



King County

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King County Executive

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June 28, 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 RapidRide Prioritization Plan, in response to Ordinance 19367, and RapidRide K and R lines progress report, as called for by Ordinance 19546, Section 114, Proviso P4.

As required, the enclosed report outlines a RapidRide Prioritization Plan consistent with Ordinance 19367. The report includes corridor evaluations of RapidRide candidates based on the five factors used in Metro Connects (Metro's adopted long-range plan and 2050 vision), preplanning level studies of candidate corridors, a description of stakeholder engagement, and a list of the RapidRide candidate lines organized by tier, with a description of the priority level. The report also includes a RapidRide K and R lines progress report, as called for by Ordinance 19546, Section 114, Proviso P4.

The enclosed report organizes the eight RapidRide candidate lines in the Metro Connects interim network into three tiers of prioritization for future implementation, after the completion of RapidRide K and R lines. Three tiers of candidate corridors are identified based on a robust data-driven evaluation framework that leads with equity and sustainability and was informed by multiple consultations with Metro's Equity Cabinet, local jurisdictions, and the Regional Transit Committee.

The report is a prioritization plan and not an implementation plan, and it informs which RapidRide candidate lines should be prioritized for future planning when resources are available. New RapidRide lines will require additional funding (which has historically been from a mix of King County, local, state, and federal funds), Metro staffing, and jurisdiction partnerships to implement. Jurisdictional commitments are particularly important for the success of a RapidRide line through the planning and implementation stages with regards to

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community process, permitting, design, and construction. Ultimately, decisions about RapidRide implementation will be made through future biennial budget processes and Capital Improvement Plans.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. The important work discussed in the report will help ensure that future RapidRide investments, which are Metro's highest level of investment, are focused first on candidate lines that provide the most benefit to King County residents. The report's focus on equity and sustainability also helps ensure that future RapidRide expansion is best aligned with King County and Metro Transit values.

If your staff have questions, please contact Katie Chalmers, Service Development Manager, Mobility Division, Metro Transit Department, 206-477-5869.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

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
Christina O'Claire, Mobility Division Director, Metro Transit Department
Katie Chalmers, Service Development Manager, Mobility Division, Metro Transit Department