



King County

Memorandum

Metropolitan King County Council

TO: Regional Transit Committee members
Mobility & Environment Committee members

From: Dave Uptegrove, Regional Transit Committee Chair
Jennifer Robertson, Regional Transit Committee Vice Chair
Rod Dembowski, Mobility & Environment Committee Chair

Date: August 19, 2021

RE: Deliberations on proposed King County Metro transit policy updates

Last month, the King County Executive transmitted [Proposed Ordinance 2021-0286](#), which makes updates to King County Metro's three major adopted policy documents:

- Strategic Plan for Public Transportation (Attachment A)
- Service Guidelines (Attachment B)
- Metro Connects long-range plan (Attachment C).

On August 17, 2021, the legislation was introduced at the King County Council and referred for committee deliberations. The adopted Council rules will affect the committees' deliberations:

- **Mandatory dual referral.** The transit policy legislation, as an example of a countywide policy or plan related to transit services formerly provided by the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle, is required to be referred for action to both the Regional Transit Committee (RTC) and the Council's Mobility & Environment Committee (ME). The legislation has been given a dual referral, with the expectation that RTC will conclude its deliberations and then the legislation will move on to ME Committee prior to moving to the full Council. (KCC¹ 1.24.065.D.1.a & K.2, Rule 7)
- **Timeline for review.** As a mandatory dual referral, the Council rules set a timeline for the RTC's deliberations that begins on the date the legislation is formally introduced and referred at Council. Specifically, a regional committee must review and act on legislation referred to it within 120 days of the legislation's referral. If the RTC seeks additional time, it may request an extension from the Council, which can confirm an extended timeline by a motion adopted by the Council. Based on the legislation's referral date, the RTC's 120-day deadline is **December 15, 2021**.

¹ KCC = King County Code

Once the RTC takes action on the legislation, the Council must amend, adopt, or defeat the legislation within 90 days after receipt of the initial RTC recommendation. The Council may request an extension in writing, which the RTC may approve by majority vote. (KCC 1.24.065.E & F, Rule 7)

- **Timeline for amendments.** Under Rule 16, the regular amendment deadlines are:
 - For striking amendments, direction to staff to draft an amendment five business days prior to meeting, distribution of the striker to committee members three business days prior to the meeting.
 - For line amendments, direction to staff to draft an amendment two business days prior to the meeting.

A timeline with those dates is included in this document. (KCC 1.24.155.C.2, Rule 16)

- **Public comment.** The Council rules note that the Council “encourages public participation in the legislation process.” We will work with committee members to determine how and when to provide opportunities for public comment during committee deliberations. Once the proposed ordinance is at the Council, the Council must conduct a public hearing prior to adoption. (KCC 1.24.095.A, Rule 10)
- **Regional committee and Council concurrence.** A proposal from the regional committee may be adopted by the Council by five votes (if no amendments) or six votes (if there are amendments). If the Council votes to amend, the proposal must be re-referred to the regional committee for further review (timeline of 60 days for regional committee, with extension allowed by motion; with Council to act within 60 days of regional committee’s recommendation following re-referral). (KCC 1.24.065.G & H, Rule 7)

Timeline for committee deliberations begins on the next page.

Timeline for Deliberations on Transit Policy Updates (Proposed Ordinance 2021-0286)

Committee Date	Action	Amendment Deadline
Special joint RTC/ME Sept 15	DISCUSSION ONLY: Review proposed changes in all three documents	--
RTC October 20	DISCUSSION ONLY: Identify issues of interest and potential amendment concepts	--
ME October 27	BRIEFING ONLY: Review RTC discussion and discuss additional issues of interest and potential amendment concepts	--
RTC Nov 17	DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Consider amendments Vote on legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striker direction to staff: Nov 10 • Striker distribution: Nov 12 • Line Amdt direction: Nov 15
Special ME Nov 30 <i>(If passed by RTC)</i>	DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Review RTC action Consider additional amendments Vote on legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striker direction to staff: Nov 18 • Striker distribution: Nov 22 • Line Amdt direction: Nov 24
Council Dec 7 <i>(If passed by RTC & ME)</i>	DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION: Review RTC & ME action Consider additional amendments Vote on legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striker direction to staff: Nov 30 • Striker distribution: Dec 2 • Line Amdt direction: Dec 3
Potential Special RTC Dec 7 <i>(If amended at ME or Council)</i>	DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION Review Council changes and vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striker direction to staff: Nov 30 • Striker distribution: Dec 2 • Line Amdt direction: Dec 3
Council Dec 14 <i>(If final action by Council has not yet occurred)</i>	DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION Review RTC action and vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striker direction to staff: Dec 7 • Striker distribution: Dec 9 • Line Amdt direction: Dec 10
Council recess December 15, 2021 through January 3, 2022		
RTC Jan 19 <i>(If amended at ME or Council and there is not yet concurrence)</i>	DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION Review Council changes and vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striker direction to staff: Jan 11 • Striker distribution: Jan 13 • Line Amdt direction: Jan 14
Council Feb 1 <i>(If final action by Council has not yet occurred)</i>	DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION Review RTC action and vote	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Striker direction to staff: Jan 25 • Striker distribution: Jan 27 • Line Amdt direction: Jan 28