



King County | Office of the Executive

Executive Girmay Zahilay

Chinook Building, CNK-EX-0800
401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 800
Seattle, WA 98104-2391

April 22, 2026

The Honorable Sarah Perry
Chair, King County Council
Room 1200
COURTHOUSE

Dear Councilmember Perry:

This letter transmits the East Link Connections Transit Gap Service Analysis Report required by Ordinance 20023, Section 116, Transit, P14 and a proposed Motion that would, if approved, acknowledge receipt of the report in compliance Ordinance 20023

The enclosed report summarizes transit service gaps resulting from implementation of the East Link Connections Mobility Project as approved by Ordinance 19899, specifically in the Bellevue neighborhoods of Bel-Red, Crossroads, and Woodridge from changes in routes 226 and 240, and deletion of Route 246. It describes alternatives for changes to Metro bus routing to restore service on Richards Road, and reviews Metro Flex on-demand pilot service options for filling gaps in these neighborhoods

To develop the East Link Connections restructuring, Metro conducted extensive public engagement across 21 jurisdictions, with multiple community organizations, and individual riders in the project area. The decisions made as part of this project were guided by community priorities identified during engagement. Benefits such as increased frequency of service along key corridors at night and on weekends; new and improved connections with key destinations; and connections to Link light rail were added while stops were removed in limited areas with low ridership, resulting in loss of some fixed-route transit coverage. Many changes associated with this restructure are being implemented in 2026.

In addition to this report, Metro is undertaking a broader analysis of the effect of implemented changes. It includes monitoring and assessing the performance of the network changes across all neighborhoods and routes in the project area and beyond, listening to feedback from the community, and identifying potential changes to be considered with additional public engagement.

Thank you for your consideration of the enclosed report and proposed Motion. If your staff have questions, please contact Katie Chalmers, Service Development Manager, Mobility Division, Metro Transit Department, at 206-477-5869.

The Honorable Sarah Perry

April 22, 2026

Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karan Gill', written in a cursive style.

for

Girmay Zahilay
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, Office of the Executive

Jasmin Weaver, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Hyeok Kim, Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Executive

Sierra Howlett Browne, Director of Government Relations, Office of the Executive

Garrett Holbrook, Council Relations Manager, Office of the Executive

Michelle Allison, General Manager, Metro Transit Department