

From: [Steve Muench](#)
To: [KCC - Committee Assistants \(Email Group\)](#)
Subject: PUBLIC comment for King County Regional Transit Committee Meeting on 15 September 2021
Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 5:36:43 PM

Executive Constantine, Chair Balducci, RTC Chair Upthegrove and Vice Chair Robertson, Honorable Members of the Council and RTC, and General Manager Terry White:

My residency:

I am a King County resident living in Seattle in the Greenwood area.

Pertinent Section of the Meeting Minutes:

My comment pertains to page 24: the "proposed measures: Sustainability" column on the table. In this you have listed "Green & Equitable Infrastructure: Percentage of capital projects achieving Green Building Ordinance required standards" as a proposed performance measure.

My Comment:

This metric is a great idea because infrastructure uses lots of natural resources in its building and effectively dictates operations (what you build enables or limits what you can do subsequently). Plus, such standards are usually carefully crafted to consider most of the things you appear to take interest in, including human potential, environmental sustainability, safety, economic growth, and financial stewardship.

However, **I urge you to consider additional standards for infrastructure beyond buildings. Please do not rate a transit agency with a building standard. Use a transportation standard. For instance, Greenroads is a sustainability standard (and rating system) that specifically addresses transportation infrastructure in the same way that LEED addresses buildings.** For example, Community Transit, has shifted to adopt Greenroads certification to meet its "green building goals" for capital facilities (https://www.communitytransit.org/docs/default-source/about-documents/signed-2015-ep.pdf?sfvrsn=76ecf7e2_0). You might want to look at their how and why they certified their Seaway and Smoky Point Transit Centers using Greenroads. Let's get King County on par with their peer institution to the north.

My qualifications:

I am a professor at the University of Washington teaching in Civil and Environmental Engineering and specializing in sustainable infrastructure. I know that sustainable infrastructure only gets built as a matter of routine if organizations such as the King County Regional Transit Committee institutes the types of performance measures (and standard practices) like this.

Respectfully,

Steve Muench

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