

February 6, 2019

Mr. Rod Dembowski
Chair, King County Council
King County Council
516 3rd Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104



City of Bothell™

Re: North Eastside Mobility Project proposal

Dear Council Chair Dembowski:

The City of Bothell supports King County Metro's North Eastside Mobility Project proposal with a proposed modification to the Kenmore-North Kirkland Community Ride weekday service area. We believe that the weekday service area should be expanded to include the Downtown Bothell core area, which in the past 2-3 years has transformed into a successful mix of residential and commercial uses. This service area expansion would provide a mutual economic and mobility benefit for the Downtown Bothell core and the Juanita Village/Finn Hill Communities. The City's proposed modification is detailed in the attached map.

We appreciate the public outreach process that occurred with members of our staff, elected officials and community during the project's phases that ensured for broad participation. This project also supports the transportation goals and policies of Bothell's Comprehensive Plan.

The proposed restructure reflects a step forward for our growing community. By integrating Community Connections' flexible services with the fixed-route network, we believe our constituents will be able to access more reliable service options, with greater frequency and spans of service for their current and future mobility needs. As King County works toward achieving Metro Connects, this proposal provides a necessary step forward to address regional growth while recognizing existing community needs. Although requiring transfers to reach a destination is not ideal—specifically the changes to Route 255 as a direct link to Seattle for many of our riders—we appreciate Metro staff's effort to develop coordinated alternative service to help offset some of the specific concerns.

We encourage the King County Council to adopt the proposed North Eastside Mobility Project, with the requested Community Ride service modification, for implementation in March 2020; it represents progress delivering a more integrated mobility network for the City of Bothell and northeast King County.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Rheume
Mayor, City of Bothell

cc: King County Executive Dow Constantine
King County Councilmember Larry Gossett
King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert
King County Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles
King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove
King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci
King County Councilmember Pete von Reichbauer
King County Councilmember Joe McDermott
King County Councilmember Reagan Dunn
Rob Gannon, King County Metro General Manager
Katie Chalmers, King County Metro service planning supervisor
Sherman Goong, Bothell Transportation Planner

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