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April 24, 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 the report on the 2024 Update on Waterfront & Northwest Belltown Transit Study, as required by Ordinance 19546, Section 114, Proviso P7, and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, acknowledge receipt of the report.

As called for by Motion 14970, a 2018 Waterfront and Northwest Belltown Transit Study was transmitted to the King County Council. This report provided analysis of several options for long-term transit improvements that could potentially be implemented following the removal of the SR-99 Alaskan Way Viaduct, and the reconstruction and improvement of downtown Seattle's waterfront.

The enclosed 2024 report outlines significant changes to transit operations and conditions along the waterfront areas that have occurred since the 2018 study. This report is intended to provide updates on major projects, Metro policies for transit investment, waterfront stakeholder needs, impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and new strategies alongside long-term strategies presented in the 2018 study.

Metro's engagement process with waterfront stakeholders included businesses, employers, partner agencies, and residents in the Alaskan Way and First Avenue corridors, to better understand how transportation needs may have changed since the 2018 study. Based on the findings, Metro developed additional transit options for further exploration and engagement with the broader community, all detailed in this report.

Thank you for your consideration of this report. If your staff have questions, please contact Christina O'Claire, Mobility Division Director, Metro Transit Department, at 206-477-5801.

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Sincerely,

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