

RapidRide Program Update

Regional Transit Committee
July 16, 2025



Introduction

Metro Connects



Climate +
Equity Policies



RapidRide
Prioritization Plan



King
County
Budget

Corridor
Projects

RapidRide Prioritization Plan

- Requested by RTC and King County Council in 2021 policy updates
- Passed by the Regional Transit Committee, the TrEE Committee, and the full King County Council in 2024
- Leading with racial and social equity and environmental sustainability, the plan uses an evaluation framework to prioritize candidate corridors into tiers.
- The report is a prioritization plan and not an implementation plan.

Tier 1		
Corridor 1049 Route 150	Corridor 1064B Route 36	
Tier 2		
Corridor 1012 Route 44	Corridor 1993 Route 40	Corridor 3101+1028 B Line / Route 271
Tier 3		
Corridor 1052 Route 181	Corridor 1056 Route 165	Corridor 1999 B Line / Route 226

How RapidRide Lines Are Developed

Delivery of a RapidRide Line

- Needs assessment
- Alignment + service profile
- Identify capital improvements for stations, speed, access

- Existing conditions
- Design alternatives
- Property acquisition
- Permitting

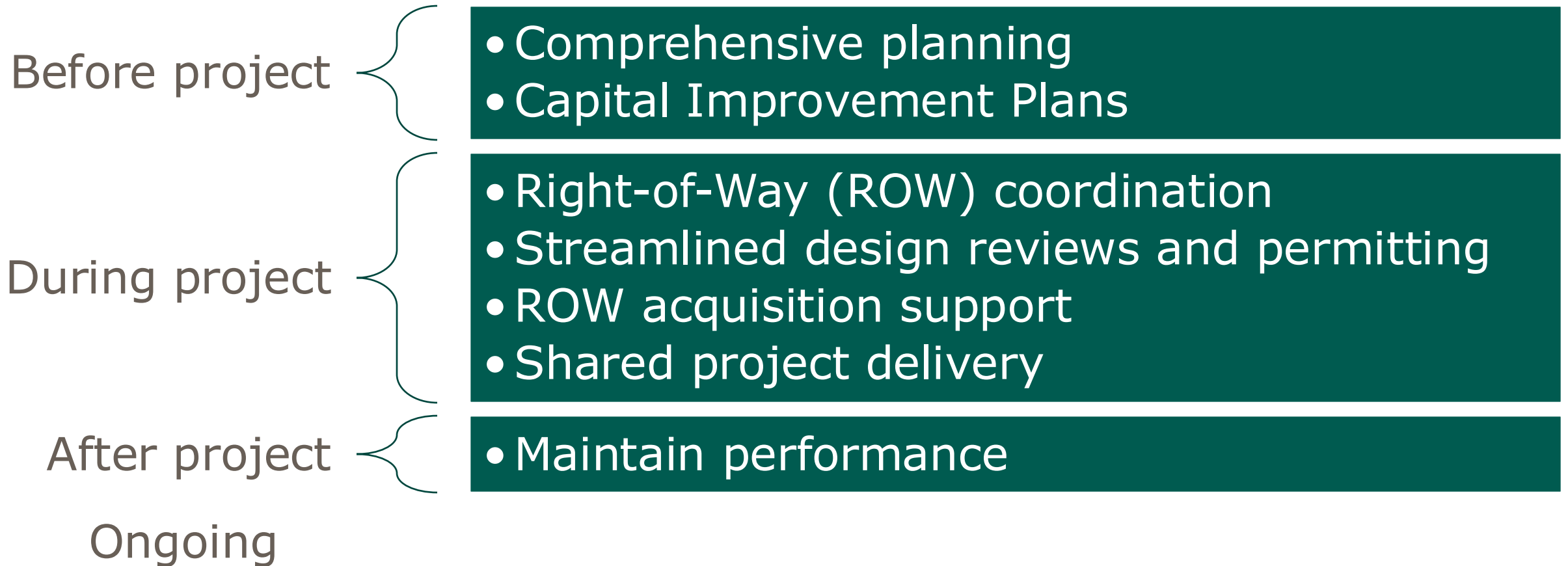
- Construction mitigation
- Construction communications
- Service launch prep



