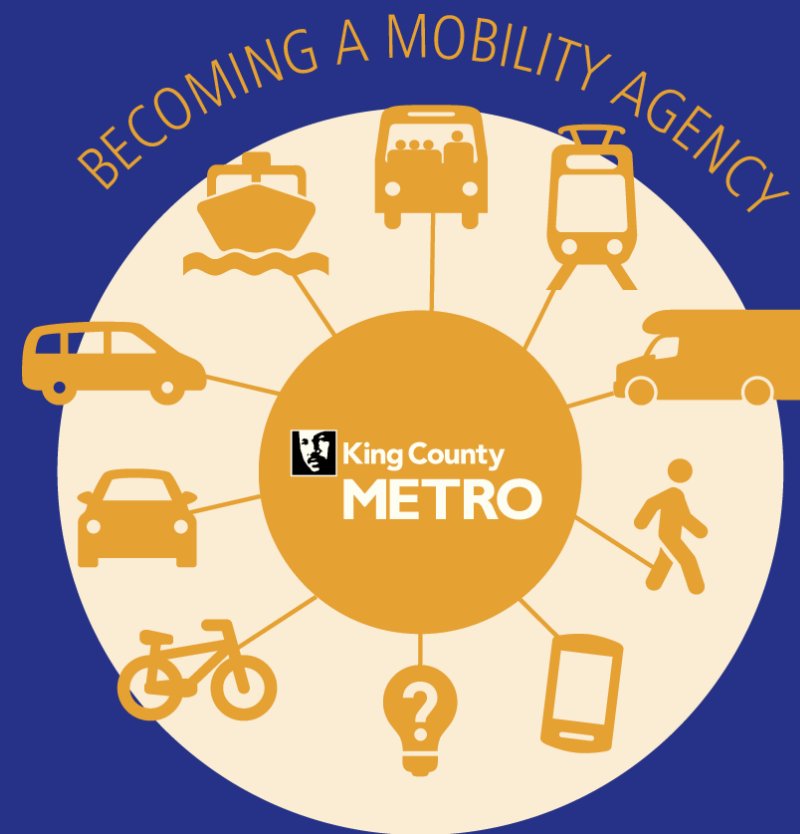


Community Van, Metro Flex, Vanpool and Vanshare

Regional Transit Committee

April 17, 2024



Metro Policies


- **Strategic Plan for Public Transportation**
 - Adopt innovative services and products
- **Metro Connects**
 - Pilot new innovative flexible service models
 - Design, implement, evaluate new services
- **Service Guidelines**
 - Priority – equity, access, density
 - Evaluation – equity, productivity, efficiency, mobility options



Community Van





What is Community Van?

 Reservation-based rideshare service for groups of 2-11.


 Volunteer driven.


 No restrictions or qualifications to ride.

 Community Transportation Coordinators help with trip planning and scheduling.

 Metro provides vans, fuel, and insurance.

 Accessible vans available.

 Discover passes included with vans and bike racks available with some vans.

 Same cost as a one-way bus fare.

Who can drive Community Van?

- Anyone 21+ with valid Washington state driver's license may apply as a driver.
- Volunteers are vetted and monitored by King County Metro.



- Volunteers must complete training before driving.

- Drive neighbors or donate time to the community or an organization to help someone in need.
- Drive family, friends, teams, troops or organization outings.

Connections in the Community

Community Transportation Coordinator Role:

- Outreach and Community events
- Form Community Partnerships
- Metro Ambassadors
- Volunteer Training
- Trip planning
- Vehicle Upkeep
- Metro Reporting



Community Van Partnerships

Transit to Nature is a partnership with King County Parks and Community Van.

- ❖ Reduce barriers for access to parks, outdoors and other experiences.
- ❖ Build community centered partnerships with organizations who serve BIPOC, and other racially and economically diverse residents of King County.

