



January 10, 2022

Terry White
General Manager
King County Metro Transit
King Street Center
201 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA 98104-3856

SUBJECT: Support for RapidRide H Line Service

Dear Mr. White:

This letter is to express the City of Seattle's support for King County Metro's Rapid Ride H Line, providing premium transit service, starting in September 2022, connecting South Lake Union and downtown Seattle with downtown Burien via the 3rd Avenue transit corridor, Delridge Way SW, Westwood Village, White Center, and Ambaum Blvd SW. This new RapidRide line will replace Metro's current Route 120.

Commencement of this service is the culmination of several years of planning, design, and construction by both Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) and Metro, representing the best of a jurisdictional partnership that shares a common vision for high-quality transit investment across Seattle and the King County region. The City's recent multi-modal improvements on Delridge Way SW will serve roughly one-quarter of the H Line alignment, providing roadway and transit-priority upgrades, bicycle and pedestrian enhancements, and bus zone reconstruction, which together will create a much-improved experience for both H Line riders and the overall community.

This letter complements an earlier SDOT letter dated February 12, 2019 in support of King County [Ordinance 18894](#) Establishing the Alignment and Station Locations of the RapidRide H Line (Burien-White Center-Delridge-Seattle) that was passed by the County Council in May of that year. The City maintains that the alignment and station locations outlined in Ordinance 18894 continue to be preferred, both inside Seattle city limits and out. The RapidRide improvements to roadways, stations, access-to-transit, and communications technology that Metro is constructing in unincorporated King County (White Center) and in Burien are expected to serve H Line to the same level of operational success and customer satisfaction that SDOT expects on its Delridge segment.

The City of Seattle appreciates the chance we had to partner with Metro in conducting a thorough community engagement process during all phases of the H Line project. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Metro and the RapidRide team, and we eagerly await the launch of RapidRide H Line service in September. If you have further questions, or need assistance from Seattle on this project, please do not hesitate to contact Maria Koengeter, SDOT's Transit Corridors and Streetcar Manager, at maria.koengeter@seattle.gov or 206-733-9865.

Sincerely,



Kristen Simpson (Jan 10, 2022 16:14 PST)

Kristen Simpson
Interim Director

Cc:

Maria Koengeter, SDOT Transit Corridors and Streetcar Manager
Candida Lorenzana, SDOT Transit & Mobility Division Director
Karen Melanson, SDOT Deputy Director