

Dow Constantine
King County Executive
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-1818
206-263-9600 Fax 206-296-0194
TTY Relay: 711
www.kingcounty.gov

June 26, 2024

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove Chair, King County Council Room 1200 C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits the Safety, Security, and Fare Enforcement (SaFE) Community Ambassador Results Report, in response to Ordinance 19546, Section 114, Proviso P2.

This report provides information on how the Community Ambassador program engaged community members in several areas of the county that are experiencing increased safety and security concerns. Approval of this proposed motion and the attached report supports the implementation of the recommendations made by community members in these areas.

King County Metro began the SaFE Reform initiative in response to my declaration of racism as a public health crisis, affirming the county's commitment to becoming an anti-racist and pro-equity government. A scoping report in response to Ordinance 19546, Section 114, Proviso P2 was passed by the Council in 2024. In this SaFE Reform work, Metro has prioritized the feedback of King County employees, customers, and community members including priority populations to identify what equitable safety practices mean to Metro riders.

Per Metro policy and the County's commitment to racial equity and social justice, Metro has prioritized meaningful, in-depth community engagement in all aspects of its work, ensuring resources are directed to where they are needed most. The insights gained through the SaFE Reform Community Ambassador Program are informing Metro's current work to strategize solutions for safe and clean transit hubs, stops, and buses, both at the specific locations outlined in Proviso P2, as well through the work of the SaFE Reform Initiative. Based on safety incident reports and feedback from community members, Metro's initiatives to enhance safety and security at transit stops and shelters appear to be making an impact on improving the overall safety of the transit system. In addition to continuing to address issues shared by community

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members, Metro will continue to engage with community partners to strengthen feedback loops.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed motion. This legislation will help improve the customer experience for Metro riders and the broader community. I look forward to working with you to realize solutions to improve transit safety and security, furthering our commitment to equity.

If your staff have questions, please contact DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department, at (206) 477-3835.

Sincerely,

for

Dow Constantine King County Executive

Premi Podolo

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Michelle Allison, General Manager, Metro Transit Department
DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department