



King County

Dow Constantine

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 report of Transit Public Restroom Initiative, as called for by Ordinance 19546 Section 114, Proviso P1 amended by Ordinance 19633 Section 86, Proviso P1 and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

As required, the enclosed report includes a description of the public restrooms installed, operated, and maintained at the Aurora Village and Burien Transit Centers along with cost analysis, estimated monthly usage, and impact on safety and cleanliness. It also includes an analysis of transit centers that meet the criteria outlined in King County Code 28.94.100 public restroom policy for public transit, an evaluation of changes that may promote greater safety, security, and cleanliness, along with cost estimates to continue operations of current portable units and a cost comparison to permanent modular structures.

Based on consult with peer agencies regionally, the American Public Transit Association recommended practice, community concerns, and Metro's Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, the restrooms are available 24 hours daily with access monitored by a security officer to maximize public safety. Metro deployed an array of approaches to engage the community, including attending community meetings, hosting a walking tour, sending a survey to 2,241 residents, and maintaining ongoing dialogue with residents. As one community member shared, "In regard to the portable at AVTC, it has worked well. I attribute the success to 24-hour security and three times a day cleaning. Metro has really done well."

Metro will maintain current operations at both locations through the end of 2024. Metro's transit centers, including the two pilot locations, do not meet multiple criteria outlined in King County Code 28.94.100 guiding the provision of public restrooms at transit centers. Metro intends to

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comply with the code as written and therefore will cease operations of the public restrooms at the end of 2024.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. I look forward to further discussion. If your staff have questions, please contact Sarah Margeson, Government Relations Administrator, Metro Transit Department at 206-263-5852.

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
DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department
Ade Franklin, Division Director, Transit Facilities, Metro Transit Department
Mark Ellerbrook, Division Director, Capital, Metro Transit Department
Rebecca Frankhouser, Division Director, Safety, Security, & Quality Assurance, Metro Transit Department