Community engagement performed during all phases

**time durations vary by project*

Partnerships are Critical to Success



Staff time

Partnering
agreements

Funding
support

Letter(s) of
support

Outreach and
engagement

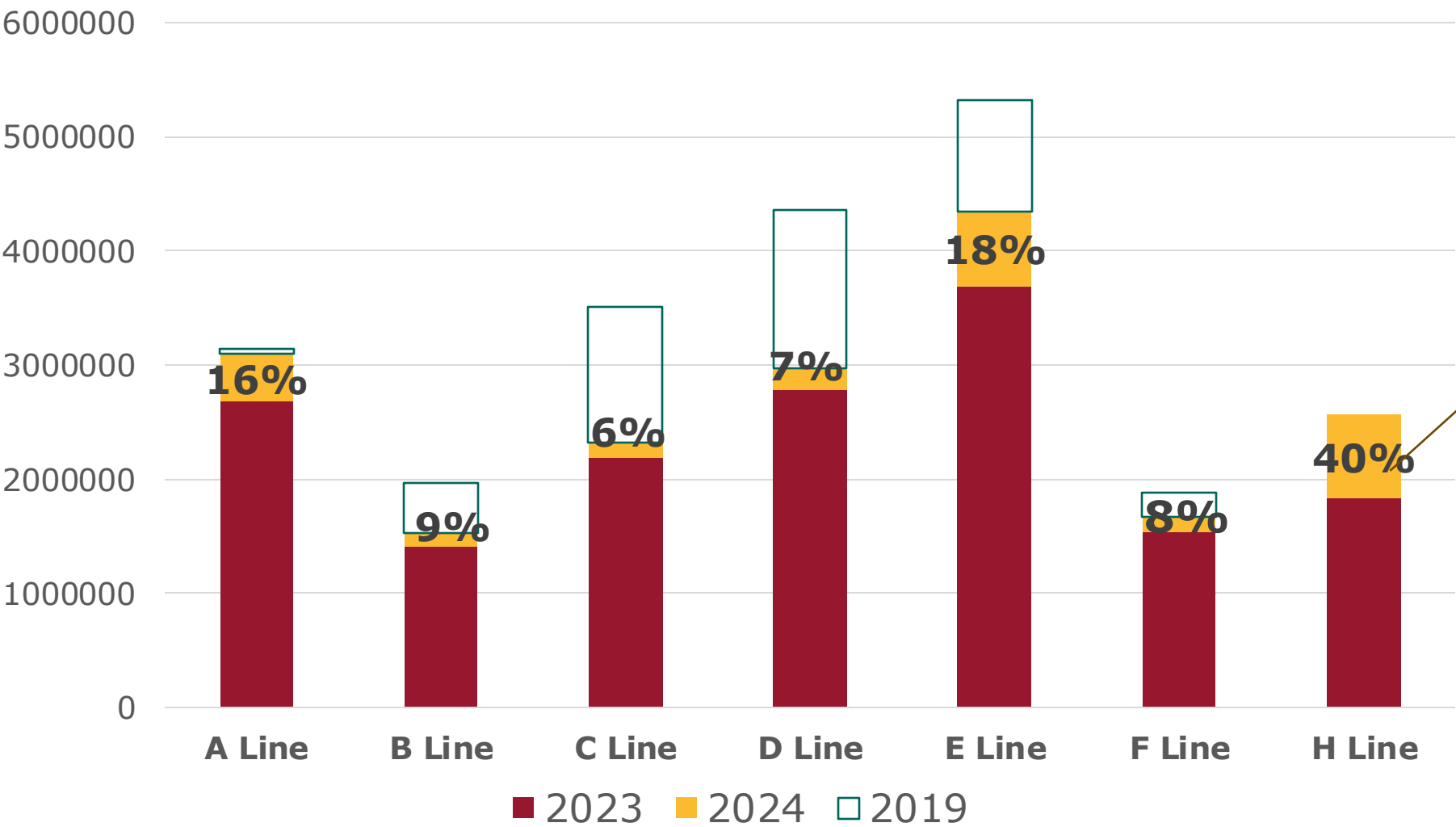
Existing Network Update

RapidRide Commitments

- Fast Service
- Reliable Service
- Safe & Secure Facilities
- Growth & sustainable travel
- Consistent operations, cleanliness, & maintenance
- Comfort & easy to use
- Access to opportunity
- Fiscal Responsibility

Line	Year Launched
A Line	2010
B Line	2011
C Line	2012
D Line	2012
E Line	2014
F Line	2014
G Line	2024
H Line	2023

RapidRide 2024 Total Ridership



Note: Does not include G Line (launched Fall 2024)

Percentage indicates growth in annual ridership, 2023 to 2024

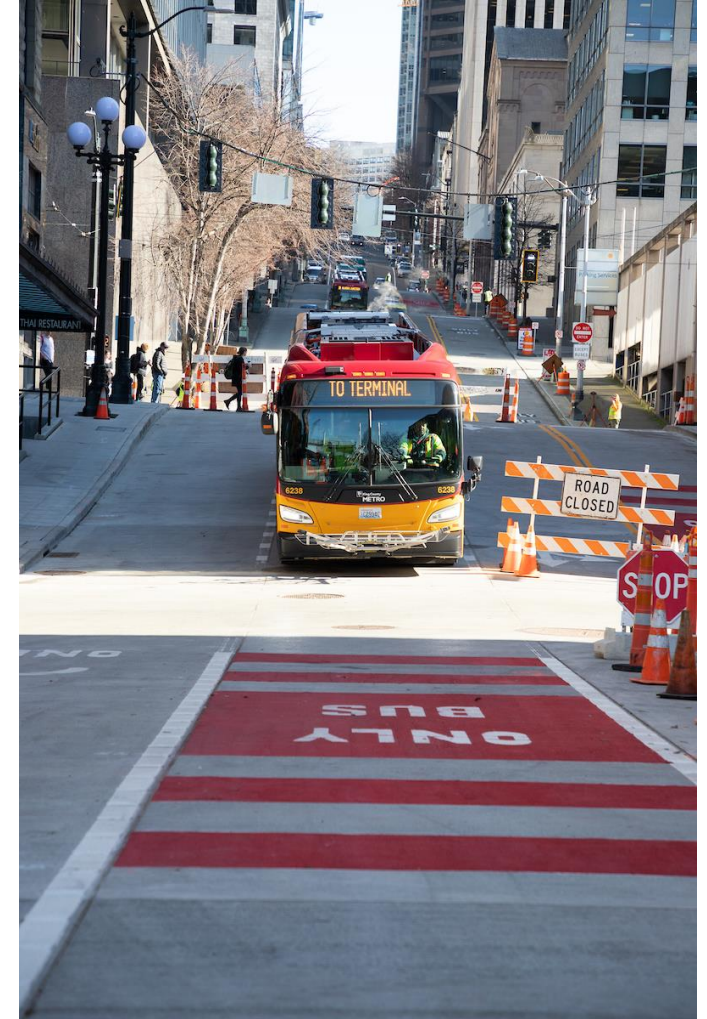
RapidRide is an integral part of the transit system

