

METRO OVERVIEW



- Region's largest public transportation agency
- Metro operates:
 - Fixed-route bus service, paratransit, vanpool, water taxi, Dial-A-Ride-Transit, flexible transit services
 - Link light rail and ST Express bus (under contract to Sound Transit)
 - Seattle Streetcar (under contract to City of Seattle)
- \$3.1 billion biennial budget (operating & capital)
- Pre-pandemic, 4 million service hours, 120 million riders (~500,000 weekday boardings)
- Today, operating 87% of service for 60% of riders



METRO GOVERNANCE

- Independent government, Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (Metro) created in 1950s for wastewater treatment
- Metro Transit began in 1973 as part of Metro agency
- Metro functions merged into King County in 1990s
- Voters changed King County's Charter to create regional committees to oversee the former Metro functions
- Dual governance with King County Council

RTC ROLE

- Regional committees established in King County Charter (§270)
 - Regional Policy Committee (RPC)
 - Regional Water Quality Committee (RWQC)
 - Regional Transit Committee (RTC)
- RTC role:

“...develop, propose, review and recommend action on ordinances and motions adopting, repealing, or amending transit... countywide policies and plans...” (King County Charter §270.30)

METRO OVERSIGHT

- **King County Council oversees:**
 - Metro's biennial budget and financial management
 - Metro's operations (including transit service changes)
- **Regional Transit Committee (RTC) and King County Council oversee:**
 - Development, adoption of Metro's "countywide policies and plans" (three adopted policy documents)
 - Monitoring the implementation of "countywide policies and plans"

Note that if a funding measure is to be proposed to voters, it would be developed either by the King County Council (with RTC) or by the King County Transportation District (separate government made up of all 9 County Council members)

ADOPTED TRANSIT POLICIES

Updated by Ordinance 19367 (December 2021)

Strategic Plan for Public Transportation

- Outlines Metro's goals, objectives, strategies, performance measures
- 10 goals, performance measures for each goal

Service Guidelines

- Set targets for the level of transit service
- Provide criteria to develop, modify, and evaluate transit service

Metro Connects

- Metro's long-range plan
- Plans for growth in transit service through 2050
- Not fully funded

RTC MEMBERSHIP

9 voting members – 12 votes total

DELEGATION	MEMBERS	VOTES EACH	TOTAL VOTES
King County	3	2	6
Seattle	2	1	2
SCA	8*	1/2	4

*Note: “Other cities and towns” (represented by SCA) have 4 voting members (and 4 votes) on the RTC. The SCA has chosen to allocate those votes among 8 people, with each person casting ½ vote. (King County Code 1.24.065.B.1.a, Rule 7)

Chair is a King County Councilmember, chosen by the Council

Vice Chair is a non-County member, elected by non-County RTC members