

Distributed at 10/14/15  
TREE Mtg.

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# Opinion

## Free Speech

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What matters most to you? Environment? Jobs? The

about your student debt?

After what issue is most important to you, the corrupting of big money in our system hinders debate and change.

the Supreme Court overturn the 2010 Citizens' decision, corporations have the same rights and money was

and speech. This opened the gates for unlimited and huge contributions to campaigns, giving the platform to the candidate's biggest donors.

There is no requirement for massive donations to be made, which means the issues about are being co-opted by money donors. It's hard to see something when you're in the room with whom you should be

care about anything. We should care about Initiative 5 which urges our state to have a federal Constitutional amendment clarifying that individual rights belong only to individuals, not corporations; money is not free and that all political decisions must be regulated by the public.

We need 320,000 signatures from voters by the end

of the year to qualify I-735 for the ballot, and UW students can contribute in many ways. Check out [wamend.org](http://wamend.org) or get in touch with their UW representative Kate McDonald (Senior, Law, Societies & Justice) at [katemcdonald7@yahoo.com](mailto:katemcdonald7@yahoo.com) to figure out where to sign the petition and get involved. Help get big money out of our elections and restore your voice in our democracy!

*Kate McDonald, Senior*

I encourage all UW students, staff, and faculty to learn about the major changes, and especially deletions, of Metro bus routes in March 2016 when the Husky Stadium light-rail station opens.

As one example consider route 71, which provides frequent weekday, late evening, and weekend express service between View Ridge and the downtown tunnel via NE 65th St, the Ave, and Campus Pkwy. Metro's plan is to eliminate completely this route and to replace it with less frequent weekday-only service on a new route 78. One-route service on NE 65th and the Ave will disappear, and travelers wishing to use light rail will be taken to Husky Stadium. Weekends: Metro provides no alternative express bus service via the U-District.

I attended a King County Council open hearing on October 6 and heard some folks testify about how the new plan will provide "tens of thousands" of

new riders weekday service in north Seattle. King County-Metro promised Seattle voters "increased, enhanced bus service." I'm all in favor, but not at the expense of deleting functional, existing routes. One criticism leveled at Metro at the hearing is that it is crafty about deletions. S route 71 riders: don't expect to see signs in your buses notifying you that "This route is being deleted next week! Suck it up!" Please make your opinions to the Council known before it is too late.

*Darrel Cowan  
Professor, Earth & Space Science  
UW*

In university ranking systems, innovation in terms of research papers is always an important factor, for example, it takes a combinatorial 55% weight in the most recent US NEWS world university ranking methodology where UW ranks 11th place worldwide.

Similarly, as a researcher, whose performance to a very large degree is judged by the number and quality of publications, I have been wondering if innovation, or research papers can be mass-produced.

In the TED talk with over 1 million views by Japanese inventor Shimppei Takahashi, innovation is a simple game of addition: linking two random concepts together to make up a new concept, then make sense of

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TrEE Committee Meeting - Proposed Public Comments - 10/14/2015  
Richard Smallwood

Responding to 10-6 meeting last week

This is more an invitation for questions than testimony

Public Hearing Notes for 10-6 meeting: Any references to service deletions was completely missing

Posted maps and charts made service deletions in-obvious, minimized, not easily seen, perhaps even omitted

In any public or advertised sense, perhaps "missing" references to service deletions might be an acceptable term

Unintentional or intentional?

First thought this was Metro's self-promotion

Now looking at public materials presented at 10-6 meeting, missing references to service deletions seems to be either unimportant or intentional

Questions:

Is public presentation of service deletions seem to be of small importance?

Is minimizing service deletions intentional or unintentional?

If unintentional, how can it be remedied?

If intentionally obscuring, why?