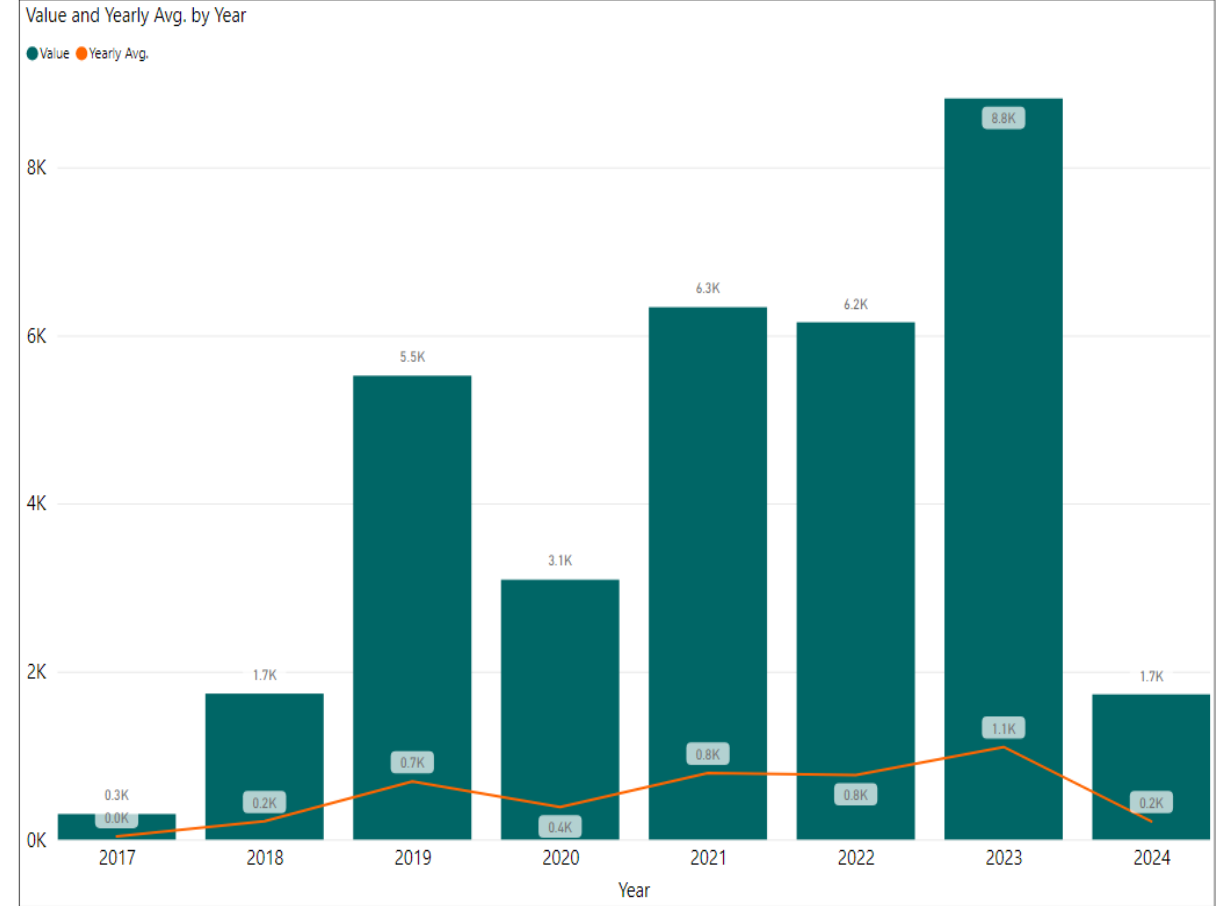
