

February 25, 2025

S1

Updates

[mbourguignon]

Sponsor: Balducci

Proposed No.: 2025-0020

1 **STRIKING AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED MOTION 2025-0020, VERSION 1**

2 On page 1, beginning on line 6, strike everything through page 4, line 61, and insert:

3 " WHEREAS, Metro transit department operator Shawn Yim was assaulted and
4 fatally stabbed on December 18, 2024, while on duty, and

5 WHEREAS, according to Metro transit department performance reports on safety
6 and security, the Metro transit department experienced thirty-three reported assaults on
7 transit operators during 2023, with many more unreported, and

8 WHEREAS, a nighttime study conducted by the University of Washington in
9 2023 on a total of eleven local buses and nineteen light rail train cars on routes across
10 four different transit agencies detected methamphetamine in ninety-eight percent of
11 surface samples and one hundred percent of air samples, and detected fentanyl in forty-
12 six percent of surfaces and twenty-five percent of air samples, and

13 WHEREAS, a survey of transit operators published by the University of
14 Washington in 2024 indicated that eight-three percent of respondents reported observing
15 passengers smoking drugs aboard their vehicles, twenty-seven percent of respondents
16 reported that they had been physically attacked or assaulted by a passenger during the
17 past year, and fifty percent of respondents indicated a likelihood to leave their job within
18 the next year, and

19 WHEREAS, increasing public safety on buses and at bus stops and transit centers
20 is a responsibility that is the primary responsibility of the Metro transit department but
21 requires strong partnership and support from the local jurisdictions in which it operates,
22 and

23 WHEREAS, increasing levels of homelessness, substance use disorder, and
24 behavioral health challenges throughout King County have affected public safety and
25 perceptions of safety on transit and at bus stops and transit centers, and

26 WHEREAS, in a hearing of the King County council's committee of the whole on
27 January 13, 2025, leadership of the Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 587, reiterated
28 their call to convene a task force on transit safety and security, and

29 WHEREAS, such a task force could be instrumental in bringing together
30 communities and transit partners to address issues of community safety and the safety
31 and security of local transit operations;

32 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

33 A. The council requests that the executive work with Amalgamated Transit
34 Union, Local 587 to establish a task force on transit safety and security with the goal of
35 providing a response to transit safety and security in King County, including the
36 jurisdictions in which the Metro transit department operates.

37 B. The task force on transit safety and security should include, but not be limited
38 to, representatives from the following:

- 39 1. Amalgamated Transit Union, Local 587;
- 40 2. Metro transit department front line transit operators;
- 41 3. The King County sheriff or designee;

- 42 4. The King County executive or designee;
- 43 5. The general manager of the Metro transit department or designee;
- 44 6. The director of the department of community and human services or
- 45 designee;
- 46 7. Elected representatives, or designees, from local jurisdictions in which the
- 47 Metro transit department operates;
- 48 8. Law enforcement leaders, or designees, of local jurisdictions in which the
- 49 Metro transit department operates;
- 50 9. The Sound Transit chief executive officer or designee;
- 51 10. Members of organizations representing transit riders; and
- 52 11. Any other committee members deemed necessary.
- 53 C. The task force on transit safety and security should develop a work plan that
- 54 will address issues including, but not limited to, the following:
- 55 1. Improvements to operator safety on Metro transit department buses, including
- 56 a plan to install physical barriers for bus operators on both newly acquired and existing
- 57 bus fleet;
- 58 2. Strategies to hold public transit passengers, as well as others at bus stops and
- 59 transit centers, accountable for abiding by the requirements for conduct on transit
- 60 property, as specified in K.C.C. chapter 28.96, as well as local laws and regulations;
- 61 3. Interagency coordination and shared responsibilities with the jurisdictions in
- 62 which the Metro transit department operates;
- 63 4. Coordination with Metro transit police, local law enforcement, communities,
- 64 and transit riders to improve response times with the goal of improving both public safety

65 and the perception of safety onboard public transit and at bus stops and transit centers;
66 and

67 5. Other issues as identified by task force members.

68 D. The executive should facilitate a briefing to the committee of the whole by
69 task force members no later than September 30, 2025, to share the recommendations
70 developed by the task force to address the issues identified in section C. of this motion
71 and to discuss proposals for next steps."

72

73 **EFFECT prepared by *Mary Bourguignon*:**

74 **The amendment would make updates to the motion to reflect ongoing work with**
75 **ATU Local 587, Metro, and the Executive, including adding the Director of the**
76 **Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) and members of**
77 **organizations representing transit riders to the task force; focusing the task force's**
78 **work on the areas in which Metro operates; and asking the Executive to report, via**
79 **a COW briefing, by September 30, 2025.**

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February 25, 2025

Title Amendment

[mbourguignon]

Sponsor: Balducci

Proposed No.: 2025-0020

1 **TITLE AMENDMENT TO PROPOSED MOTION 2025-0020, VERSION 1**

2 On page 1, strike lines 1 through 5 and insert:

3 "A MOTION relating to public transportation, requesting
4 the executive to engage on a task force on transit safety and
5 security to address public safety on transit and in the
6 communities in which the Metro transit department
7 operates."

8

9 **EFFECT prepared by *Mary Bourguignon*: The title amendment would conform the**
10 **title to the striking amendment.**