



King County

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

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February 20, 2024

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

Dear Councilmember Upthegrove:

This letter transmits a Vanpool Program Update Report addressing current and planned changes to the program to address changing ridership patterns in response to King County Ordinance 19546, Section 114, Proviso P6.

As required, the enclosed report includes the number of active vanpool groups in 2023 and projected groups that will be active through 2026; number of vehicles owned, in use, and not in service in 2023, and vehicle purchase plans through 2026. Additionally, the report includes the proposed strategy and timeline to convert the vanpool program to zero emission vehicles; and proposed changes to the design of the vanpool program to respond to changing ridership patterns.

The enclosed report includes a description of the current conditions of the Vanpool program that was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The report demonstrates that in the post-pandemic recovery period, the program has experienced a surge in vanpool groups forming as employees at large companies return to work both in hybrid and full-time scenarios. The report demonstrates that Metro is adapting to meet changing employer and customer expectations, and providing offerings to attract shift, hospitality, custodial, and other entry-level workers, along with small businesses that may benefit from vanpool program features. The report also summarizes how the fleet is moving toward right-sizing vehicle numbers and types. It also addresses Metro's planning and progress to transition the fleet to zero emissions.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. The service Metro's Vanpool program provides is vital to ensuring that King County residents have a safe, reliable, and effective network of transportation options to get them where they need to go, when they need to get there.

The Honorable Dave Upthegrove

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If your staff have questions, please contact Gwen Clemens, Managing Director of Contracted Services Section, Department of Transportation, at 206-263-9686.

Sincerely,



for

Dow Constantine

King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers

ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff

Melani Hay, Clerk of the Council

Karan Gill, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive

Penny Lipsou, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive

Michelle Allison, General Manager, Metro Transit Department

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