- A through F and H lines accounted for over 22% of system boardings in 2024
- Comparatively, RapidRide is only 13% of Metro's total service hours
- Addition of G Line will take RapidRide to 25% or more of system boardings in 2025
- Ridership continues to grow – 2025 ridership to date is higher than same month in 2024
- RapidRide serves 29% of subsidized housing units and 22% of low and mid wage jobs in King County



Reinvestment Opportunities*

- Upgrade RapidRide Lines to new 2.0 stations and amenities (as recently implemented on H Line)
- Spot improvements such as:
 - Speed & Reliability investments
 - Transit Signal Priority (TSP)
 - Improved pedestrian access to stations
 - Better stop spacing
- A and F Reinvestment Studies, Aurora Ave Project
- Jurisdictional partnerships are an opportunity to enhance reinvestment
- While reinvestment is called for in Metro Connects, it is not currently funded

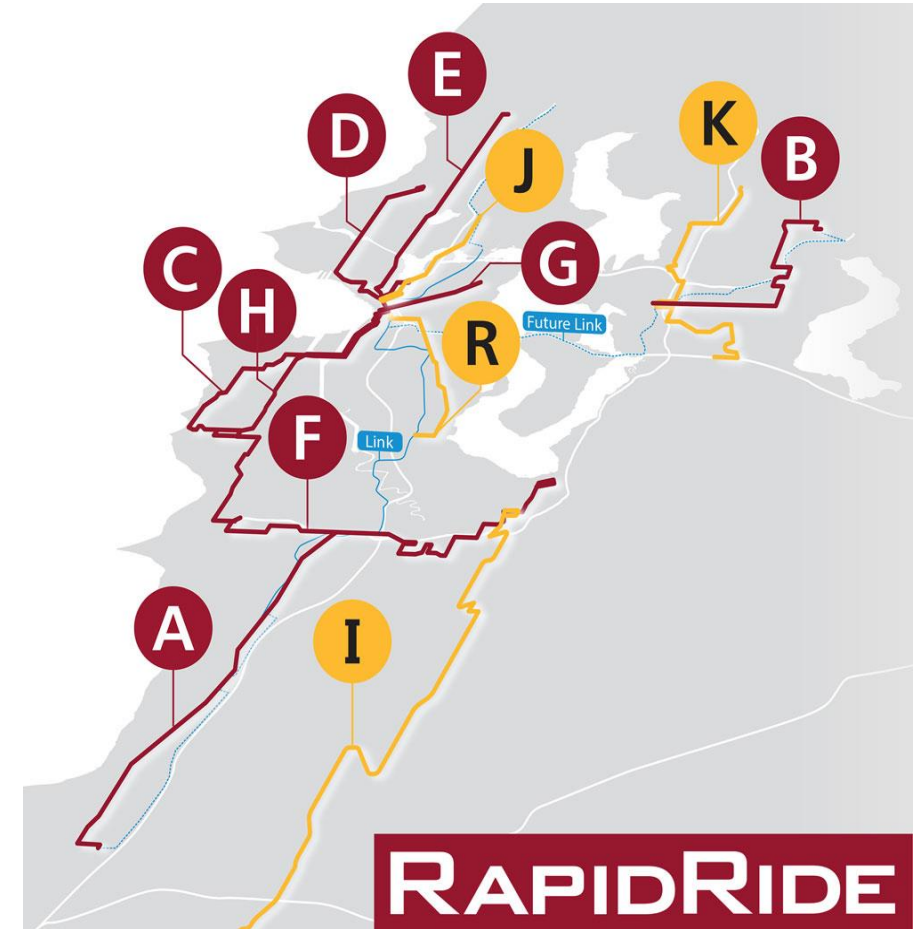


* Major pathway changes or extensions to existing lines are out of scope

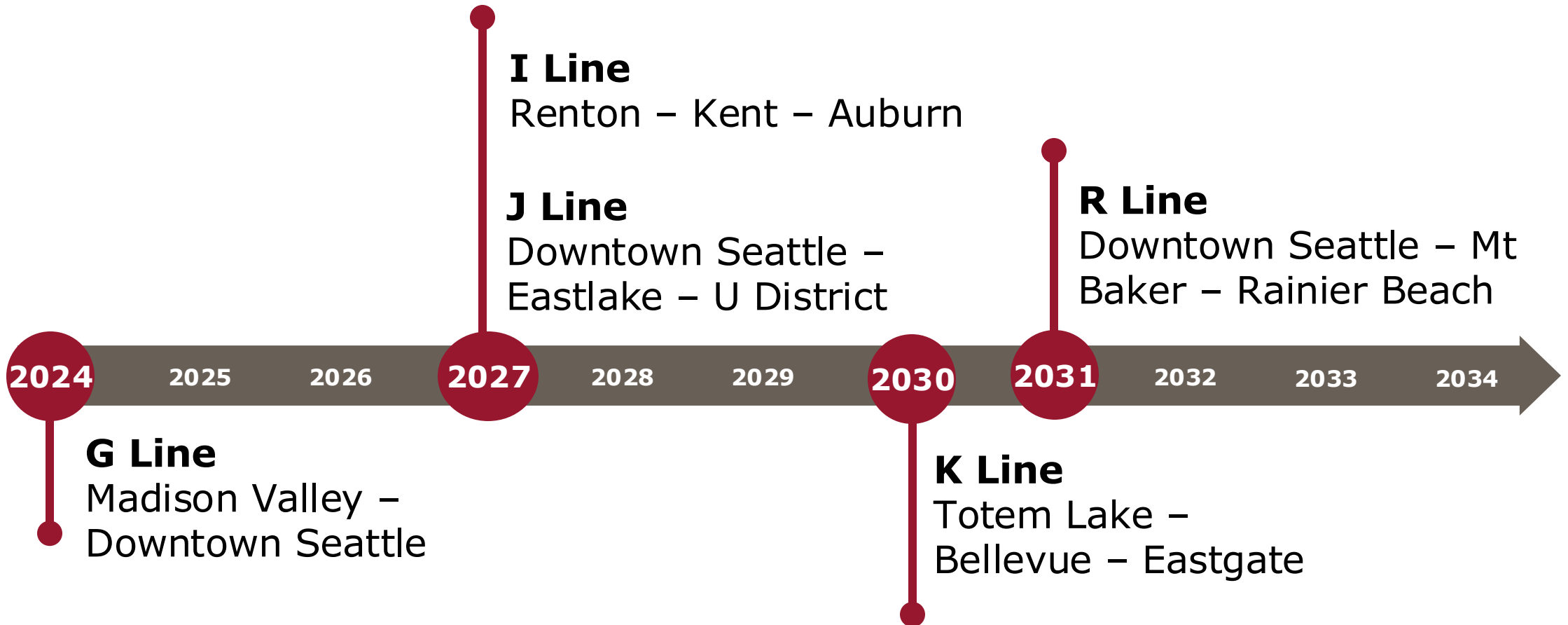
Expansion Projects Update

Overview of RapidRide Expansion

- Current (2025) Status of Active Capital Projects
 - G Line – In service (plus punch list & closeout)
 - I Line & J Line – In or nearing construction
