

FACT SHEET

11-21-2017

Pierce Transit, working in partnership with the City of Tacoma, Pierce County, Washington State Department of Transportation, Sound Transit, Puget Sound Regional Council, and other agencies, is conducting a high capacity transit (HCT) study of a 14-mile corridor along Pacific Avenue | SR 7 between downtown Tacoma and Spanaway.

Why Conduct This Study?

Pacific Avenue | SR 7 is Pierce Transit's highest fixed route ridership corridor, with about 6,000 boardings on an average weekday. Transit improvements could:

- » Add capacity and relieve current overcrowding on buses
- » Make the service faster and more reliable
- » Increase access to transit for pedestrians and bicyclists
- » Provide signature stations with such features as realtime arrival information, ticket vending machines and ORCA readers, and other amenities to enhance comfort and passenger boarding

Preferred Corridor Service: Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

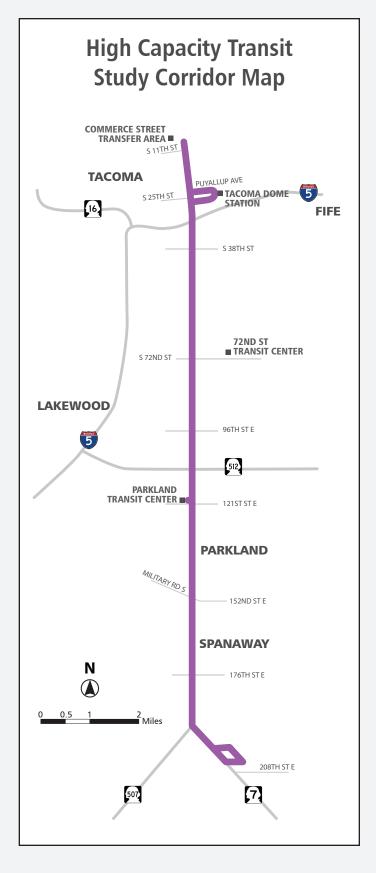
After analyzing various rail and bus-based options, BRT was determined to best serve the Pacific Avenue | SR 7 corridor. BRT provides many of the features of light rail, but at a much reduced cost. In addition, the flexibility of BRT service allows it to work within corridor constraints and reduce impacts.

Typical BRT Elements

BRT service on Pacific Avenue | SR 7 would include the following:



- » More frequent service that is travel time competitive with automobiles
- » Transit signal priority, which allows the bus to reduce delays from traffic lights
- » Optimized spacing between stations or stops
- » Enhanced stations with shelters, raised platforms for easier (level) boarding, and improved lighting
- » An off-board fare collection system that speeds boarding by allowing riders to enter at any door
- » Unique vehicles that carry more passengers, have room for bicycles on board, and provide easier access for people who use wheelchairs or other mobility devices
- » A uniquely branded system that is easy to understand and use



Why Consider HCT for Pacific Avenue | SR 7?



Pacific Avenue | SR 7 is Pierce Transit's highest ridership corridor

5,950 average weekday boardings

and over 18% of total fixed route ridership system wide



Approximately

55,000 residents

live within a half-mile of the corridor, and that number will increase by an estimated

25% by 2040



The current

31,500 jobs located along the corridor

will increase to an estimated

59,000 by 2040



Approximately

22% of residents within a half-mile of the corridor are below the federal poverty level



Approximately

11% of the people living along the corridor are dependent on transit for their travel needs



Over a five-year period from 2012 through 2016,

there were **13** fatal crashes

along the corridor, **6** of which were pedestrians or bicyclists



5 nodes

within the project study area have been designated as Growing Transit Communities

> by the Puget Sound Regional Council

Study Process



How You Can Get Involved



More information available at piercetransit.org/ hct-feasibility-study/ or email questions to hct@piercetransit.org



Opportunities to provide feedback at any time, contact: Darin L. Stavish, AICP Principal Planner

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Check the website for Virtual Open House 2 and

Upcoming Open Houses scheduled in Spring 2018

Partners:















