



King County

Dow Constantine

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March 25, 2022

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

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

As called for by Ordinance 19210, Section 113, Transit, Proviso 4, this letter transmits The Future of Metro's Fare Collection System report and a proposed Motion that if approved, would acknowledge receipt of the report.

As required, the enclosed report includes a description of Metro's current fare collection system, including fareboxes, and identifies the components in need of replacement. The report also includes an equity impact review identifying communities that could be disproportionately adversely impacted by the transition to a contactless fare system, and a summary of a community engagement process in which a Stakeholder Advisory Group studied and recommended fare collection system alternatives. Finally, the report estimates the costs of continuing the current fare collection system, identifies potential cost savings from the fare collection option studied, and presents ideas for how those savings could be reinvested in improving the accessibility or affordability of fares for priority populations.

In developing the report, the Metro Transit Department engaged with representatives from 25 social and human service agencies that work with clients who could be disproportionately adversely impacted by a transition to a contactless fare system. Stakeholder Advisory Group members provided valuable insights into the barriers their clients face to accessing the region's contactless fare system and identified how potential fare collection system alternatives could be improved to better serve current cash-paying riders.

The transmittal of this report coincides with ongoing regional conversations about fare enforcement, affordability, and structure, as well as the launch of the region's new ORCA system.

This report supports the King County Strategic Plan mobility goal by delivering a safe, reliable, and seamless network of transportation options to get people and goods where they need to go,

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

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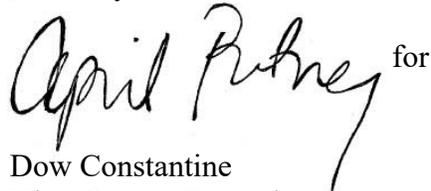
Page 2

when they need to get there. The report also furthers the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2021-2031 objective of using community-driven approaches to develop, program, and evaluate mobility services and infrastructure that serve priority populations.

It is estimated that this report required approximately 2,050 staff hours to produce, costing approximately \$130,000.

Thank you for your review of this report. If your staff have any questions, please contact Christina O'Claire, Mobility Division Director, Metro Transit Department, at 206-477-5801.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Janine Weihe, Acting Chief of Staff
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Terry White, General Manager, Metro Transit Department