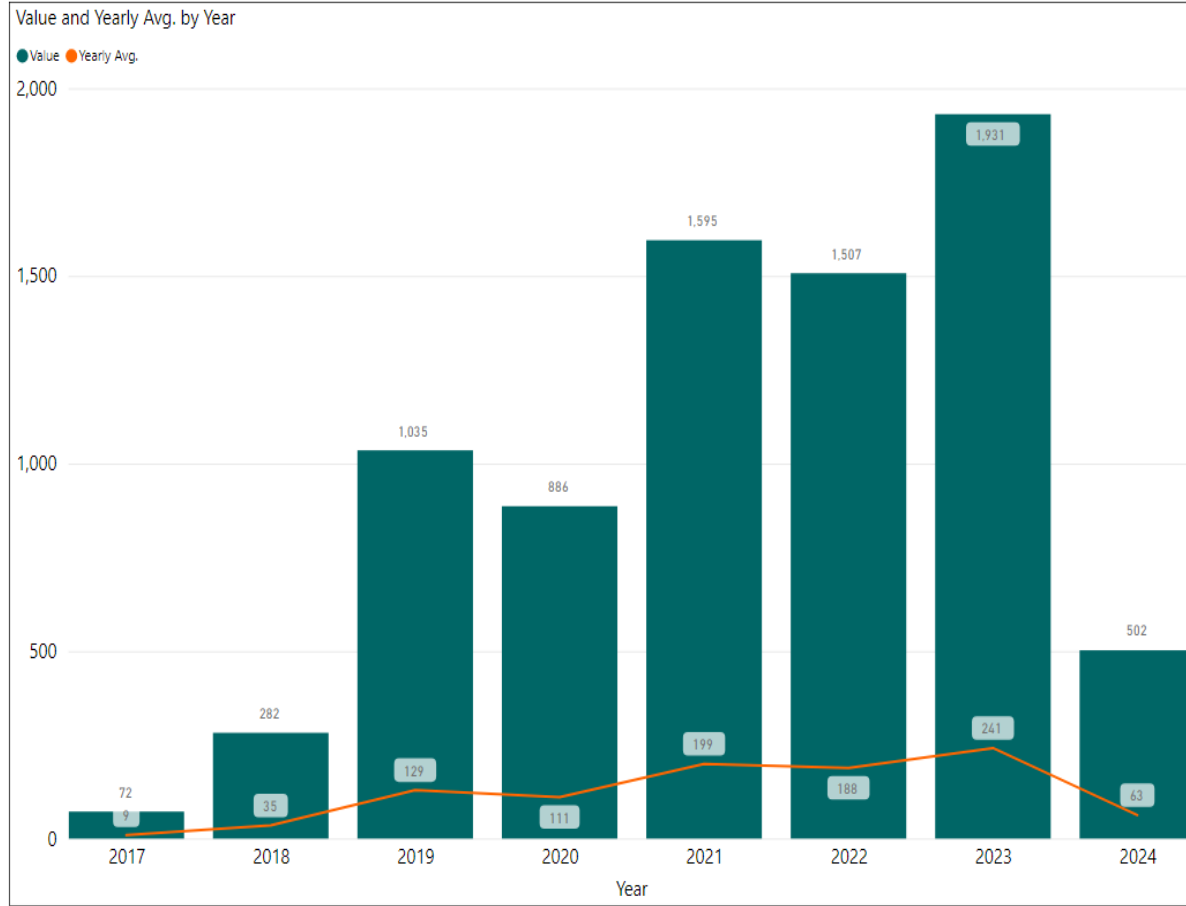