 - K Line & R Line – Moving from conceptual design to preliminary engineering
- Value of RapidRide Expansion Investments
 - Total – \$694M
 - Metro's portion – \$297M
 - FTA & Jurisdictional Partner portion – \$397M
- Metro Connects Long-Range Plan
 - Framework for RapidRide expansion
 - Commitment to re-investment in legacy lines



Delivery Timeline



G Line

- **Partnership project with City of Seattle**
 - SDOT-led planning, design, construction, and engagement during construction
 - Metro procured and commissioned novel fleet, furnished passenger facilities and station technology elements, and led pre-launch engagement, communications, and marketing
 - Ongoing activities – SDOT and contractor completing construction punch list items toward Final Acceptance



Planning

Design

Construction

***Service began
Sept 2024**

I Line

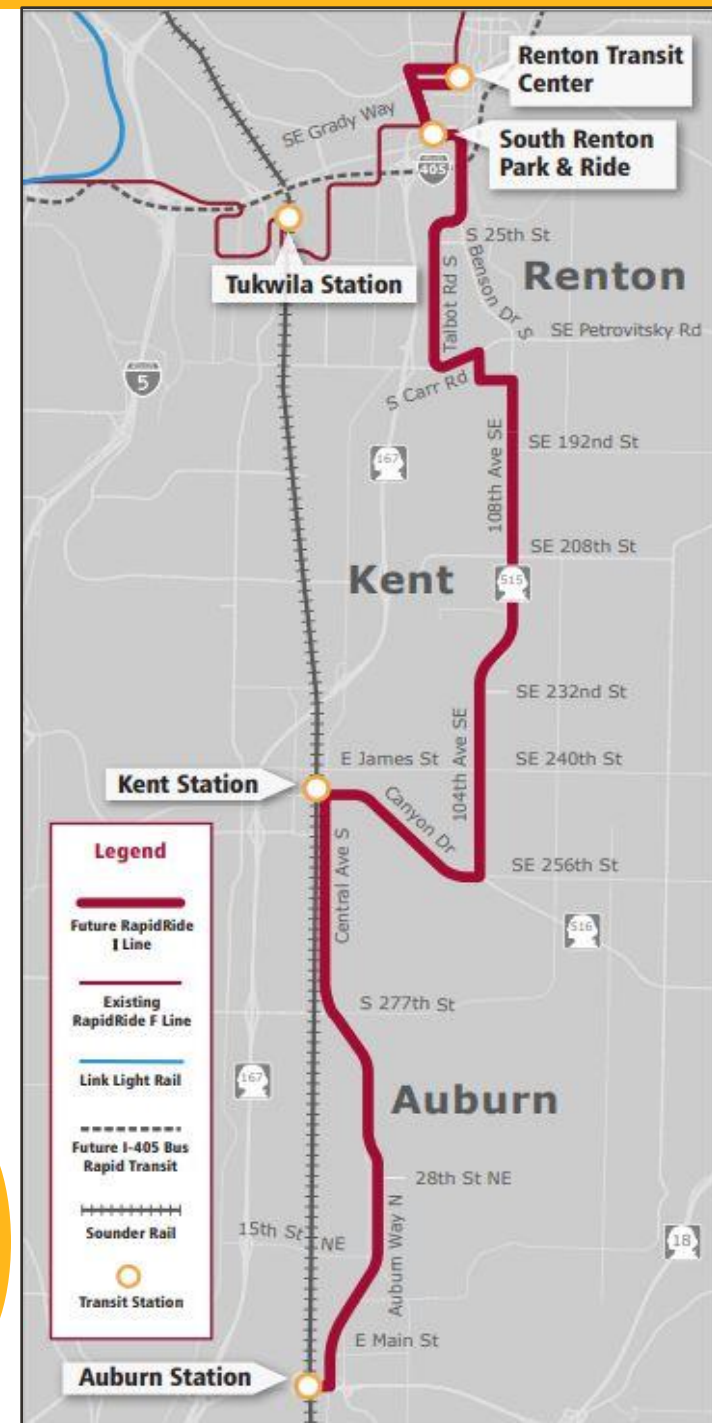
- Construction Contract
 - Bids opened June 2025
 - Planned groundbreaking in October
- **Coordination with City of Auburn, City of Kent, and City of Renton**
 - Design submittals
 - Construction permits
- Pre-construction community engagement, June–August
- \$79.7M Small Starts Grant awarded to Metro Jan. 2025
- Planned revenue service launch Fall 2027

