



# King County

1200 King County  
Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Meeting Agenda Regional Transit Committee

**Councilmembers:**

**Steffanie Fain, Chair**  
**Sarah Perry, Pete von Reichbauer**

**Sound Cities Association:**

**Vice Chair: Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Neal Black, Kirkland; JC Harris, Des Moines;**  
**Susan Honda, Federal Way; Jim Ribail, Carnation; Pamela Stuart, Sammamish;**  
**Toni Troutner, Kent; Tracy Taylor, Auburn**

**Alternates:**

**Vishal Bhargava, Bellevue; Larry Goldman, Lake Forest Park;**  
**Councilmember Julie Hsieh, Mercer Island; Mayor James Mayhew, Snoqualmie;**

**City of Seattle:**

**Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Rob Saka**  
**Alternate: Dionne Foster**

**Lead Staff: Mary Bourguignon (206-263-3296)**  
**Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)**

**3:00 PM**

**Wednesday, June 17, 2026**

**Hybrid Meeting**

**Hybrid Meetings: Attend King County Council committee meetings in person in Council Chambers (Room 1001), 516 3rd Avenue in Seattle, or through remote access. Details on how to attend and/or provide comment remotely are listed below.**

**Pursuant to K.C.C. 1.24.035 A. and F., this meeting is also noticed as a meeting of the Metropolitan King County Council, whose agenda is limited to the committee business. In this meeting only the rules and procedures applicable to committees apply and not those applicable to full council meetings.**

**HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: The Regional Transit Committee values community input and looks forward to hearing from you on agenda items.**

	<p>Sign language and interpreter services can be arranged given sufficient notice (206-848-0355). TTY Number - TTY 711.</p> <p>Council Chambers is equipped with a hearing loop, which provides a wireless signal that is picked up by a hearing aid when it is set to 'T' (Telecoil) setting.</p>	
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There are three ways to provide public comment:

1. In person: You may attend the meeting and provide comment in the Council Chambers.
2. By email: You may comment in writing on current agenda items by submitting your email comments to [committees@kingcounty.gov](mailto:committees@kingcounty.gov). If your email is received by 1:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting, your email comments will be distributed to the committee members and appropriate staff prior to the meeting.
3. Remote attendance at the meeting by phone or computer (see "Connecting to the Webinar" below).

You may provide oral comment on current agenda items during the meeting’s public comment period. You are not required to sign up in advance. Comments are limited to current agenda items.

You have the right to language access services at no cost to you. To request these services, please contact Language Access Coordinator, Tera Chea at 206-477-9259 or email [tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov](mailto:tera.chea2@kingcounty.gov) by 8:00 a.m. three business days prior to the meeting.

**CONNECTING TO THE WEBINAR:**

Webinar ID: 883 1320 7140

By computer using the Zoom application at <https://zoom.us/join> and the webinar ID above.

Via phone by calling 1-253-215-8782 and using the webinar ID above.

**HOW TO WATCH/LISTEN TO THE MEETING REMOTELY:** There are several ways to watch or listen in to the meeting:



- 1) Stream online via this link: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/kctv>, or input the link web address into your web browser.
- 2) Watch King County TV on Comcast Channel 22 and 322(HD) and Astound Broadband Channels 22 and 711(HD)
- 3) Listen to the meeting by telephone – See “Connecting to the Webinar” above.

To help us manage the meeting, if you do not wish to be called upon for public comment please use the Livestream or King County TV options listed above, if possible, to watch or listen to the meeting.

1. Call to Order

To show a PDF of the written materials for an agenda item, click on the agenda item below.

2. Roll Call

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**3. Approval of Minutes pp. 4, 7**

*March 18, 2026 and April 21, 2026 meeting minutes*

**4. Chair's Report**

**5. Public Comment**

**6. GM's Report**

*Michelle Allison, General Manager, Metro Transit Department*

**Briefings**

**7. [Briefing No. 2026-B0074](#) p. 9**

Introduction to Metro's Three Adopted Policy Documents and Plans for 2028 Update  
*Jacob Brett, Transit Strategy and Policy Lead, Metro Transit Department*

**8. [Briefing No. 2026-B0075](#) p. 35**



Metro's Service Recovery and Growth Planning  
*Graydon Newman, Service Planning Supervisor, Metro Transit Department*

**9. [Briefing No. 2026-B0076](#) p. 59**

Metro's Next Stop (Planning for Future Investments)  
*DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department*

**Other Business**

**Adjournment**

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## Meeting Minutes Regional Transit Committee

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**Sound Cities Association:**

**Vice Chair: Ryan McIrvine, Renton; Neal Black, Kirkland; JC  
Harris, Des Moines;**  
**Susan Honda, Federal Way; Pamela Stuart, Sammamish;**  
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**Lead Staff: Mary Bourguignon (206-263-3296)**  
**Committee Clerk: Blake Wells (206-263-1617)**

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**3:00 PM**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2026**

**Hybrid Meeting**

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### DRAFT MINUTES

**1. Call to Order**

*Chair Fain called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.*

**2. Roll Call**

**Present:** 13 - McIrvine, Troutner, Black, Perry, Fain, von Reichbauer, Taylor-Turner, Harris,  
Stuart, Rinck, Goldman, Bhargava and Ribail

