



King County

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May 3, 2022

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

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

As called for by Ordinance 19367, this letter transmits the Metro Connects implementation report and a proposed Motion that would, if enacted, accept the report.

Metro Connects, Metro's long-range service and capital plan, envisions an integrated, innovative, equitable, and sustainable mobility system that includes 70 percent more service by 2050 and contributes to healthy communities, a sustainable environment, and a thriving economy. Metro Connects was updated in 2021 and adopted by the King County Council through Ordinance 19367.

Implementing the interim and 2050 service networks in Metro Connects will require time, collaboration with cities and regional partners, and additional funding. Determining how to fund expansion is essential to implementing the vision of Metro Connects. Though revenue projections have improved since Metro transmitted the updated Metro Connects in summer 2021 due to improvements in sales tax projections and additional federal and state funding allocations, the funding gap to achieve the envisioned service and capital investments remains significant. The report outlines potential funding options that could help close this gap.

Implementing Metro Connects advances the King County Strategic Plan mobility goal and its objectives to increase integration between transportation modes and all service providers; preserve and optimize the mobility system; ensure safety and security for customers and employees using the mobility network; and provide more equitable mobility access and reduce historic gaps. It also supports the Strategic Plan's healthy environment objective to reduce countywide greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2030 and the objective of the health and human services goal to reduce disparities and improve overall health and personal well-being to create thriving communities.

Implementing the service expansion in Metro Connects is essential to achieving the goals and targets outlined in King County's Strategic Climate Action Plan. Finally, by resulting in service networks that increase access to mobility and opportunities for priority populations, Metro Connects aligns with King County's Equity and Social Justice Strategic Plan.

The Honorable Claudia Balducci

May 3, 2022

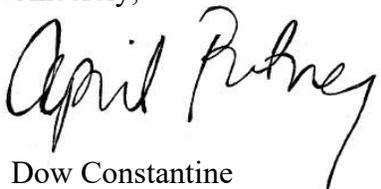
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This report required approximately 80 staff hours to produce, costing approximately \$4,000.

Thank you for your consideration of this report and proposed legislation. The important work discussed here will significantly increase mobility options for residents across King County, thereby addressing climate change and improving quality of life and equity within our communities.

If your staff have any questions, please contact Tessa McClellan, Strategic Planning and Policy Lead, Metro Transit Department, at 206-263-5750.

Sincerely,

 for

Dow Constantine
King County Executive

Enclosure

cc: King County Councilmembers
 ATTN: Stephanie Cirkovich, Chief of Staff
 Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council
Shannon Braddock, Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Karan Gill, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Executive
Mina Hashemi, Council Relations Director, Office of the Executive
Terry White, General Manager, Metro Transit Department (MTD)
Ernest Kandilige, Assistant General Manager of Finance and Administration, MTD