Planning

Design

Construction

Service
Start



K Line

- Locally Preferred Alternative (LPA) adopted by King County Council July 1, 2025
 - **Letters of LPA support from City of Kirkland & City of Bellevue**
- 10% Design on speed & reliability, access to transit, & pass. facilities improvements
- Connections with RapidRide B Line, Stride BRT, and Link light rail
- Small Starts Grant Application due August 22
- Planned revenue service launch in 2030

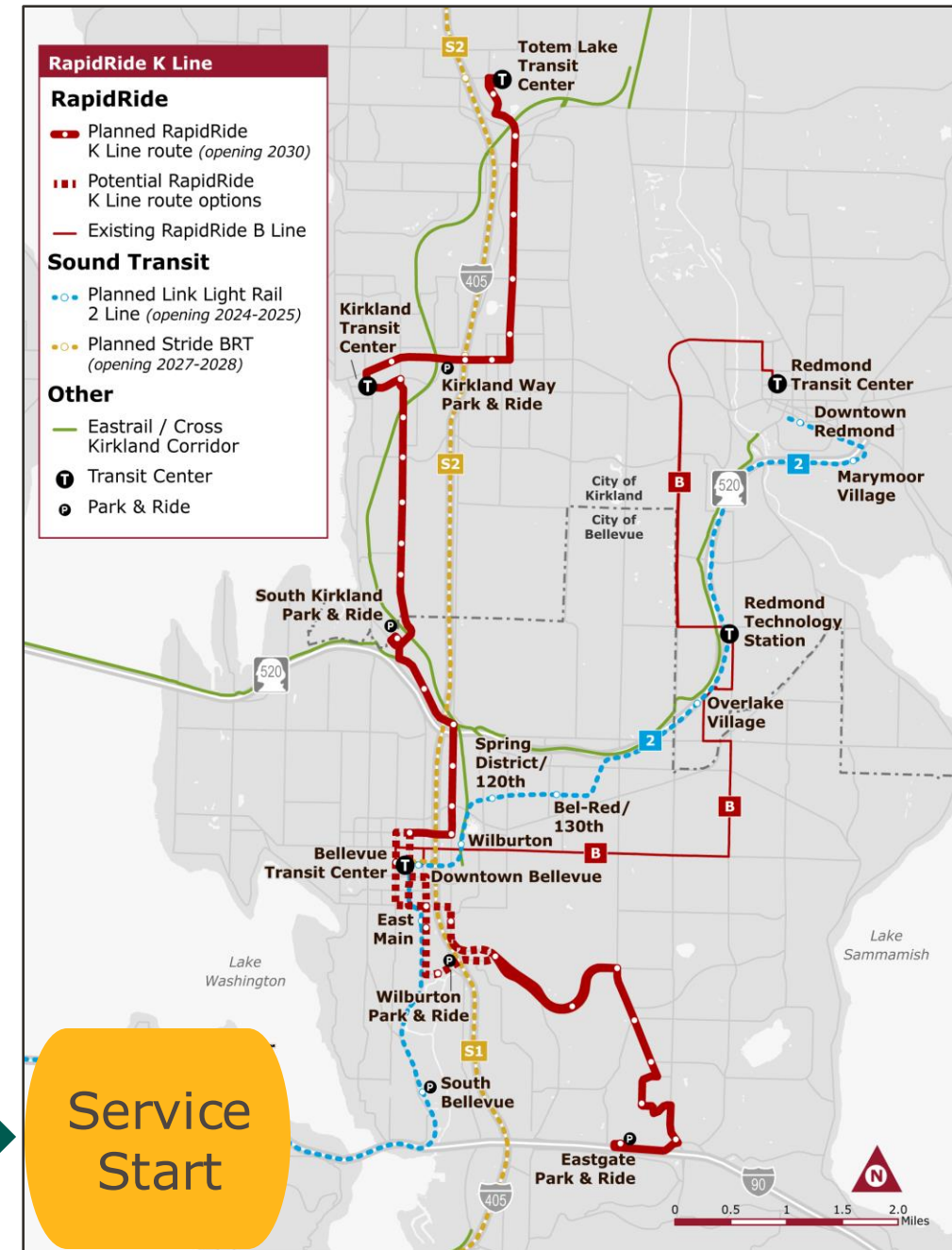
Planning



Design

Construction

Service
Start



R Line

- **Partnership work with City of Seattle** began in 2017; current coordination work includes
 - Aligning R Line 10% Design & Seattle's Transportation Levy scopes; coordinating 2026 community engagement
 - Negotiating a partnership agreement
- Metro's R Line 10% Design Update to be complete by Fall 2025
- Planned revenue service launch in 2031