**Excused:** 2 - Honda and Saka

**3. Approval of Minutes**

*Council President Pro Tem McIrvine moved approval of the February 18, 2026 meeting minutes. There being no objections, the minutes were approved.*

**4. Chair's Report**

*Chair Fain thanked Council President de Michele for her service to the Regional Transit Committee and provided an overview of the agenda.*

**5. Public Comment**

*The following people provided public comment:*

*Alex Tsimerman  
Joe Kunzler*

**6. General Manager's Report**

*DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department, briefed the Committee on Metro Tap to Pay, service changes, construction of the RapidRide I Line, the opening of the Sound Transit 2 Line Crosslake Connection, ridership, Transit Employee Appreciation Day, and Transit Employee Appreciation Week.*

**Discussion and Possible Action****7. [RTC Resolution No. RTC2026-01](#)**

A RESOLUTION adopting the 2026 work plan for the King County regional transit committee.

*Mary Bourguignon, Council staff, briefed the committee.*

*Due to the design of the legislative tracking software used to produce the proceedings, the vote on this item is misreported. The correct vote is:*

*Yes: 8 - Black, Harris, McIrvine, Stuart, Taylor-Turner, Troutner, Goldman (voting as an alternate for Honda), Ribail (voting as an alternate for the vacant seat), Perry, and Fain.*

*No: 0*

*Excused: 4.5 – Honda, Rinck, Saka, and von Reichbauer.*

**A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Taylor-Turner that this resolution be passed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - McIrvine, Troutner, Black, Perry, Fain, Taylor-Turner, Harris, Stuart, Goldman and Ribail

**Excused:** 5 - Honda, Saka, von Reichbauer, Rinck and Bhargava

**Briefings****8. [Briefing No. 2026-B0036](#)**

Metro's Rider Dashboard

*Lori Mimms, Business Intelligence and Analytics Manager, Metro Transit Department, and Aidan Farr, Business Analyst, Metro Transit Department, briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was presented.**

9. [Briefing No. 2026-B0037](#)

Update on the King County Transportation District

*Mary Bourguignon, Council staff, briefed the committee and answered questions from the members. DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department, briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was presented.**

**Other Business**

*There was no other business to come before the committee.*

**Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.*

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk's Signature



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9:30 AM

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

Hybrid Meeting

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**DRAFT MINUTES - Special joint meeting with the Transportation, Economy, and Environment Committee**

1. **Call to Order**

*Chair Fain called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM.*

2. **Roll Call**

**Present:** 14 - McIrvine, Troutner, Honda, Saka, Black, Perry, Fain, von Reichbauer, Turner, Harris, Hsieh, Mayhew, Bhargava and Goldman

**Excused:** 2 - Stuart and Rinck

## Briefing

3. [Briefing No. 2026-B0053](#)

FIFA Transportation Summit

*Sam Zimbabwe, Seattle FWC2026, Jonathan Rose, FIFA Program Director, King County Metro, Grant Lahmann, Transit Operations Chief of Staff, Sound Transit, Travis Phelps, Management of Mobility Division Director, Washington State Department of Transportation, and Elizabeth Sheldon, Deputy Director and Chief Infrastructure Engineer, Seattle Department of Transportation, briefed the committee via PowerPoint presentation and answered questions from the members.*

**This matter was presented.**

## Adjournment

*The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 AM.*

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk's Signature



**King County  
Regional Transit Committee**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	7	<b>Name:</b>	Mary Bourguignon
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2026-B0074	<b>Date:</b>	June 17, 2026

**SUBJECT**

Today’s briefing will provide an overview of Metro’s three adopted policy documents, including Metro’s approach to developing updates to transmit for review in 2028.

**SUMMARY**

Metro’s work is guided by three adopted policy documents:

- **Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2021-2031** outlines Metro’s goals, the strategies to achieve those goals, and the measures Metro uses to determine if it is succeeding.
- **King County Metro Service Guidelines** guide the day-to-day operations of the transit system through criteria to develop, modify, and evaluate transit service.
- **Metro Connects long-range plan** is Metro’s vision for an expanded service network to be developed through an Interim Network (mid-to-late 2030s) and a 2050 Network.

These three policy documents are considered **countywide policies and plans** related to transit services formerly provided by the Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle.<sup>1</sup> As a result, they are approved or amended by both the Regional Transit Committee (RTC) and the King County Council through a dual referral process.<sup>2</sup>

The three policy documents were last updated by the RTC and Council in late 2021.<sup>3</sup> The ordinance approving the 2021 updates requires the Executive to transmit the next round of updates within seven years (2028). This briefing is meant to launch the deliberative process for the 2028 updates, by providing RTC the chance to offer guidance to Metro staff as they begin the work of preparing the updates.

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<sup>1</sup> The Municipality of Metropolitan Seattle (Metro) was an independent government created by King County voters in the 1950s to undertake wastewater treatment and, later, countywide transit services. Metro’s functions were merged into King County in the 1990s by a vote of the people. The King County Charter and Code were both amended to create a regional committee structure to provide dual governance with the King County Council for countywide policies and plans. RTC is to oversee countywide policies and plans related to transit.

