



STRATEGIC PLANNING

Skagit Transit Outreach Team



Overview

Skagit Transit is looking for public input on what kind of future improvements we should make in our system.

We want to prioritize the service improvements that are most important to our riders.





Goals of the Strategic Plan

- To survey riders to gauge the public's level of satisfaction with our service
- To gather more feedback, Skagit Transit will conduct meetings for both the public and stakeholders such as social service and non-profit agencies
- To develop a list of prioritized service improvements that reflect the desires of the community we serve but are achievable given the funding level at our agency

Rider Survey

Skagit Transit recently surveyed its riders asking about satisfaction and how to prioritize our service improvements.

- 328 out 337 respondents were satisfied with Skagit Transit
- Over 95% of respondents said our drivers provided safe and courteous service

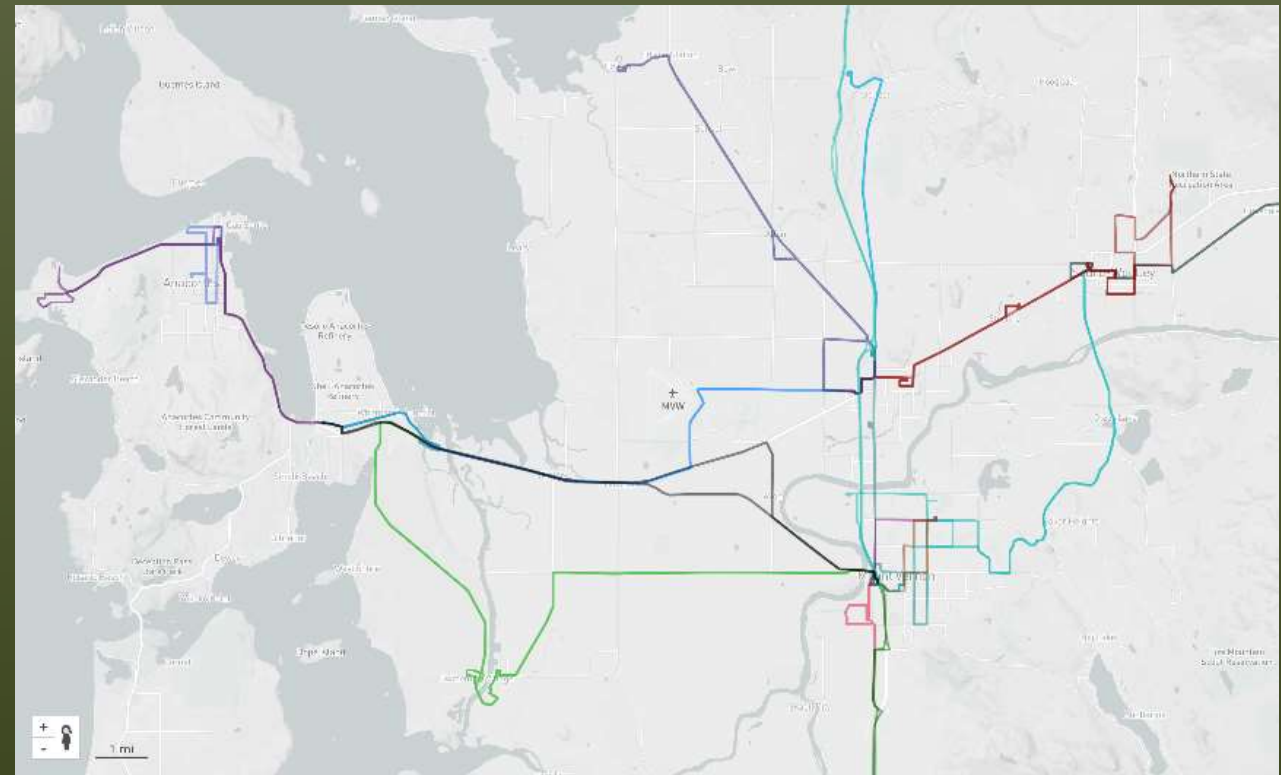
The 6 most requested service improvements were:

1. Provide local service later in the evening
2. Add more bus shelters/seating
3. Provide service to Bellingham/Everett later in the evening
4. Provide Sunday Service in more locations
5. Start local service earlier in the morning
6. Increase the frequency of the rural routes