Planning



Design

Construction

Service
Start

Closing and Questions

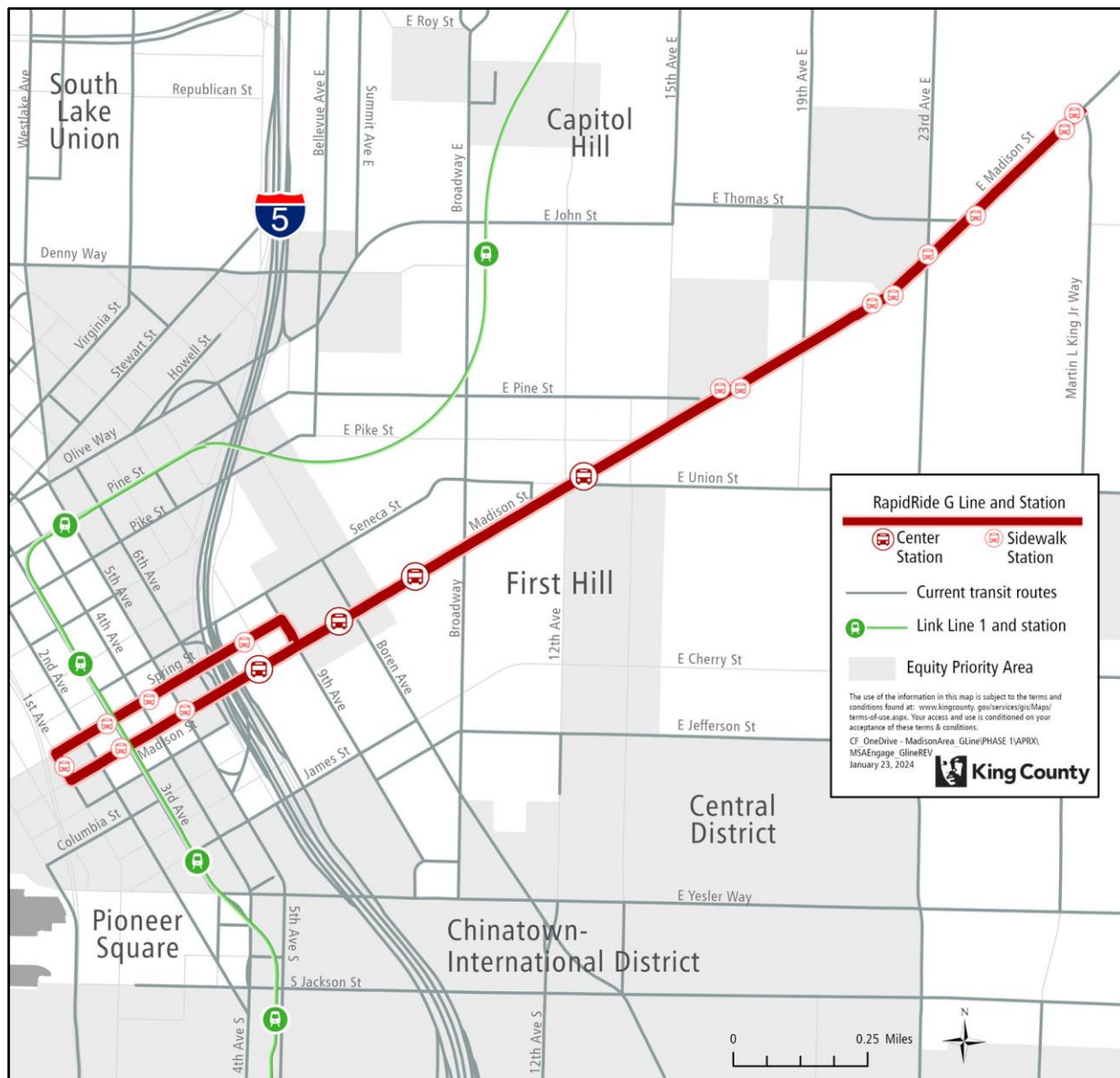
Regional Transit Committee Meeting

July 16, 2025