<sup>2</sup> King County Code (KCC) 1.24.065.D.1.a & K.2, Rule 7

<sup>3</sup> Ordinance 19367

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2021-2031**

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The Strategic Plan outlines Metro's goals, the strategies to achieve those goals, and the measures Metro uses to determine if it is succeeding. The Strategic Plan has 10 goals:

1. **Investments.** Invest upstream and where needs are greatest
2. **Sustainability.** Address the climate crisis and environmental justice
3. **Innovation.** Innovate to improve mobility, complement transit, and advance equity and sustainability
4. **Safety.** Keep passengers, employees, and communities safe
5. **Transit-Oriented Communities.** Support thriving, equitable, transit-oriented communities that foster economic development
6. **Access.** Improve access to mobility options
7. **Service Quality.** Provide fast, reliable, and integrated mobility services
8. **Workforce.** Partner with employees, unions, contractors, and communities to offer high-skill, high-wage careers that support a high quality of life
9. **Stewardship.** Be responsible stewards of financial resources and invest in line with values and goals
10. **Engagement.** Conduct deliberate and transparent community engagement

The Strategic Plan identifies strategies and performance measures for each goal. Performance measures are tracked through an online dashboard.<sup>4</sup> Metro must provide an oral report to RTC on this dashboard each year.

### **King County Metro Service Guidelines**

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The Service Guidelines guide the day-to-day operations of the transit system through criteria to develop, modify, and evaluate transit service.

- **Developing transit service** is guided by criteria to plan, space, and organize fixed-route and flexible services.
- **Modifying transit service** is guided by criteria and priorities for service investments, reductions, and restructures.
  - **Service investments** are based on three priorities:
    - **Priority 1: Reduce Crowding** by adding service to overcrowded routes
    - **Priority 2: Improve Reliability** by adding service to routes that run late
    - **Priority 3: Grow Service** by filling the gap between existing service and target service levels based on equity, land use, and geographic value
  - **Service reductions**, when needed, are based on productivity and equity, with the least productive and lowest-equity-score routes prioritized for reduction.

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<sup>4</sup> King County Metro Strategic Plan Dashboard ([link](#))

- **Service restructures** change transit service in a geographic area when there is change to the transportation network (such as a new Link light rail line) or when there are development or land use changes. Service restructures are based on goals developed with the community.
- **Evaluating transit service** is accomplished through the annual System Evaluation report,<sup>5</sup> which is transmitted to the RTC and Council each October. The System Evaluation identifies target service levels and investment needs and reports ridership, productivity, passenger load, reliability, and equity metrics for each route.

## **Metro Connects long-range plan**

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**Metro Connects** is Metro’s vision for the future. It outlines an expanded service network to be developed through an **Interim Network** (mid-to-late 2030s) and a **2050 Network**.

By 2050, Metro Connects envisions a transit system with:

- 7 million annual service hours, up from 4 million in 2019
- 200 million annual riders, up from 121 million in 2019
- 19-23 RapidRide lines, up from 6 in 2019
- \$28.3 billion in associated capital improvements

Metro Connects is not fully funded, so additional regional funding will be needed to achieve the long-range vision.

To track progress toward implementing Metro Connects, Metro was required to transmit several progress reports to the RTC and Council:

- **Metro Connects Implementation Report**, due by May 5, 2022, described the funding needed to implement Metro Connects, the funding gap, and potential funding sources to fill the gap<sup>6</sup>
- **RapidRide Prioritization Plan**, due by June 30, 2024, described the RapidRide candidate lines to be implemented, organized by tier, with a description of the priority level for each<sup>7</sup>
- **An update on the status of RapidRide implementation** is included in each year’s System Evaluation report
- **Metro Connects performance measures** are included in the Strategic Plan’s performance measures dashboard

During today’s briefing, Metro staff will provide an overview of the three adopted policy documents and describe their proposed approach to the 2028 update.

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<sup>5</sup> The 2025 System Evaluation was accepted through Motion 16943.

<sup>6</sup> Motion 16155

<sup>7</sup> Motion 16659

## **LINKS**

- Metro policies: <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro/about/policies>

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Metro Policy Documents presentation

## **INVITED**

- Jacob Brett, Transit Strategy and Policy Lead, Metro Transit Department
- Katie Chalmers, Transit Service Development Manager, Metro Transit Department

# Metro's Adopted Policies

Regional Transit Committee  
June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026



## Purpose

- Provide an orientation to Metro's adopted policies

## Agenda

- Background
- Strategic Plan
- Metro Connects
- Service Guidelines
- Look Ahead to the 2028 Policy Updates