Developing Service Improvements

- “There is the service we would like to offer and there is the service we have the budget to offer.”
- Factors considered
 - *Budget needed*
 - *Will it improve safety?*
 - *Will it attract riders?*
 - *Can it fill an unmet need?*
 - *Has it been requested?*



Possible Service Improvements

■ Rural Area Improvements

- *Routes 185/195*
- *Route 750*
- *Route 513*
- *Route 615*

■ Regional Connections

- *Investigating Anacortes Ferry Service Scenarios*
- *Route 80X Schedule Review*

■ Urban Area Improvements

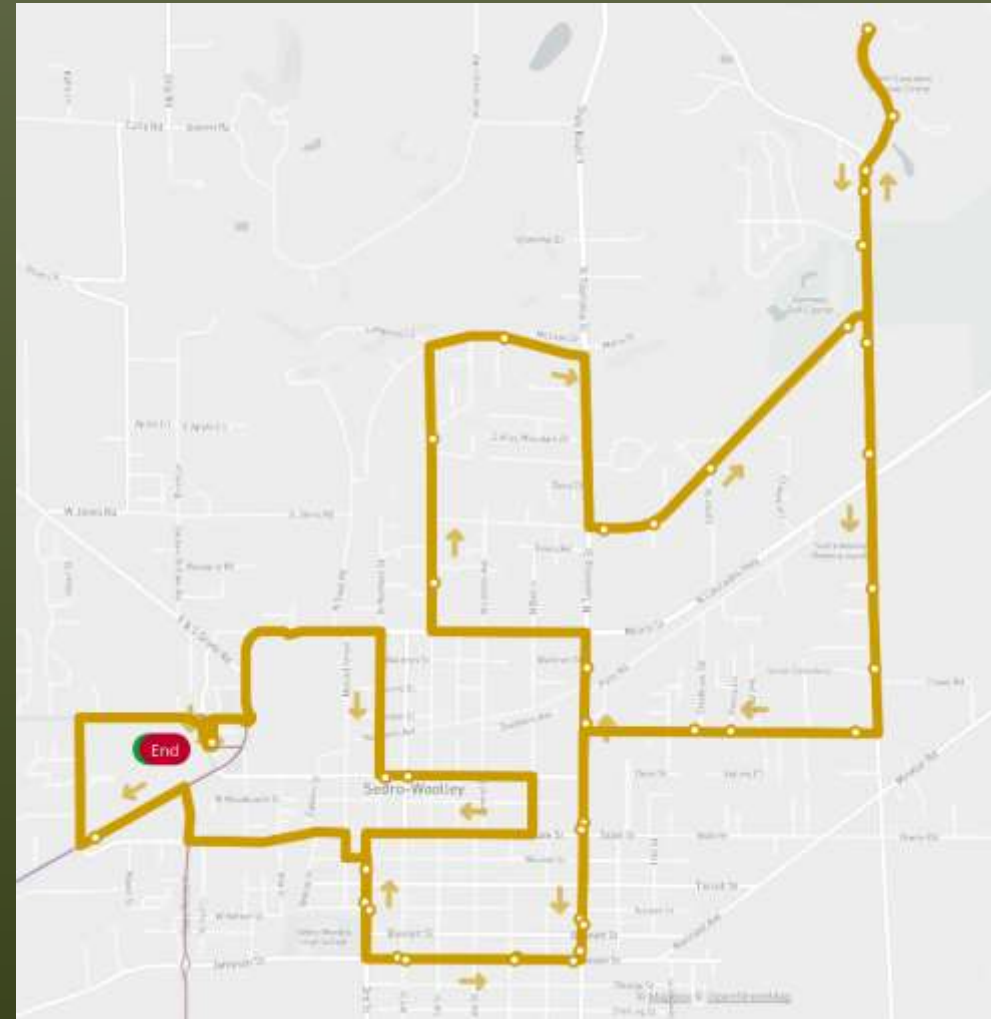
- *Route 204*
- *Route 207*
- *Route 300*
- *Route 305*
- *New Route connecting Sedro Woolley-Burlington-Mount Vernon*

Possible Rural Area Improvements

- Route 185/195
 - *Expand service to 5 days a week*
 - *Increase the # of trips per day*
- Route 513
 - *Increase frequency to hourly service*
- Route 615
 - *Increase frequency to hourly service*
- Route 750 Pilot Project for 2 years
 - *Route 750 has very low ridership but serves an area with a high percentage of seniors and low income citizens*
 - *Change day of service from Friday to Tuesday*
 - *Add 2nd AM trip (2 trips in the morning)*
 - *Add 2nd PM trip (2 trips in the afternoon)*
 - *New schedule has an earlier first trip and later last trip*
- If ridership does not increase after two years, route will be discontinued.

