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June 4, 2025

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

Dear Councilmember Zahilay:

This letter transmits a proposed Ordinance that would, if enacted, enable King County to continue its longstanding administration of three regional transportation boards: the SeaShore Transportation Forum (SeaShore), the Eastside Transportation Partnership (ETP), and the South County Area Transportation Board (SCATBd). Approval of this proposed legislation would allow the County to continue administering forums for the County, local jurisdictions, transportation agencies, and regional planning bodies to share information and build consensus to solve common transportation problems.

Originally formed in the 1980s, these three regional transportation boards are made up of King County Councilmembers and elected officials and staff from nearly every jurisdiction in the County. They are formed through interlocal agreements between King County and the participating jurisdictions. SeaShore, ETP, and SCATBd meet monthly to share transportation updates, to receive briefings from transportation agencies and regional planning bodies such as the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), and to make recommendations to regional planning bodies, transportation agencies, and state and federal delegations. Their primary responsibility is to prioritize PSRC Regional Grant Program awards during grant years. In providing forums for local jurisdictions, state transportation agencies, regional planning bodies, and transportation providers, King County encourages collaborative solutions to shared transportation challenges.

This proposed Ordinance would authorize the Executive to renew agreements that would continue the activities of these regional transportation boards and commit King County staff support for the next four years. The last time these agreements were renewed was in 2021. This year, subcommittees of SeaShore, ETP, and SCATBd reviewed the 2021 agreements and

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proposed amendments. Each board voted to make a small number of updates including allowing boards flexibility in collecting dues given decreased costs, confirming the City of Renton as a full member of ETP rather than a split member between ETP and SCATBd, adding Edmonds and Mountlake Terrace as limited voting members of SeaShore, and allowing the boards to sign letters of support for transportation projects. Many city councils considered the agreement in its current form and look forward to signing the interlocal agreement if approved by King County.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposed Ordinance. The regional transportation boards are forums that connect regional policy makers to one another and to critical information as they work across jurisdictional boundaries to improve the transportation system that connects us all.

If your staff have questions, please contact Maha Jahshan, Director of Partnerships and Engagement, Metro Transit Department, at 206-263-2456.

Sincerely,

for

Shannon Braddock King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff, King County Council
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council
Karan Gill, Deputy Executive, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Stephanie Pure, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Michelle Allison, General Manager, Metro Transit Department
DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, General Manager's Office, Metro Transit Department