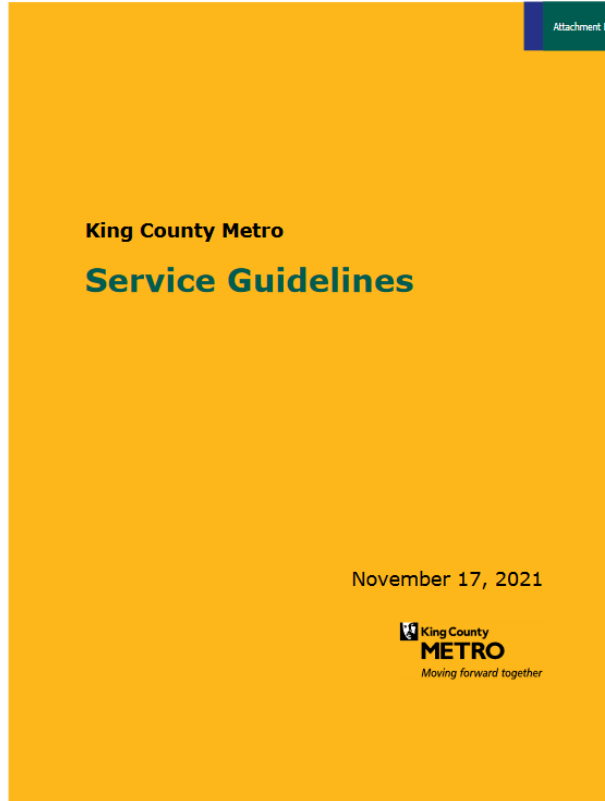


# Background

# Metro's Adopted Policies



Articulates Metro's mission & vision, with goals, strategies, & performance measures



Directs evaluation, design, & changes to service with methodology for adding, reducing, or restructuring



Long range plan with two service networks guiding growth for service & capital

# Background

	Strategic Plan	Service Guidelines	Metro Connects
Description	Mission, vision, values, goals, strategies & performance measures	Directs evaluation, design, & changes to service with methodology for adding, reducing, or restructuring	Long range plan with two service networks guiding growth for service & capital
Purpose	Guide resource allocation	Inform service changes and annual system evaluation report	Align with PSRC Vision 2050, the regional long-range growth strategy
Horizon	2021 – 2031	n/a	2021 – 2050
Created	2007	2011	2017
Last Update	2021		

# Strategic Plan

# Strategic Plan

- Created in 2007; Revised in 2021 with the Equity Cabinet, King County Council & RTC
- Communicates Metro's mission, vision, & values anchored to the Mobility Framework
- Includes goals with strategies, outcomes, & performance measures on a 10-year horizon
- 35 performance metrics with progress shared publicly via our [Strategic Plan Dashboard](#)
- Aligns to King County Comprehensive Plan & Strategic Climate Action Plan
- Annual progress reporting to RTC



**This dashboard shows how Metro is progressing toward its Strategic Plan goals and associated key outcomes.** ⓘ

<b>Investments</b>	
Accessibility	↑
Commute Times	→
Reduced Fare Usage	↑
<b>Safety</b>	
Assaults and Disturbances	↑
Customer Safety Satisfaction	↑
Metro's Emergency Preparedness	↑
Preventable Collisions	↑
<b>Transit Oriented Communities</b>	
Affordable Housing Near Transit	↑
Growth	↑
Housing Units	↑
Planned Growth	↑
Public Subsidy	↑

<b>Engagement</b>	
Co-creation Engagement	↑
Engagement Satisfaction	↑
Equitable Contracting	↑
<b>Service Quality</b>	
Customer Satisfaction	↑
ORCA Transfers	↑
Quality of Service Index	→
Ridership	↑
<b>Stewardship</b>	
Cost	↑
Metro Connects Funding Gap	⊖
State of Good Repair	→
<b>Sustainability</b>	
Green & Equitable Infrastructure	✔
Metro Operational Emissions	↑
Vehicle Miles Traveled	⊖
Zero Emissions Fleet	↑

<b>Access</b>	
Park and Rides	↑
Proximity to Transit	✔
Transit Access Methods	↑
Use of Mobility Services	↑
<b>Innovation</b>	
1st/Last Mile Innovation Ridership	→
1st/Last Mile Innovation Service Area	↑
Equity in On-Demand Service	↑
<b>Workforce</b>	
Job Satisfaction	↑
Workforce Demographics	→
Workforce Representativeness	→

Key: ✔ Target Met    ↑ Improving    → Maintaining    ↓ At Risk    ⊖ Awaiting Further Analysis



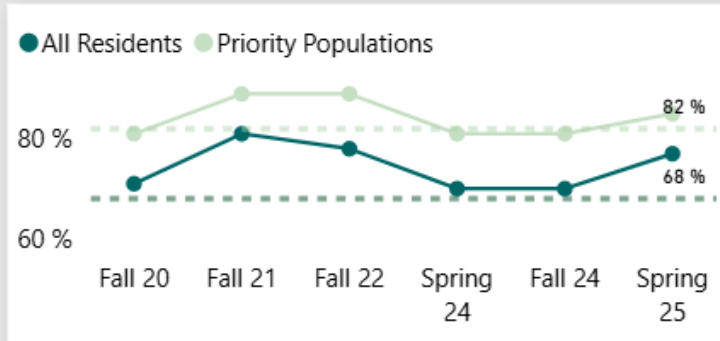
# Access Goal: Improve access to mobility options.