Possible Urban Area Improvements Sedro Woolley

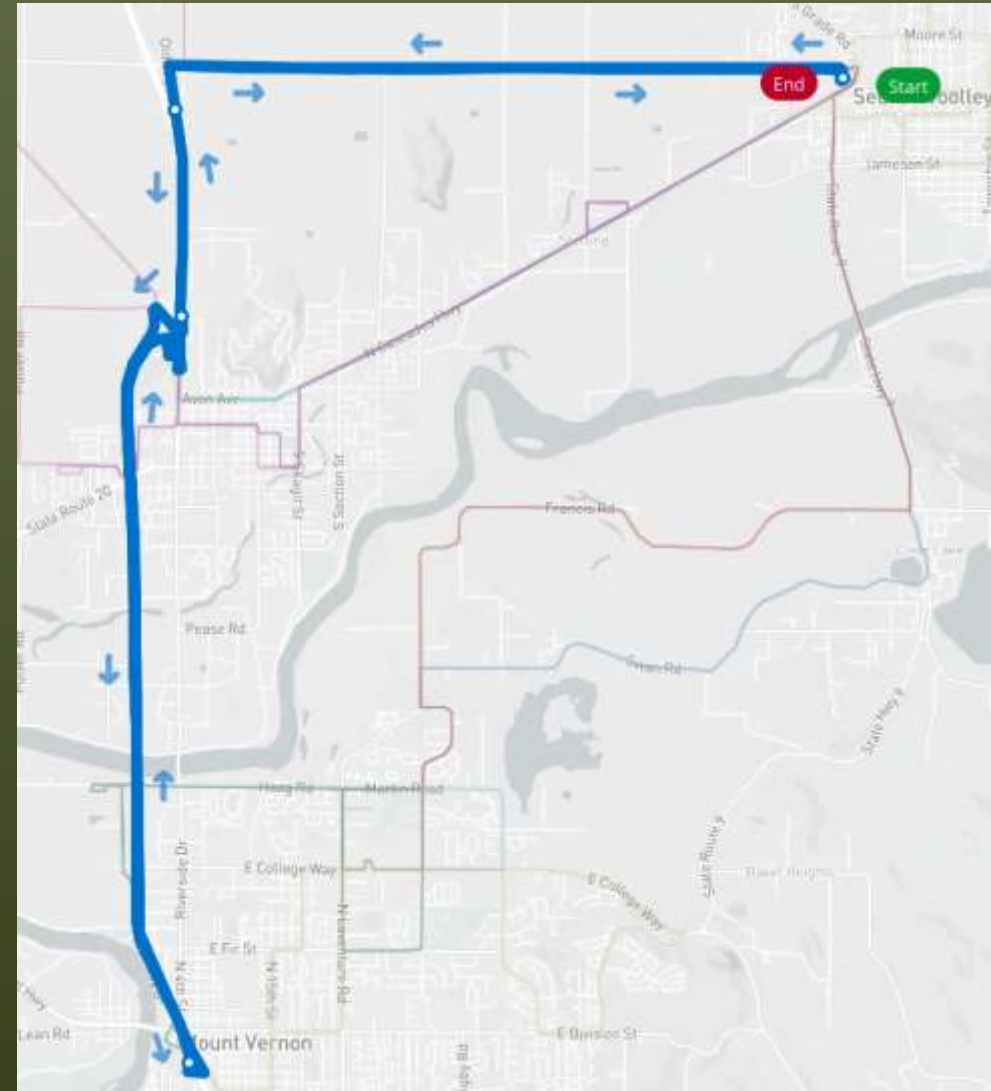
- Split Route 300 into 2 routes
- 1 route is a loop in Sedro Woolley
 - *Uses mostly current routing*
 - *No break at Job Corps*
 - *Break occurs at SW Park & Ride*
- 2nd route runs from Chuckanut Park & Ride thru Burlington to Sedro Woolley



