

King County Metro Transit Adopted Policies

Introduction to Metro policies as updated in 2021 (Ordinance 19367)

Strategic Plan for Public Transportation

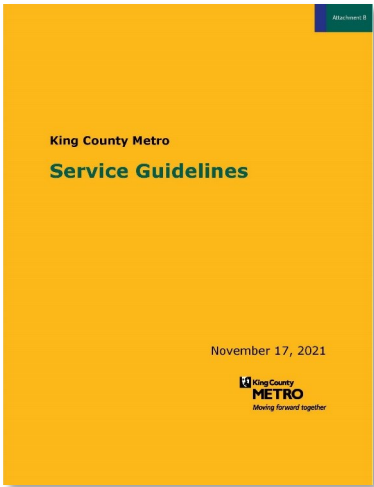


Metro’s **Strategic Plan for Public Transportation, 2021-2031**, outlines Metro’s goals, the strategies to achieve those goals, and the measures Metro uses to determine if it is succeeding. The Strategic Plan has 10 goals:

1. **Investments.** Invest upstream and where needs are greatest
2. **Sustainability.** Address the climate crisis and environmental justice
3. **Innovation.** Innovate to improve mobility, complement transit, and advance equity and sustainability
4. **Safety.** Keep passengers, employees, and communities safe
5. **Transit-Oriented Communities.** Support thriving, equitable, transit-oriented communities that foster economic development
6. **Access.** Improve access to mobility options
7. **Service Quality.** Provide fast, reliable, and integrated mobility services
8. **Workforce.** Partner with employees, unions, contractors, and communities to offer high-skill, high-wage careers that support a high quality of life
9. **Stewardship.** Be responsible stewards of financial resources and invest in line with values and goals
10. **Engagement.** Conduct deliberate and transparent community engagement

The Strategic Plan identifies strategies and performance measures for each goal. Performance measures will be tracked through an [online dashboard](#), which is currently being developed. Metro must provide an oral report on this dashboard each year to the Regional Transit Committee and the King County Council.

Service Guidelines



Metro’s **Service Guidelines** guide the day-to-day operations of the transit system through criteria to develop, modify, and evaluate transit service.

Developing transit service is guided by a set of criteria to plan, space, and organize fixed-route and flexible services.

Modifying transit service is guided by criteria and priorities for service investments, reductions, and restructures.

- **Service investments** are based on three priorities:
 - **Priority 1: Reduce Crowding** by adding service to over-crowded routes
 - **Priority 2: Improve Reliability** by adding service to routes that run late
 - **Priority 3: Grow Service** by filling the gap between existing service and target service levels using three factors: equity, land use, and geographic value
- **Service reductions**, when needed, are based on productivity and equity, with the least productive and lowest-equity-score routes prioritized for reduction.
- **Service restructures** change transit service in a geographic area when there is change to the transportation network (such as a new Link light rail line) or when there are development or land use changes. Service restructures are based on goals developed with the community.

Evaluating transit service is accomplished through the annual System Evaluation report, which is transmitted to the Regional Transit Committee and King County Council each October. The System Evaluation identifies target service levels and investment needs and reports ridership, productivity, passenger load, reliability, and equity metrics for each route.

Metro Connects Long-range Plan



Metro Connects is Metro’s vision for the future. It outlines an expanded service network to be developed through an **Interim Network** (by the mid-2030s, to synchronize with Sound Transit expansion) and a **2050 Network**.

By 2050, Metro Connects envisions a transit system with:

- 7 million annual service hours, up from 4 million in 2019
- 200 million annual riders, up from 121 million in 2019
- 19-23 RapidRide lines, up from 6 in 2019
- \$28.3 billion in associated capital improvements

Metro Connects is not fully funded, so additional regional funding will be needed to achieve the long-range vision.

To track progress toward implementing Metro Connects, Metro is required to transmit to the Regional Transit Committee and King County Council:

- **Metro Connects Implementation Report**, due by May 5, 2022, to describe the funding needed to implement Metro Connects, the funding gap, and potential funding sources to fill the gap
- **RapidRide Prioritization Plan**, due by June 30, 2024, to describe the RapidRide candidate lines to be implemented, organized by tier, with a description of the priority level for each
- **An update on the status of RapidRide implementation** to be included in each year’s System Evaluation report
- **Metro Connects performance measures** to be included in the Strategic Plan’s performance measures dashboard