## Proximity to Transit

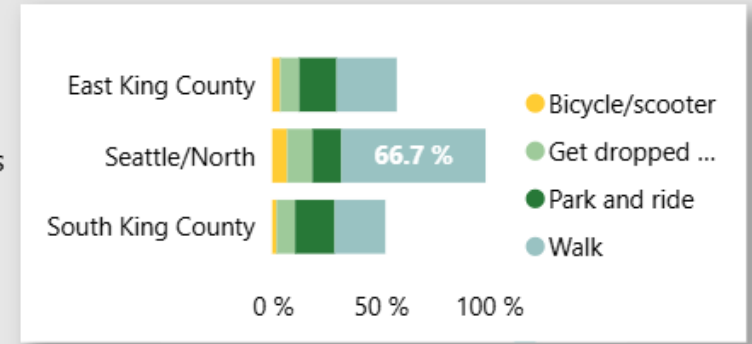
Access to Transit

Proportion of King County residents and Priority Populations that have convenient access to the transit network



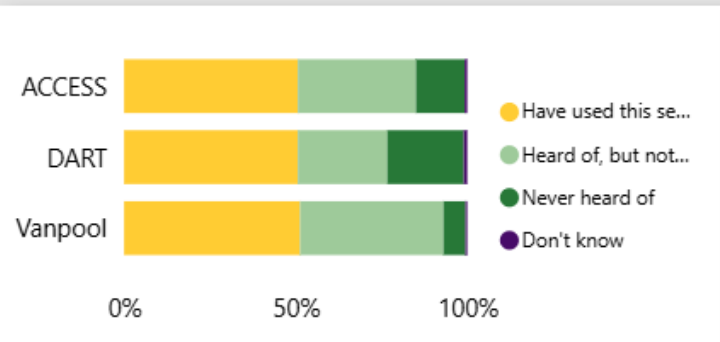
## Transit Access Methods

How Metro bus riders access transit in King County



## Use of Mobility Services

Resident use of non-fixed route bus mobility services.



## Park and Rides

Distribution of Park & Ride facilities within King County



Charts

Tables

Data for the current month may be incomplete

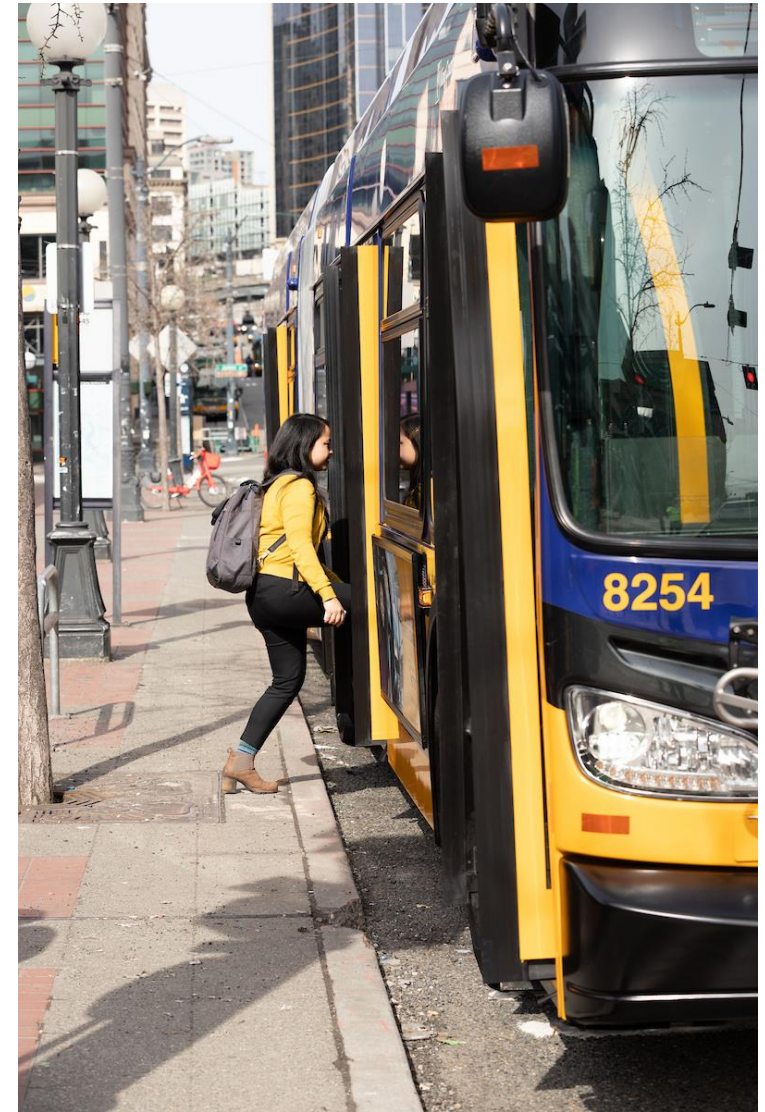
# Strategic Plan Alignment to Benchmark Progress Toward Metro Connects