Possible Urban Area Improvements

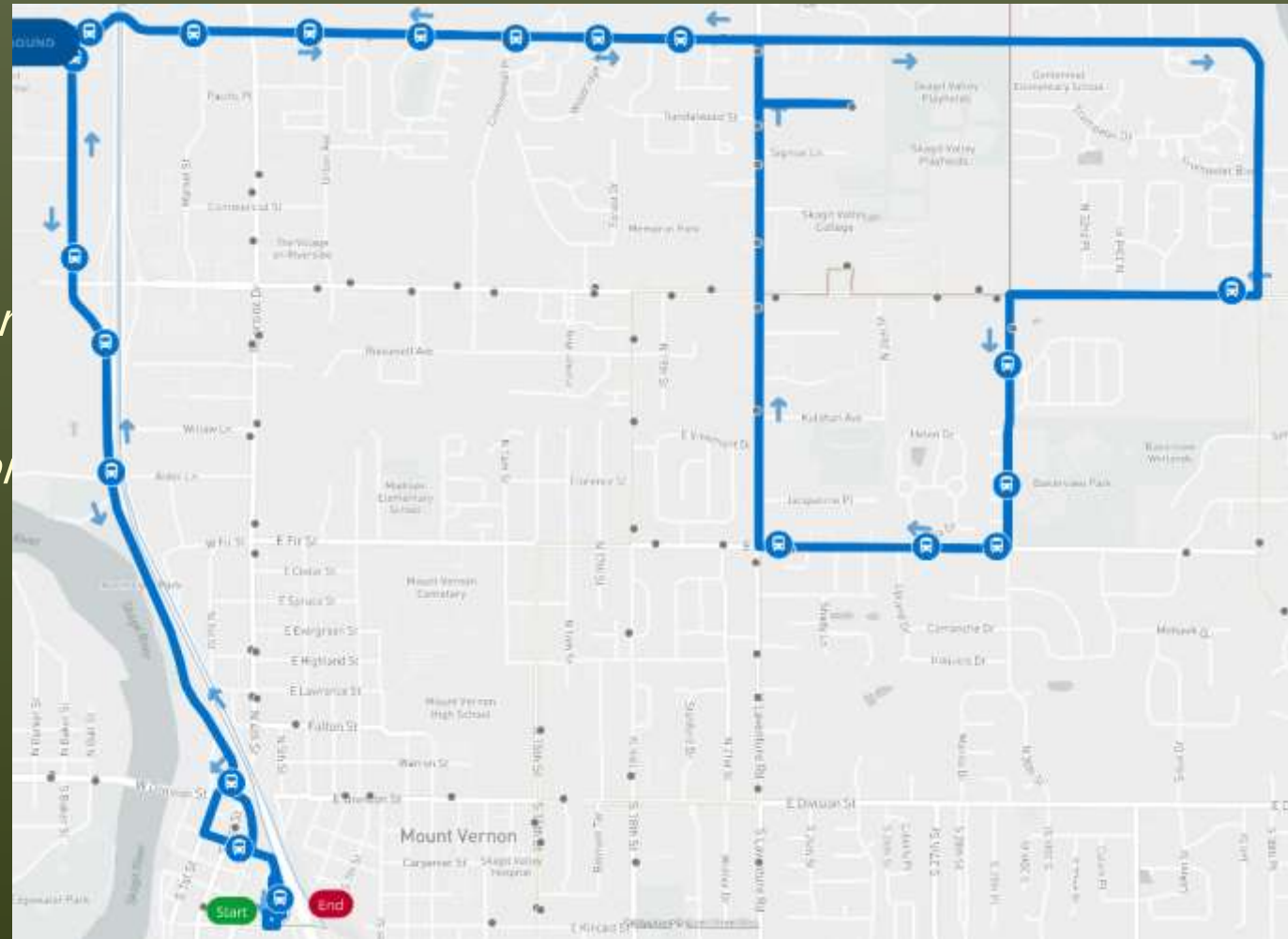
New Route

- Will offer a quick connection between towns
 - *Sedro-Woolley to Skagit Station in less than 25 minutes*
- Limited Stops
 - *Sedro Woolley Park & Ride*
 - *Chuckanut Park & Ride*
 - *Skagit Station*
 - *NO other stops*
- Limited Schedule
 - *A few runs in the morning*
 - *A few runs in the mid-day*
 - *A few runs in the late afternoon/evening*



