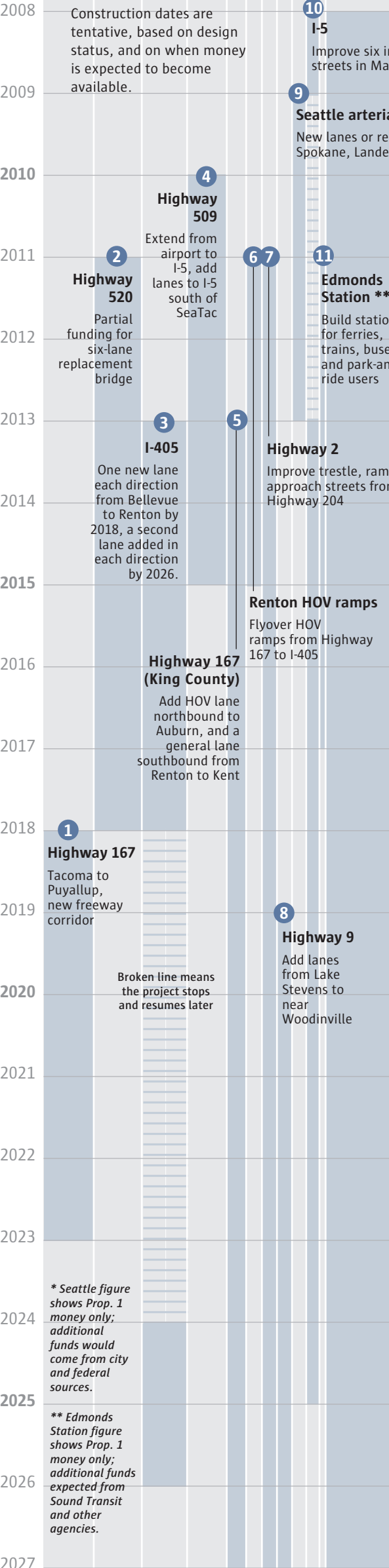
How the money would be allocated:

Figures have been rounded

YEAR	\$1 BILLION	972 MIL.	904 MIL.	798 MIL.	391 M.	316 M.	306 M.	304 M.	289 M.	256 M.	122 M.	OTHER
2007												1.31

Estimated timelines for projects:

Construction dates are tentative, based on design status, and on when money is expected to become available.



* Seattle figure shows Prop. 1 money only; additional funds would come from city and federal sources.

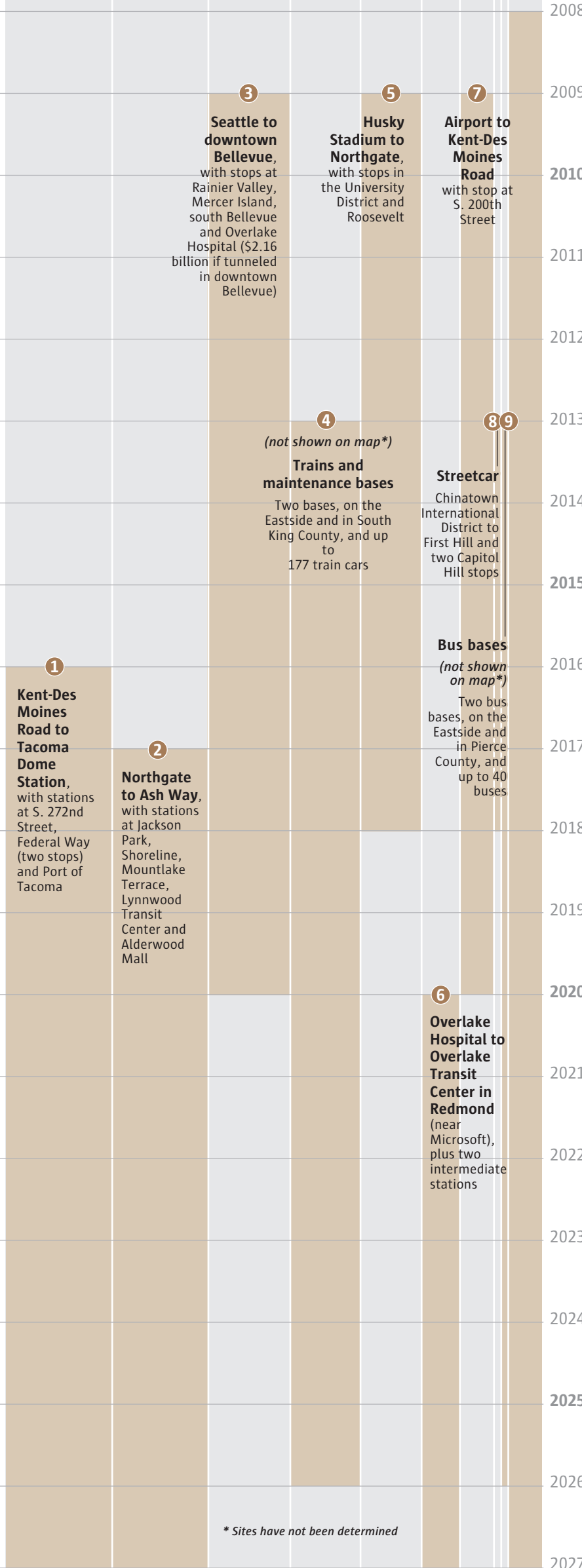
** Edmonds Station figure shows Prop. 1 money only; additional funds expected from Sound Transit and other agencies.

How the money would be allocated:

Figures have been rounded

YEAR	\$2.15 BILLION	1.82 BILLION	1.68 BILLION	1.4 BILLION	1.24 BILLION	781 MIL.	684 MIL.	174 M.	174 M.	OTHER
2007										

Estimated timelines for projects:



* Sites have not been determined



Some other notable road projects

Highway 531 widening at Arlington; Highway 522 safety and widening projects near Monroe; Highway 524 [196th Street Southwest at 44th Avenue West] widening near I-5 at Lynnwood; Highway 99 bus lanes, Shoreline; I-5 HOV northbound exit and extension of Sodo Busway, Seattle; South Park Bridge replacement in Seattle; I-5, expanding ramps and merge lanes at Highway 18 junction, Federal Way; Highway 162, widening at Sumner; (possible) new Cross-Base Highway, I-5 to Lakewood, Pierce County

Some other notable Sound Transit projects

Heavy rail: Tacoma track and trestle reconstruction to improve Sounder and other train lines.
Park-and-ride: New station park-and-ride garages at Mukilteo, Auburn, Sumner, Puyallup train stations; new station and surface parking at Tukwila. Bus station and park-and-ride stations at Bothell, Renton and Burien.