Strategic Plan Goal Area	Performance Measure
Service Quality	Ridership
	ORCA Transfers
	Customer Satisfaction
Access	Proximity to Frequent Transit
Sustainability	Transportation Emissions
	Vehicle Miles Travelled
Safety	Transit Worker Assaults
	Passenger Disturbances
	Customer Satisfaction w/Safety
Stewardship	2050 Funding Gap
	Service Hours

# Metro Connects

# Metro Connects

- Created in 2017; Revised in 2021 with Equity Cabinet, RTC, & KCC
- Outlines Metro's vision for bringing more improved mobility services to King County over the next 30 years
- Current plan is broken into four sections:
  - (1) Service Network
  - (2) Service Quality Investments
  - (3) Fleet, Infrastructure, and Workforce,
  - (4) Attaining the Vision
- Depicts growth in two largely unfunded networks based on points in time



# Current 2050 Network

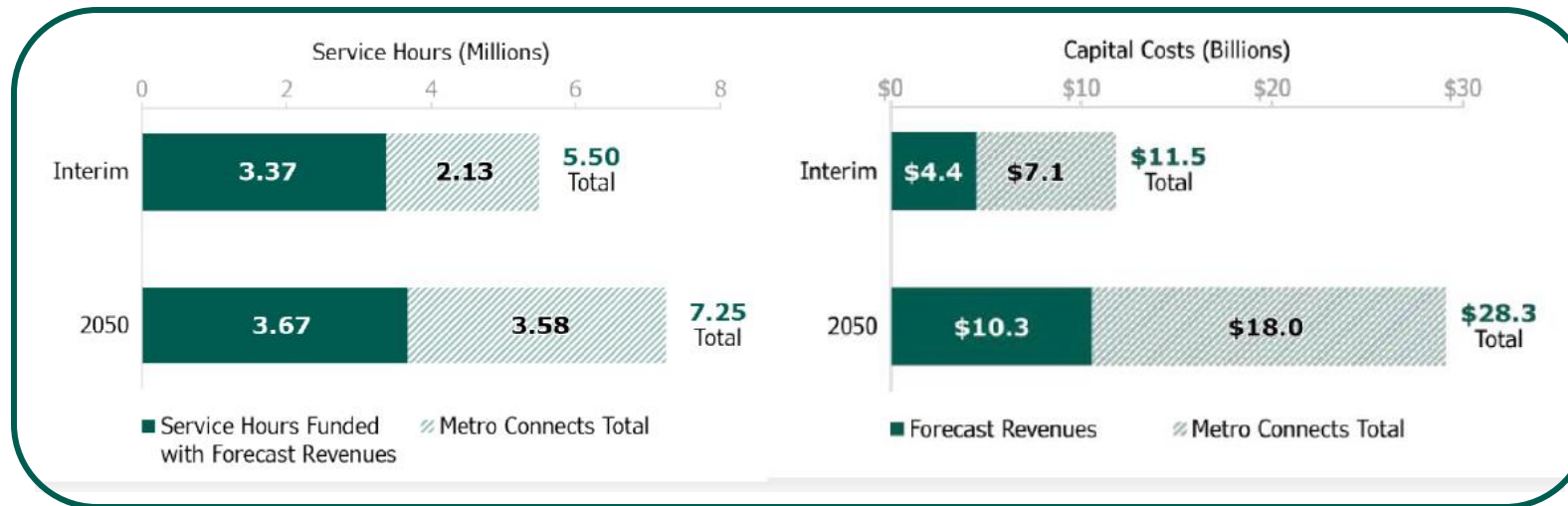
- **Unfunded vision** of Metro's service network in 2050
  - No constraints
  - Full build-out
- Depicts community mobility needs based on growth projections from 2021 policy updates
- Nearly half of the service and over half of the capital needs are **unfunded**



# Metro Connects – planning approach

## The 2021 Metro Connects update was intentionally unconstrained

- Analysis – anticipating growth in the county, where are new transit needs emerging?
- Approach – what level of service will various communities in King County need by 2050?



## Funding Gap (2021 Metro Connects update)

- 49% of service & 63% of capital cost projections through 2050 not funded
- Assumption: Additional funding needed to fill gap (grants, partnerships, etc.)

# Service Guidelines

# Service Guidelines

- Created in 2011; Revised in 2016 with Task Force; Revised in 2021 with Equity Cabinet, RTC, & KCC
- Ensures Metro decision-making and recommendations are objective, transparent, and aligned with King County's overall goals for public transportation and deliver the best regional transit system possible
- Guides evaluation, design, & modification to service, building on the equity-centered mobility framework