Possible Urban Area Improvements Route 207

- Change to Hourly Frequency
- New Route
 - *Service Wal-Mart twice/hour*
 - *Removes dangerous turns*
 - *Services north Mount Vernon along Martin/Waugh roads*
 - *Will no longer service the hospital*
 - *Service the New YMCA facility*



Possible Urban Area Improvements Route 204

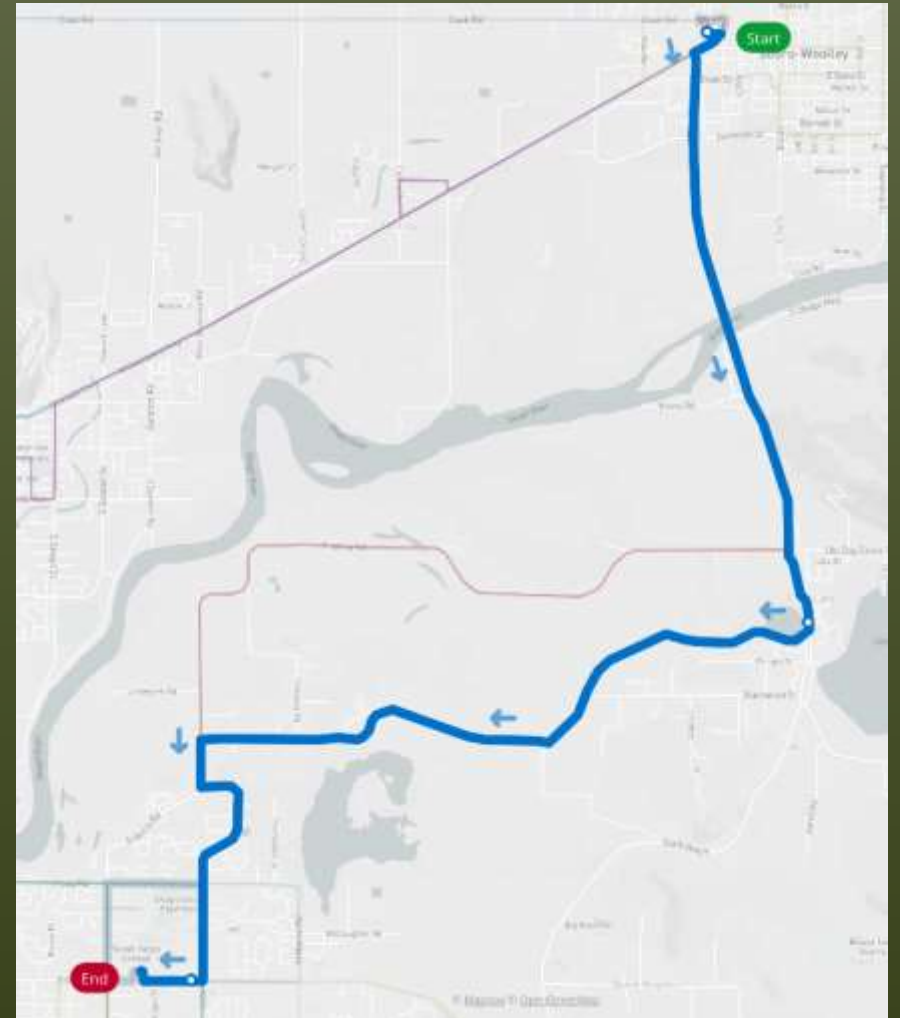


- Route 204 will be extended to a 60 minute loop with 2 buses operating it at a 30 minute frequency
- Operates the east Mount Vernon portion of the Route 305
- Advantages
 - *Increased reliability*
 - *Improved connection from east Mount Vernon to downtown*
 - *East Mount Vernon will have service earlier in the morning and later at night*

Possible Urban Area Improvements

Route 305

- Route 305 will avoid a narrow bridge on Hwy 9
- Will introduce service to north Mount Vernon which is growing
- Will operate every hour
- Increase reliability



Next Steps

Timeline

- **Draft Priority List**
- **Draft Final Report**
- **Present Final Report to Board of Directors- August 2018**
- **Enact service improvements as funding becomes available starting in 2019**

