



RAPIDRIDE

Expediting RapidRide Proviso Report

Presented to the Transportation, Economy, & Environment Committee
of the King County Council

January 20, 2026

Expediting RapidRide Proviso Report, 2025

- **Where did this Proviso come from?**

- Proviso was included in the Council-adopted 2025 Annual Budget (by Ordinance 19861, Section 115, Metro Transit Department, P5, and amended by Ordinance 19956, Section 62, Metro Transit Department, P5)

- **Has this report been received by County Council?**

- The *Expediting RapidRide Report* was transmitted to County Council on September 30, 2025.
- County Council acknowledged receipt of the *Report*, by motion, on October 14, 2025.

- **Why are we here today?**

- To provide an overview of the completed *Expediting RapidRide Report*.

Report Section A – Expected vs. Actual Timelines

Summary of expected timeline for planning, development, & implementation of a RapidRide line, compared to actual experience:

- Early program planning representative project delivery timeline
- Summary of program timeline shifts, 2017-present
- Summary of project-specific shifts
- Summary of leading factors of schedule delays

Representative RapidRide Delivery Schedule (2019)

RAPIDRIDE | DELIVERY OF A RAPIDRIDE LINE



RapidRide Program Timeline Shifts (2017-present)

RapidRide Line	2017 Expected Delivery Year	2018 Prioritization Delivery Year	2019 Manual Delivery Year*	2025 Actual/Updated Delivery Year
G Line	<i>Delivered by SDOT; Service launched Fall 2024</i>			
H Line	2020	Fall 2020	Fall 2021	Spring 2023
I Line	2022	2022	Fall 2023	Fall 2027
J Line	<i>Delivered by SDOT; Service launch in Fall 2027</i>			
K Line	2023	2023	Spring 2025	2030
R Line	2021	Spring 2021	Fall 2024	2032

Leading Factors of Schedule Delays

■ Programmatic

- Federal grant coordination
- Environmental approvals
- Budget changes
- Unfilled vacancies and insufficient staffing models

■ Partnerships

- Syncing project timelines
- Design & permitting reviews by local jurisdictions

■ Design/Build Process

- RapidRide 2.0 "Kit of Parts" station design
- Project pauses can lead to inefficiencies
- Community engagement and coordination takes time
- Inaccurate as-built plan sets
- Coordination w/utilities
- Materials supply (concrete strike example)
- Property acquisition

Report Section B – Metro Responses to 2023 Audit

Description of efforts Metro has taken to respond to the recommendations contained in the July 18, 2023, KCAO audit:

- Catalyst for the 2025-2029 Capital Business Improvement Framework – a plan of structural, procedural, and cultural activities to strategically implement improvement recommendations.
- These improvements apply to all Capital projects, including RapidRide, strengthening delivery and reducing risks.
- Expected Outcomes: increased accountability, stronger project management, clearer processes, and alignment of resources that directly benefit RapidRide.
- KC Auditor’s 2025 update confirmed “considerable progress.”



Report Sections C & D: Improving Capital Delivery

Improvements to RapidRide Capital Delivery processes, as informed by lessons learned and contemporary practices

- Lessons learned at the project and program scales are tracked and applied over time
- New approaches to filling vacancies (focus on engineering disciplines) and leveraging consultant resources
- Utility coordination – continued relationship building with utility agencies reduces delays and improves schedule alignment
- Real property acquisition strategies optimized for efficient delivery – no legislative recommendations at this point
- Interagency agreements and partnership arrangements in service of efficient design, permitting and construction phases

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Thank You!

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