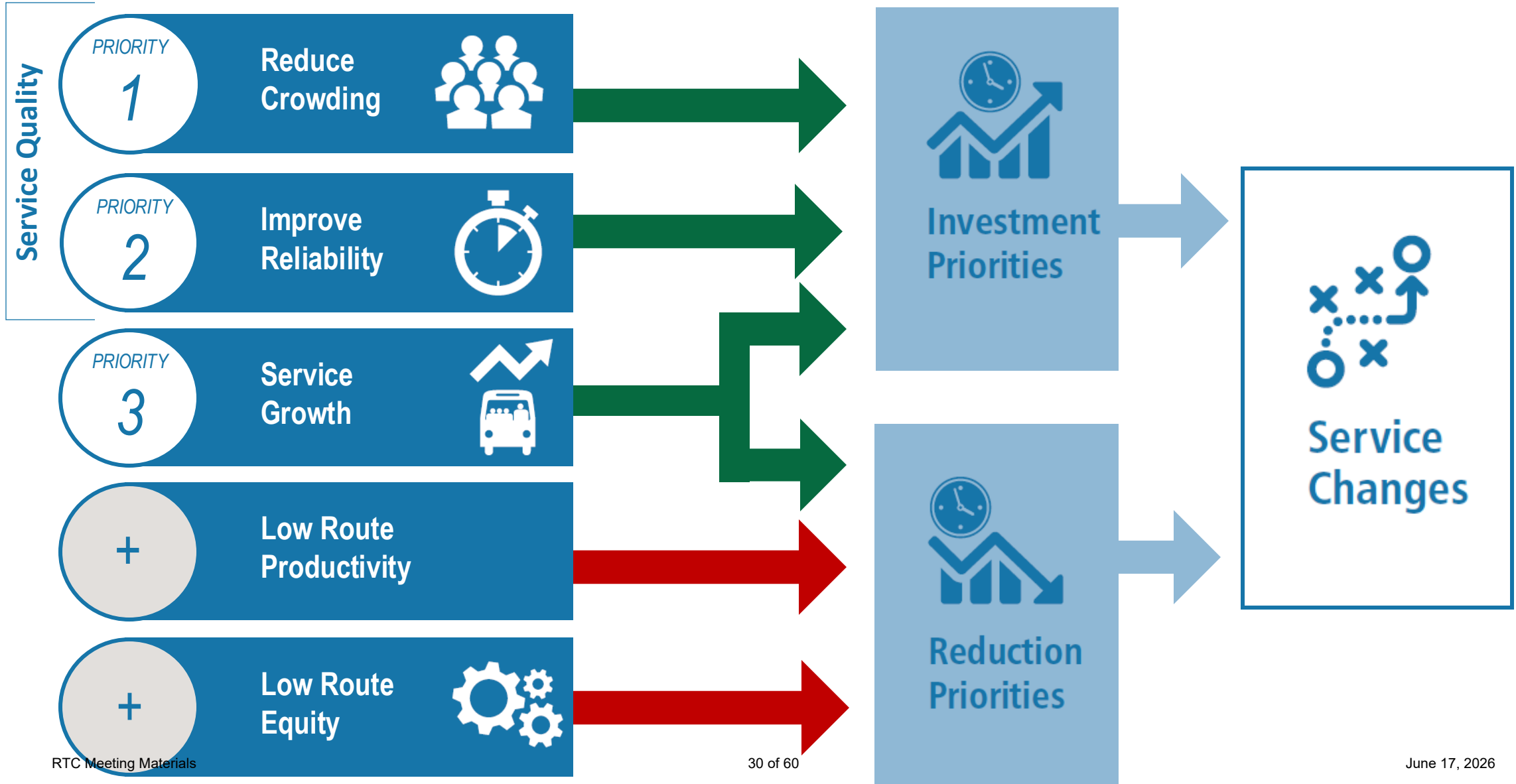


# Service Guidelines: What's inside?

- **Includes detailed guidance and methodology for Metro transit options, covering:**
  - Evaluation criteria
  - Investment priorities & reduction priorities
  - Service change/restructure guidance
  - Service design guidance
- **Other elements include:**
  - Role and how we conduct community engagement when making decisions about service changes that could have significant impacts on communities
  - How Metro work with partners to support Metro's systemwide goals

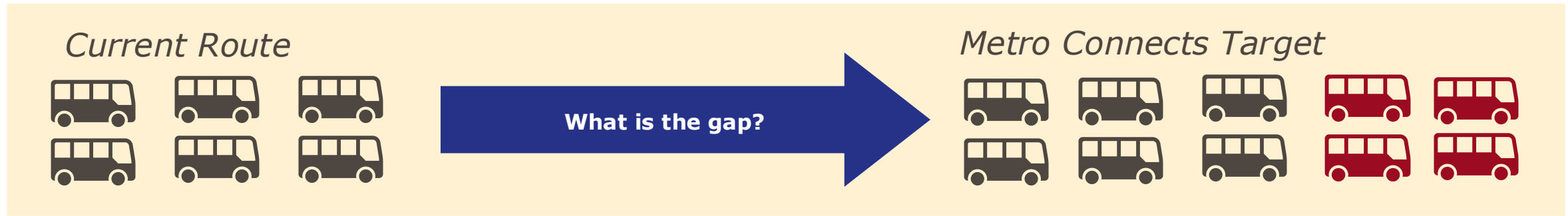


# Investment and Reduction Priorities



# Service Growth Prioritization Process

## Service Hour Gap Analysis:



## Service Hour Investment Prioritization:

1. Social Equity – priority populations near a particular route
2. Land Use – access to jobs, education, housing, and park and rides
3. Geographic Value – connections between activity centers

# A Look Ahead to 2028 Policy Updates

# A Look Ahead to 2028 Policy Updates



**Thank you!**



**King County  
Regional Transit Committee**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	8	<b>Name:</b>	Mary Bourguignon
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2026-B0075	<b>Date:</b>	June 17, 2026

**SUBJECT**

Today’s briefing will provide an overview of Metro’s service recovery since the pandemic, as well as Metro’s planning for future growth, including information on service restructures, coordination with Sound Transit, and service to rural communities.

