



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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April 12, 2021

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

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

This letter transmits Metro's Reimagining Transit Safety and Security Scoping Report, as called for by Ordinance 19210, Section 113, Proviso P5 and a proposed motion that would, if enacted, approve the report.

In 2020, I declared Racism a Public Health Crisis, affirming the County's commitment to becoming an anti-racist and pro-equity government. Also, in 2020 Metro strengthened its commitment to equity and began exploring new approaches to working with communities. Metro sought to deepen relationships to advance safety, equity, and inclusion and to center the voices of and input from Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities that transit enforcement systems have most negatively impacted.

In response to this proviso, Metro will reimagine transit safety and security by reexamining, restructuring, and reducing the department's security, fare enforcement, and law enforcement practices, partnerships, and resource allocation.

As required, the enclosed scoping report outlines the body of work Metro plans to embark upon to develop an implementation report due to Council in the fall also required by this proviso. The scoping report includes: a description of Metro's safety and security functions; a proposal for internal engagement and co-creation with Metro transit department employees and stakeholders; a proposal for external engagement and cocreation with community stakeholders; and a proposed timeline for development of the reimagining transit safety and security implementation report.

To inform preparation of the enclosed scoping report, Metro engaged with internal and external stakeholders to define what co-creation and inclusive engagement meant to them. Speaking with

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over a dozen community organizations in one-on-one stakeholder interviews and in two focus groups, helped Metro to co-create the engagement process itself. Co-creating this scoping report was critical to the community engagement process as it helped foster: shared ownership of the process and investment in advocacy; inclusivity in engagement and planning; and the opportunity to develop shared outcomes.

The report furthers the King County Strategic Plan objective to reduce disproportionate minority representation in the criminal justice system.

It is estimated that the report required 200 hours by staff to produce, costing approximately \$10,000 in staff hours. The estimated printing cost for this report is nominal.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and Proposed Motion. The important work discussed in the report will help advance Metro work becoming an anti-racist mobility agency.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Diane Carlson, Metro Transit Department, at (206) 263-9631 or Diane.Carlson@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
ATTN: Carolyn Busch, Chief of Staff
Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Karan Gill, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Terry White, General Manager, Metro Transit Department (MTD)
Diane Carlson, Capital Division Director, MTD