



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance 19705

Proposed No. 2023-0367.1

Sponsors Dembowski

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to public transportation,
2 extending the one-dollar rate for low-income fare on buses,
3 trolleys, transit vans, dial-a-ride vehicles, and streetcars
4 from twelve months to twenty-four months; amending
5 Ordinance 19532, Section 3, and establishing an expiration
6 date.

7 **STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

- 8 1. K.C.C 4A. 700.010 provides fares for regularly scheduled county
9 public transportation service on buses, trolleys, transit vans, dial-a-ride
10 vehicles, including fares for adults, children, youth, seniors and persons
11 with disabilities and low-income riders.
- 12 2. Metro transit department's ("Metro") fund management policies for the
13 public transportation fund, as adopted by Ordinance 18321, provide that
14 Metro will recover at least twenty-five percent and will maintain a target
15 of recovering thirty percent of passenger related operating costs from
16 farebox revenues for bus service.
- 17 3. The King County Metro Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, 2021-
18 2031, as adopted by Ordinance 19367, includes a strategy to "Align fares
19 with other service providers, meet revenue targets, and advance equity
20 through Metro's income-based approach to fares."

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21 4. The King County council has worked with the King County executive
22 and Metro to implement a number of programs to advance an income-
23 based approach to fares and ensure that public transit is affordable and
24 accessible to people in need.

25 5. The current low-income fare of \$1.00 for buses, trolleys, transit vans,
26 dial-a-ride vehicles and streetcars, was adopted on a pilot basis by
27 Ordinance 19532. This pilot fare took effect on January 1, 2023, and
28 expires on January 1, 2024. The low-income fare is available to persons
29 who apply for and are determined to meet the eligibility threshold of two
30 hundred percent of the federal poverty level.

31 6. Sound Transit implemented a permanent \$1.00 low-income fare on
32 March 1, 2023, following their six-month pilot that began September 1,
33 2022. More than half of riders enrolled in ORCA LIFT who begin a trip
34 on Sound Transit transfer to Metro services, highlighting the importance
35 of fare alignment for the two agencies. That is particularly important for
36 ORCA LIFT enrollees, who are among the region's most-vulnerable
37 riders.

38 7. Metro is engaged in a department-wide process to make fares more
39 affordable and accessible to riders. Community engagement is planned
40 for 2024 and will help inform evaluation of the \$1.00 low-income fare
41 pilot.

42 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

43 SECTION 1. Ordinance 19532, Section 3, is hereby amended to read as follows:

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44


45 Ordinance 19532, Section 1 (~~(of this ordinance)~~), expires January 1, (~~(2024)~~)

46 2025.


Ordinance 19705 was introduced on 10/17/2023 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 11/28/2023, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Balducci, Dembowski, Dunn, Kohl-Welles, Perry, McDermott, Upthegrove, von Reichbauer and Zahilay


KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

DocuSigned by:

E76CE01F07B14EF...
Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

8DE1BB375AD3422...
Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this _____ day of 12/6/2023, _____.

DocuSigned by:

4FBCAB8196AE4C6...
Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None

Certificate Of Completion

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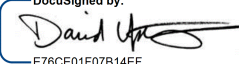
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Signer Events

Dave Upthegrove
dave.upthegrove@kingcounty.gov
Chair
Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None)

Signature

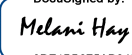
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Melani Hay
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Clerk of the Council
King County Council
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King County Executive
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Kaitlyn Wiggins kwwiggins@kingcounty.gov Executive Legislative Coordinator King County Executive Office Security Level: Email, Account Authentication (None) Electronic Record and Signature Disclosure: Not Offered via DocuSign	COPIED	Sent: 11/30/2023 2:34:17 PM Viewed: 11/30/2023 2:48:45 PM
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Notary Events	Signature	Timestamp
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