Don't know how to get public answers

Pew Research Center - 10,000/day turning 65 in this country

Good percentage in Seattle

Good percentage will be increasingly mobility compromised

Exchanging 1-seat rides for 2- and 3-seat rides, or total service deletions, is a real public disservice

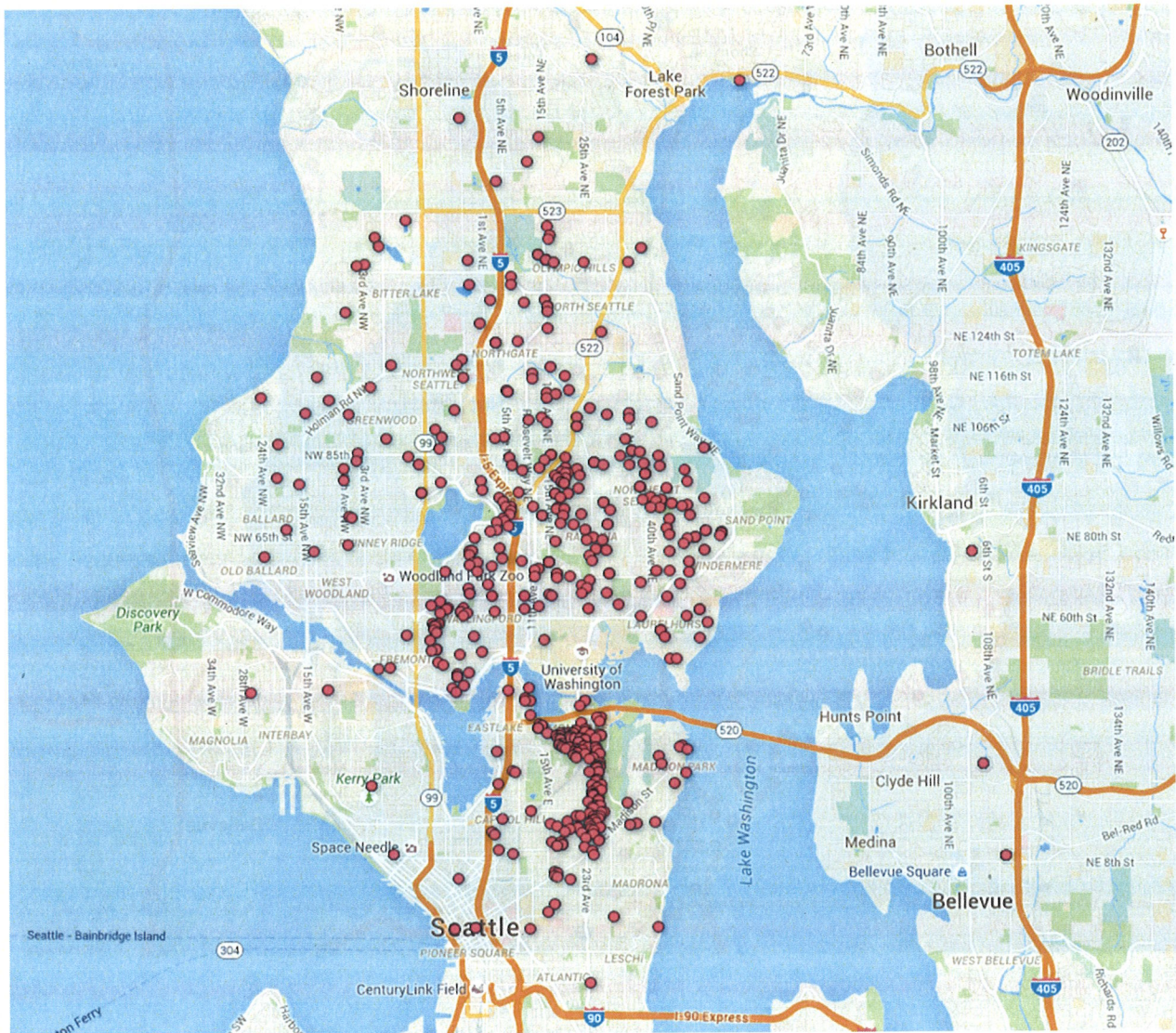
Would like to see some public debate, so far missing, about these service deletions.

How could it begin?

Thank you.

*Presented at 10/14/15 TREE mtg*

**NO Comments received by County Council (online form and hearing sign-in) through October 11, 2015**



**YES Comments received by County Council (online form and hearing sign-in) through October 11, 2015**