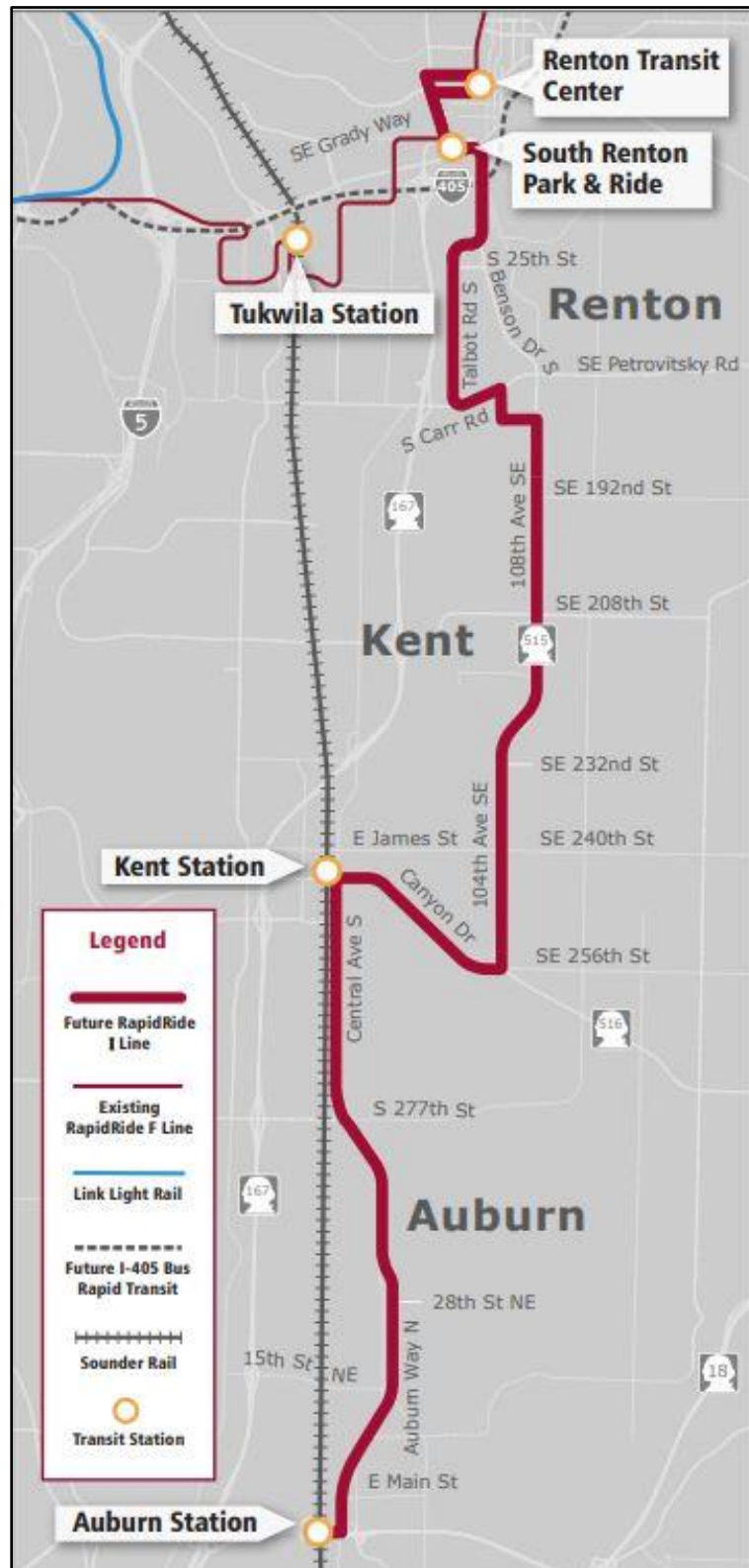
RapidRide Program Update

**RapidRide Line Maps to Accompany
PowerPoint Presentation**

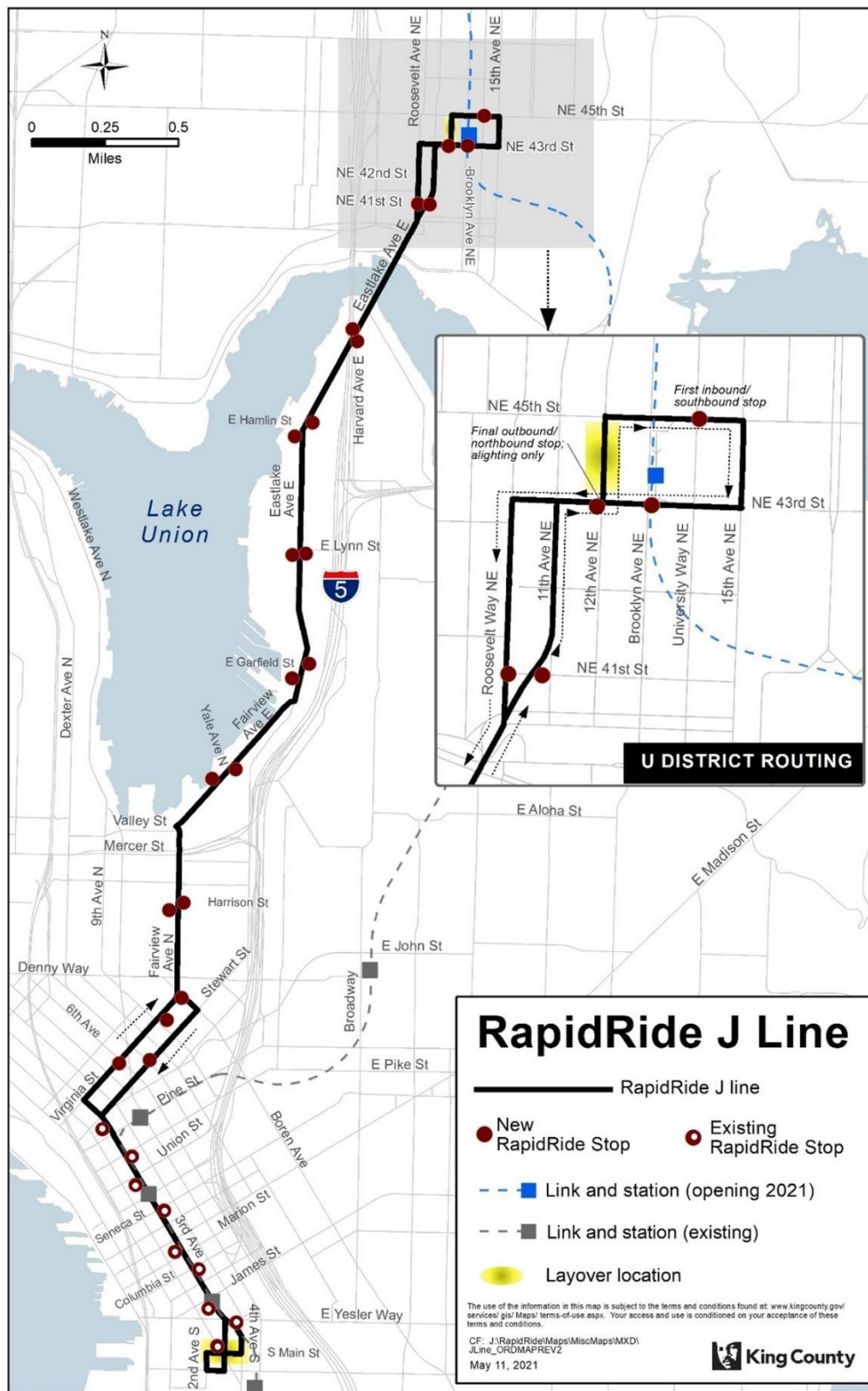
