

# Relieving rail congestion >>

More frequent, reliable  
and faster Amtrak  
Cascades® service

## Point Defiance Bypass Project

Freight congestion, tight curves, landslides, single-track tunnels and drawbridge openings all cause delays for Amtrak Cascades trains. For passengers, this means missed connections, missed appointments and lost time with family and friends.

The inland passenger rail route will create room for Amtrak Cascades to add more daily trains, shorten travel time and reduce delays.

### Project information

[www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/rail/pnwrc\\_ptdefiance](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/rail/pnwrc_ptdefiance)

### Cascades High-Speed Rail program information

<http://wsdot.wa.gov/rail>

### Train schedules & tickets

[www.amtrakcascades.com](http://www.amtrakcascades.com)



Point Defiance Bypass



Washington State  
Department of Transportation



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
Federal Railroad  
Administration

Amtrak  CASCADES®



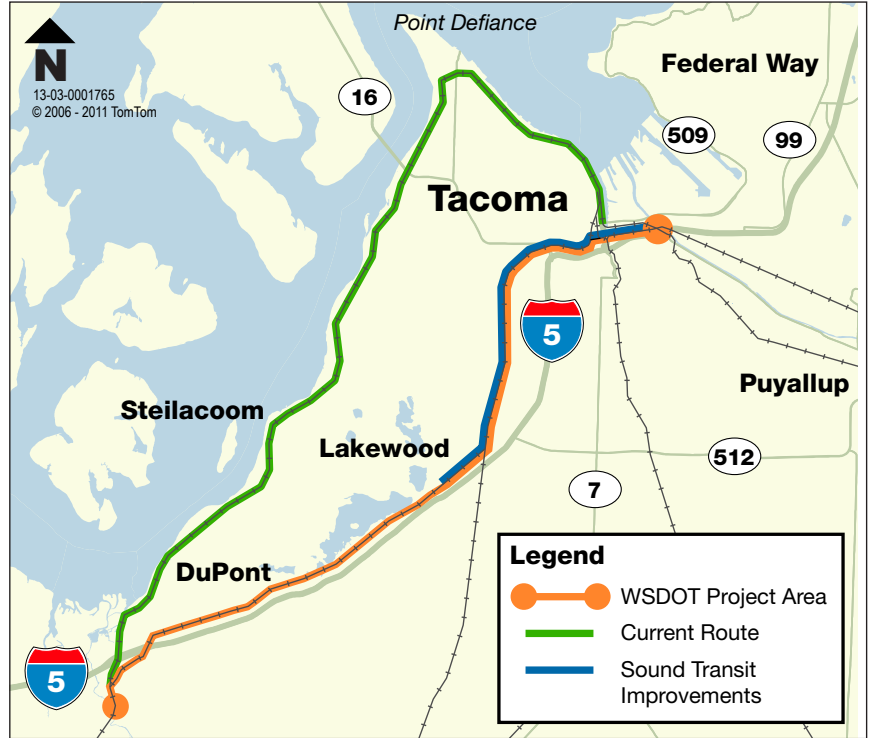
**POINT DEFIANCE BYPASS PROJECT**

**Where is the project?**

The Point Defiance Bypass rail project will reroute passenger trains from the BNSF Railway main line that runs near Point Defiance to an existing rail line that runs through south Tacoma, Lakewood, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and DuPont.

**Why reroute the train away from the scenic waterfront?**

It's hard to dispute the beauty of the scenic waterfront route around Point Defiance, but that train route is congested with nearly 50 daily freight trains and is prone to landslides and other disruptions.



**The details**

- Construction of 14.5 miles of new and upgraded track through Lakewood and DuPont
- Five reconstructed at-grade crossings, each with an advanced warning and signal system
- New Amtrak passenger station within the Freighthouse Square building, where Sound Transit currently operates the Tacoma Dome Station for Sounder commuter trains

**The investment**

Washington state is delivering nearly \$800 million in federally funded rail corridor improvements using high-speed rail grants administered by the Federal Railroad Administration. The Point Defiance Bypass is one project in that program.

**Project Budget:** \$89.1 million

**The benefits**

- Two additional round trips between Seattle and Portland, for a total of six
- Shortened travel time
- Improved on-time performance

**Your input is important.**

For information on upcoming public meetings and other ways to provide comments, visit: [www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/Rail/PNWRC\\_PtDefiance](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/Rail/PNWRC_PtDefiance).

**Amtrak Cascades Service**

Washington and Oregon jointly sponsor Amtrak Cascades, a 466-mile regional service that operates between Eugene, Oregon and Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Project Status:**

**Environmental work**  
Complete: spring 2013

**Project design**  
Complete: winter 2015

**Project construction**  
Complete: spring 2017



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