Performance

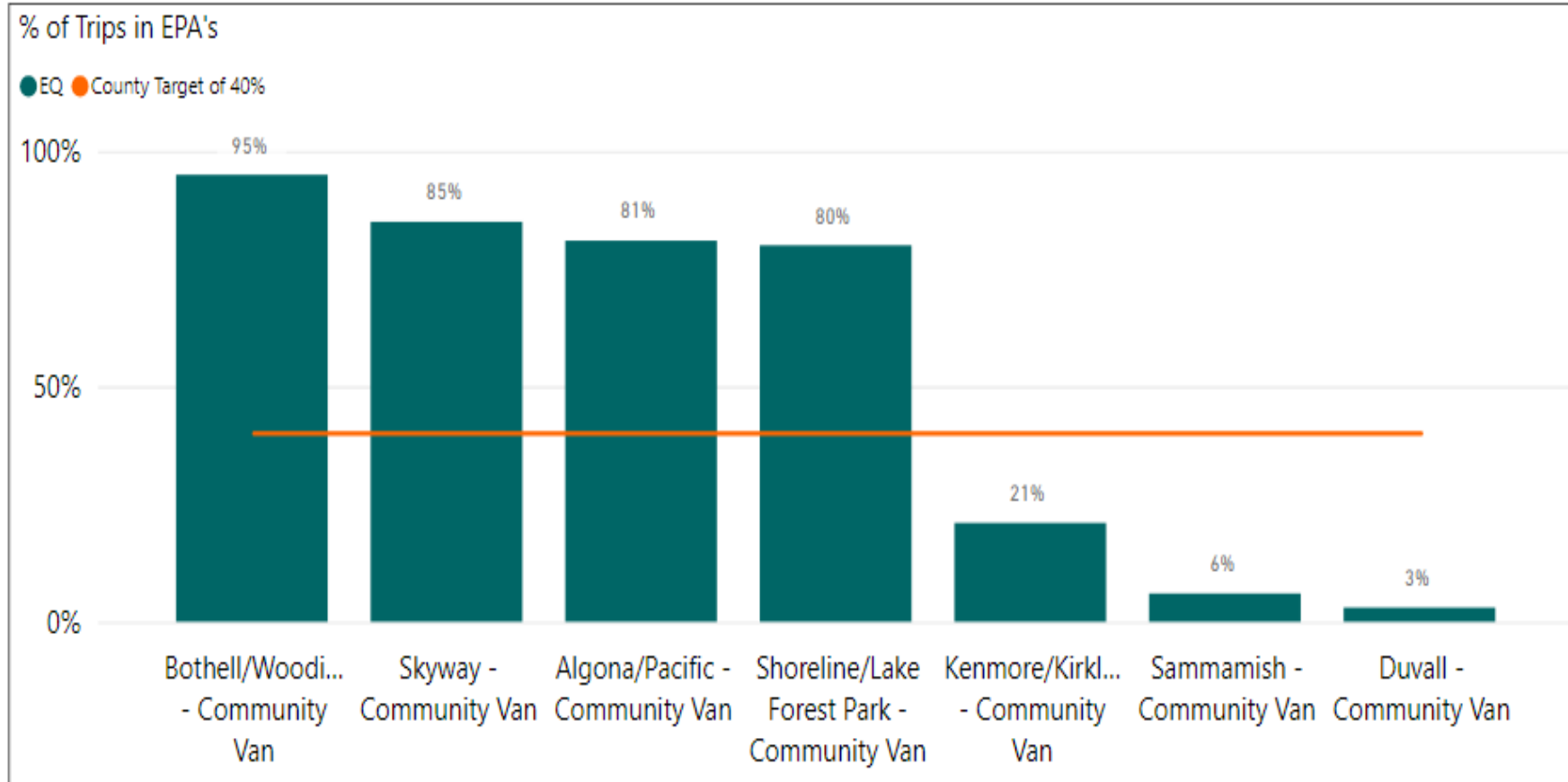
Boardings
33,731

Trips
7,811

Boardings/Trips
4.3



Equity through Service



Community Van Locations and What is Next...



- Algona-Pacific
- Bothell-Woodinville
- Kenmore-Kirkland
- Redmond
- Sammamish
- Shoreline-Lake Forest Park
- Skyway
- Snoqualmie Valley **New locations!*
- Vashon Island
- Tukwila coming soon!

