



**KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

**Signature Report**

**March 22, 2016**

**Motion 14595**

**Proposed No. 2016-0134.1**

**Sponsors Dembowski**

1           A MOTION relating to the security of transit passengers  
2           and operators.

3           WHEREAS, public transportation plays a vital role in increasing mobility and  
4 access throughout King County, with the transit division ("Metro Transit") providing  
5 more than one hundred twenty million transit boardings during 2015, and

6           WHEREAS, King County has a significant interest in eliminating barriers to  
7 transit and in providing passengers with affordable, convenient and safe access to transit,  
8 and

9           WHEREAS, ensuring the safety and security of Metro Transit services and  
10 facilities, as measured by minimizing operator and passenger incidents and assaults, is  
11 one of the goals of the 2011-2021 Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, and

12           WHEREAS, Metro Transit produced in 2011, a system security plan that exists to  
13 guide Metro Transit's efforts to maintain and improve the safe operations of its vehicles  
14 and the safety and security of its facilities, and

15           WHEREAS, Metro Transit will in 2016 undergo a process to review the System  
16 Security Plan and provide any needed updates, and

17           WHEREAS, Metro Transit has convened a security working group that is  
18 examining several crime reduction and prevention strategies such as a potential

19 expansion of coach cameras or the deployment of transit security personnel based on real  
20 time reporting of crime that is observed by transit operators, and

21 WHEREAS, average assaults per month on Metro Transit services and facilities  
22 have declined following the implementation of the assault reduction program in 2008, but  
23 still average more than five assaults per month;

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

25 A. It is the policy of the county that the safety of transit operators and passengers  
26 is of paramount importance and that measures should be taken to ensure that Metro  
27 Transit services and facilities are convenient, accessible and safe for passengers and  
28 operators.

29 B.1. The executive is requested to develop and transmit to the council a transit  
30 passenger and operator security action plan that supports the strategies outlined in the  
31 system security plan and identifies and prioritizes specific activities that can be  
32 undertaken to enhance the safety and security of Metro Transit's customers and  
33 employees. The plan should include, but not be limited to:

34 a. information about current security plans and programs that are being  
35 implemented for transit passengers and operators, including analysis of the relative  
36 success of these programs;

37 b. an analysis of the reliability and potential expansion of video cameras on  
38 transit coaches and the potential use of cameras by operators for security purposes;

39 c. an analysis of fare enforcement policies and practices and the relationship  
40 between fare enforcement policies to operator and passenger security, including lessons  
41 learned from the implementation of fare enforcement measures on the rapid ride lines;

42 d. an analysis of current staffing levels for Metro Transit police and contract  
43 personnel used to provide security in the transit tunnels and at metro stations;

44 e. an analysis of the potential benefits that could be derived from Metro  
45 Transit police and security personnel deployment based on real-time crime reporting;

46 f. an analysis of the benefits that might be achieved by adding dedicated  
47 personnel in the prosecuting attorney's office and department of public defense;

48 g. an analysis of how transit safety programs can be implemented so as to  
49 avoid disparate impacts on disadvantaged communities;

50 h. a comparison of Metro Transit passenger and operator security programs  
51 and incident levels with security programs operated by transit systems in other cities  
52 around the country;

53 i. a potential budget for action plan recommendations, including identification  
54 of funding sources and proposed funding levels for the 2017/2018 biennial budget; and

55 j. a recommended deployment strategy and a timeline for implementation of  
56 recommended actions.

57 2. The development of the plan, report, legislation and the amount of any  
58 proposed appropriation should be undertaken by the executive in consultation with  
59 county staff including, but not limited to, representatives from the sheriff's office, the  
60 prosecuting attorney's office, the department of public defense, Metro Transit operators  
61 and the Metro Transit police.

62 3. The executive should transmit:

63 a. the plan, including the work plan, and a motion accepting the plan by July  
64 15, 2016, in the form of a paper original and an electronic copy with the clerk of the

65 council, who shall retain the original and provide an electronic copy to all  
66 councilmembers, the council chief of staff, the policy staff director and the lead staff for  
67 the transportation, economy and environment committee, or its successor; and

68           b. any proposed legislation and appropriation ordinances by September 26,  
69 2016.

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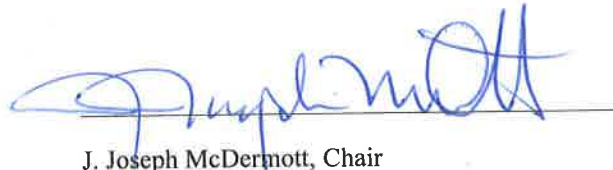
Motion 14595 was introduced on 2/29/2016 and passed by the Metropolitan King  
County Council on 3/21/2016, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn,  
Mr. McDermott, Mr. Dembowski, Mr. Upthegrove, Ms. Kohl-Welles  
and Ms. Balducci

No: 0

Excused: 0

KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



J. Joseph McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

**Attachments:** None