RapidRide G Line



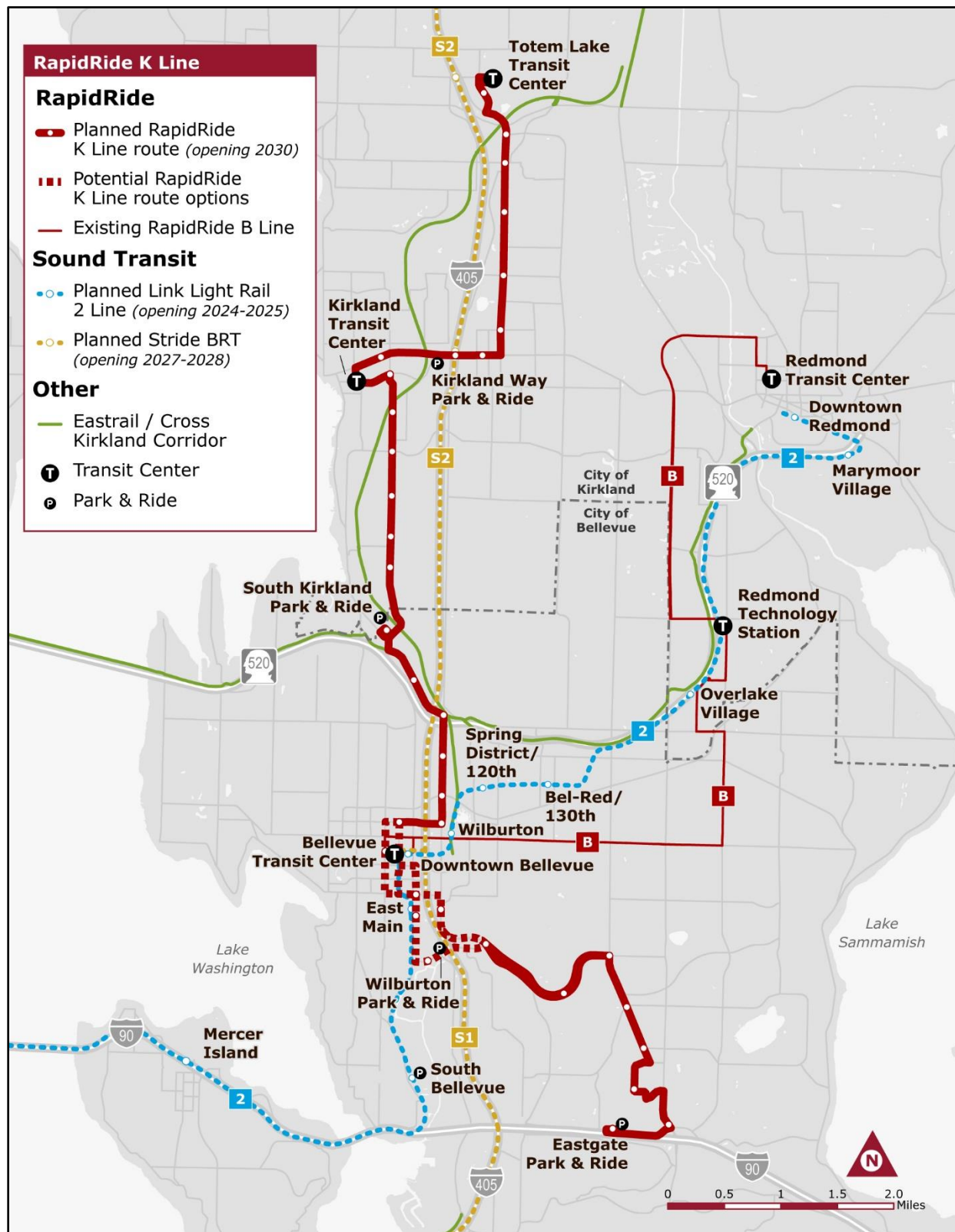
RapidRide I Line



RapidRide J Line



RapidRide K Line



RapidRide R Line