Metro Flex – On-Demand, Microtransit



Metro Flex Basics

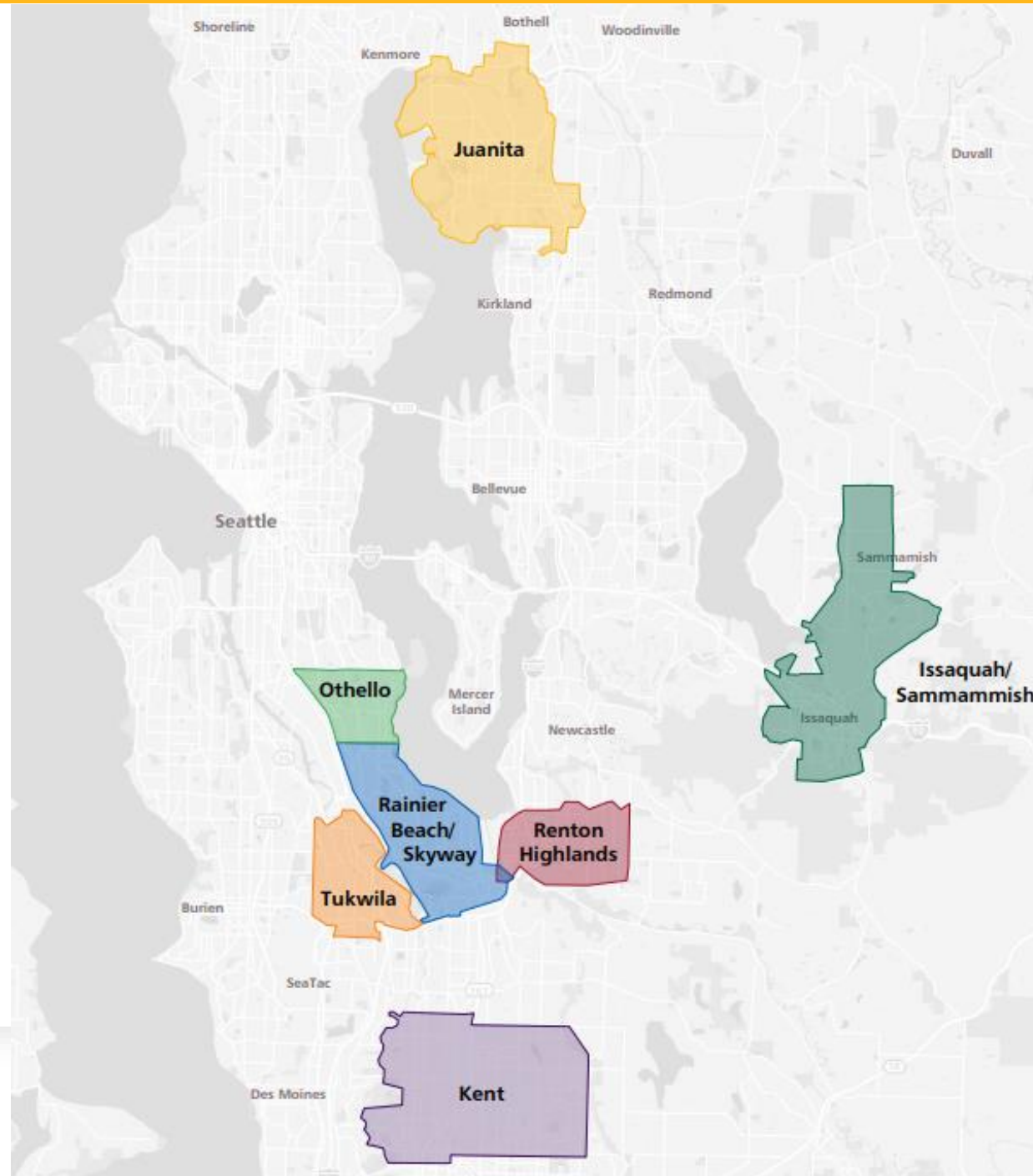
- Open to general public
- Request ride on-demand using app, call center, or web booking
- Provide start/end anywhere within service area, get ETA
- Walk to nearby pick-up location
- Join a shared ride with 15-minute ETA on average
- Same fare as bus, free transfers with ORCA



