

**King County**

Shannon Braddock
King County Executive

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September 30, 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 the Expediting RapidRide Report as called for in Ordinance 19861, Section 115, Transit, P5. The report provides a summary of the expected timelines for RapidRide delivery compared to actual experience, a description of efforts Metro has taken in response to the Auditor's 2023 recommendations, a description of efforts Metro has taken to change its Capital Delivery processes, and proposed legislation necessary to expedite RapidRide delivery.

As Metro delivers new RapidRide lines across multiple jurisdictions, priorities often evolve, budgets may change, and external factors, such as the global COVID-19 pandemic, can impact project planning and delivery. These conditions present unique challenges that require strategies to manage uncertainties while continuing to meet project baseline criteria. Projects have experienced periods of schedule delay throughout the lifecycle of current RapidRide expansion lines. Between 2017 and 2025, shifts both in overall RapidRide Program implementation timelines and in project level schedules have resulted in delayed delivery of RapidRide lines. These delays have prompted decision-makers and stakeholders to assess what Metro can do to minimize delivery delays on future RapidRide expansion efforts.

Metro's Capital and Mobility divisions work together alongside jurisdictional partners, project consultants, and other Metro divisions across the organization to identify during early phases of line development those key project risks that could become drivers of schedule delay. Each delay has prompted analysis of strategies for mitigating delay on future RapidRide projects. The Expediting RapidRide Report offers reasons behind schedule delay mitigation strategies

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and estimates for time savings. Metro is already employing some mitigation strategies on current RapidRide lines.

Thank you for consideration of this report. The important work discussed in the report, including potential legislation, will help King County Metro provide the best possible RapidRide service, improving regional mobility and quality of life in King County.

If your staff have questions, please contact Christina O'Claire, Mobility Division Director, Metro Transit Department, at 206-477-5801.

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
Chris O'Claire, Division Director, Mobility Division, Metro Transit Department