Service Areas

Service Areas

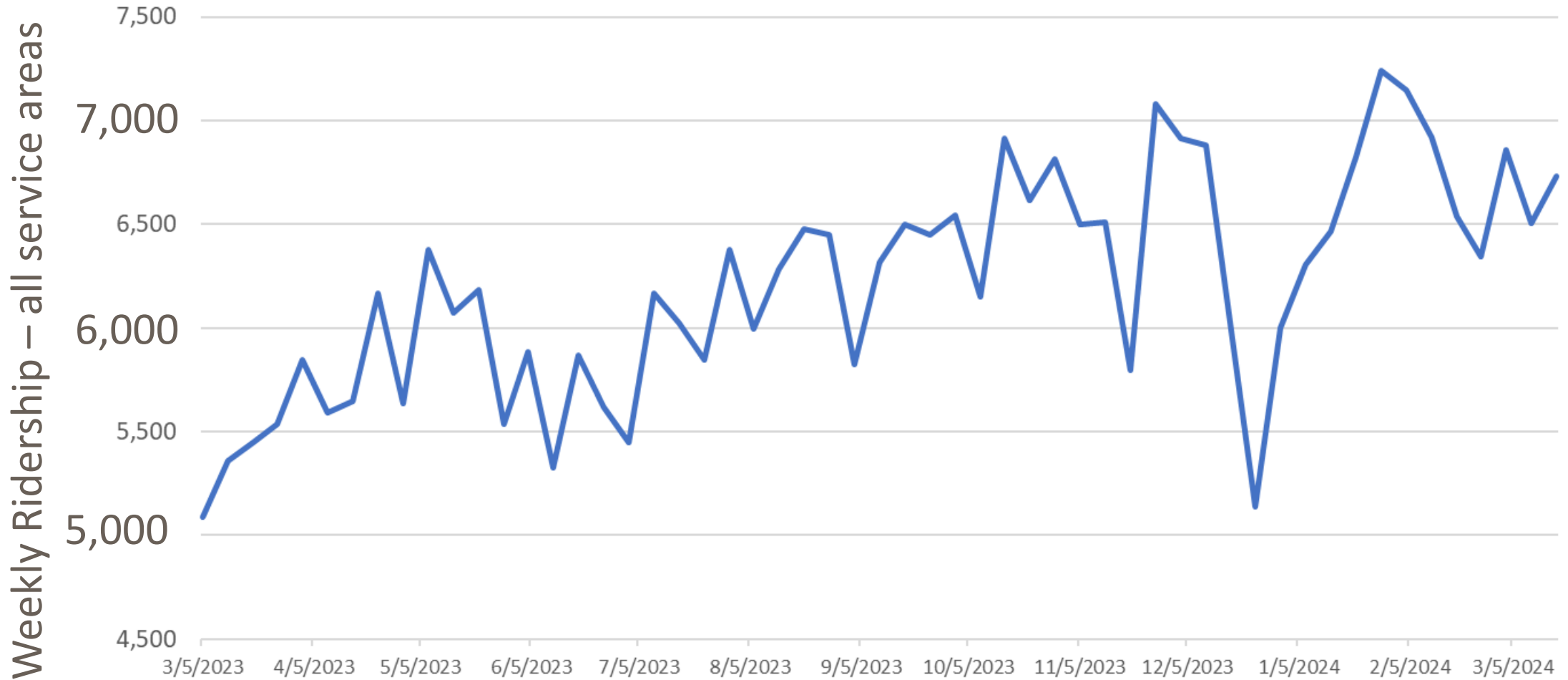
-  Juanita
-  Issaquah / Sammamish
-  Othello
-  Rainier Beach / Skyway
-  Renton Highlands
-  Tukwila
-  Kent



Service Area Hours

Service areas	Weekdays	Weekend
Juanita	7am to 7pm	Sat/Sun - No service
Issaquah/Sammamish	7am to 6pm	Saturday - 9am to 6pm Sunday - No service
Kent	5am to 7pm	Sat/Sun - 7am to 7pm
Othello Rainier Beach Skyway Renton Highlands Tukwila	5am to 1am	Saturday - 5am to 1am Sunday - 6am to 12am

Recent Metro Flex Ridership Trend



On-Demand Pilot Evaluation

Equity

- Riders picked up or dropped off in a high score EPA
- Compared to total % households in high score EPA (within zone, countywide)

Productivity & Efficiency

- Rides per vehicle hour
- Cost per ride

Strength of fixed-route

- Households outside ¼ mile of a bus stop, ½ mile of a rail stop
- Community assets outside ¼ mile of a bus stop, ½ mile of a rail stop

What's Next

- Pilot period evaluations
- Integrations with paratransit
- Electrification
- Integration w/trip planners
- Non-dedicated service providers for high demand times/overflow
- Supporting families w/children
- Regional coordination
- Planned expansion (2024-2026):
Northshore, West Seattle/Delridge,
Overlake, Auburn, Federal Way





Vanpool & Vanshare Program



What is a Vanpool?

5+ Commuters:

A group of commuters who share a similar home origin, work destination and schedule.



Volunteer Roles:

At least two drivers and a bookkeeper.

Group Operations:

Members decide on route, meeting locations, schedule and other logistics.

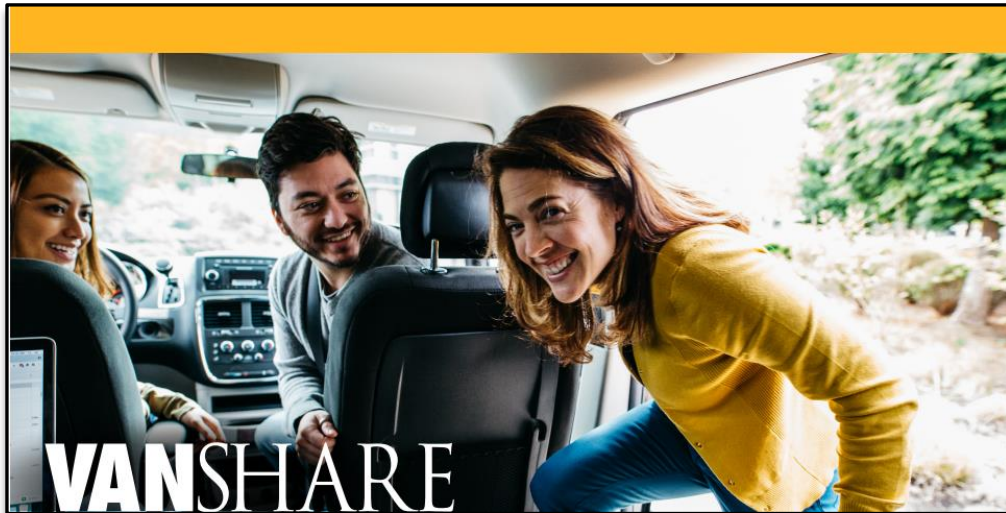
Monthly Fare Covers:

The van, fuel, tolls, insurance, maintenance, roadside assistance and emergency ride home. Employer may cover fare.

What is a Vanshare?

First/Last Mile Connection:

Commuters share a van to link to public transportation such as a train, bus, ferry or longer-distance vanpool.



5+ Riders:

Commuters with key volunteer roles.

Mileage:

20-mile daily roundtrip commute.

Cost:

Flat \$200/month split by group or covered by employer.

Example:

Train commuters arrive at Tukwila station and use Vanshare to connect last few miles to Renton worksite.

Vanpool vs Vanshare?

	Vanpool	Vanshare
Rider needs	People who want a direct route between their home and work or school destination.	People who use transit- such as the train, ferry or bus – but need a final connection to work, school, or home.
Ride type	Anywhere in King County – All participants must live or work in King County	Shorter distances – 20 daily miles or less in King County to connect to transit modes.
Fare	Depends on number of commuting days, trip mileage, vehicle size and the number of people in your Vanpool.	\$200/month , split among 5 or more participants.

Fares cover 100% capital and operating costs, and 25% of administrative costs by King County code.

What's Next

- Increase van ridership to fill empty seats.
- Expand Vanpool Reduced Fare pilot.
- Diversify customer base.
- Electrify vanpool fleet 100% by 2030.



Closing and Questions