**SUMMARY**

In March 2020, in response to the pandemic, Metro began a series of emergency transit service reductions.<sup>1</sup>

Because ongoing staffing shortfalls and changing ridership patterns over the next few years prevented Metro from returning to pre-pandemic service levels, the Council adopted a Metro Service Recovery Plan<sup>2</sup> in early 2023 that called for a gradual restoration of transit service through a set of geographically focused mobility projects, most related to Sound Transit service expansions.

Since then, Metro has moved forward with the Madison Street/G Line restructure, the Lynnwood Link Connections restructure, the East Link Connections restructure, and the South Link Connections restructure.<sup>3</sup>

During today’s briefing, Metro will report on how it has been restoring service and coordinating with Sound Transit through these restructures, how it plans to grow service over the coming years, and how it is providing service to rural communities.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Metro Service Recovery and Growth Planning presentation

**INVITED**

- Graydon Newman, Service Planning Supervisor, Metro Transit Department

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<sup>1</sup> KCC 28.94.020.B.2.a.

<sup>2</sup> Ordinance 19581

<sup>3</sup> Ordinances 19750, 19751, 19899, and 20046

# Metro Service Recovery & Growth

Regional Transit Committee  
June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026



# Purpose

Provide overview of Metro's service recovery, ridership, and future growth

# Agenda

1. Metro Service Recovery Plan
2. Ridership Updates
3. Mobility Project Updates



# Metro Service Recovery Plan

# Why Metro has a Service Recovery Plan

- Approval from King County Council to maintain service suspensions that exceeded Metro's administrative authority.
- Formalizes Metro's approach to growing service and reinvestment of resources suspended during the pandemic emergency period.
- Uses updated Metro policies for service recovery, including the Metro Connects and Service Guidelines related to investments, reductions, restructures, partnerships and community engagement – guided and shaped by the Equity Cabinet.



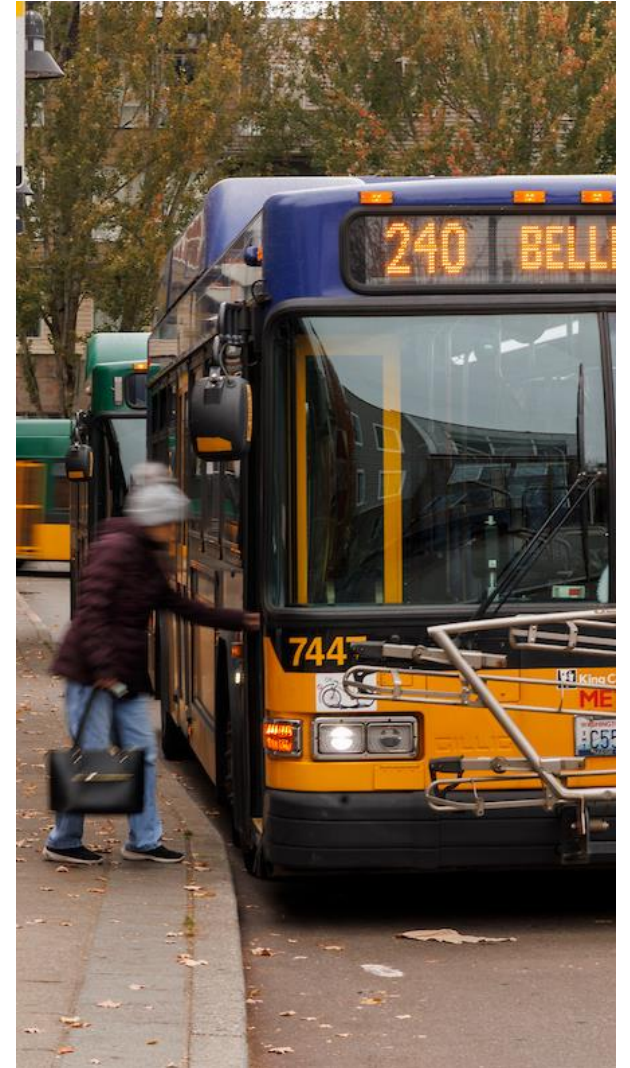
# How the Service Recovery Plan guides planning

## Service hours are being restored over time via phased projects

- Metro is using a of mobility projects (service restructures), that look at a range of mobility services
- Each project includes planning and engagement, and proposals for King County Council action
- Service proposals are based on current need, not just restoring what was suspended
- Selected changes could be implemented in advance of project implementation

## Service hours stay in project areas from which they were suspended

- Project budgets include current, suspended and partner-funded service



# Status of mobility projects

King County Council Approval      Partially or fully implemented

**East Link**



**Lynnwood Link**



**South Link**

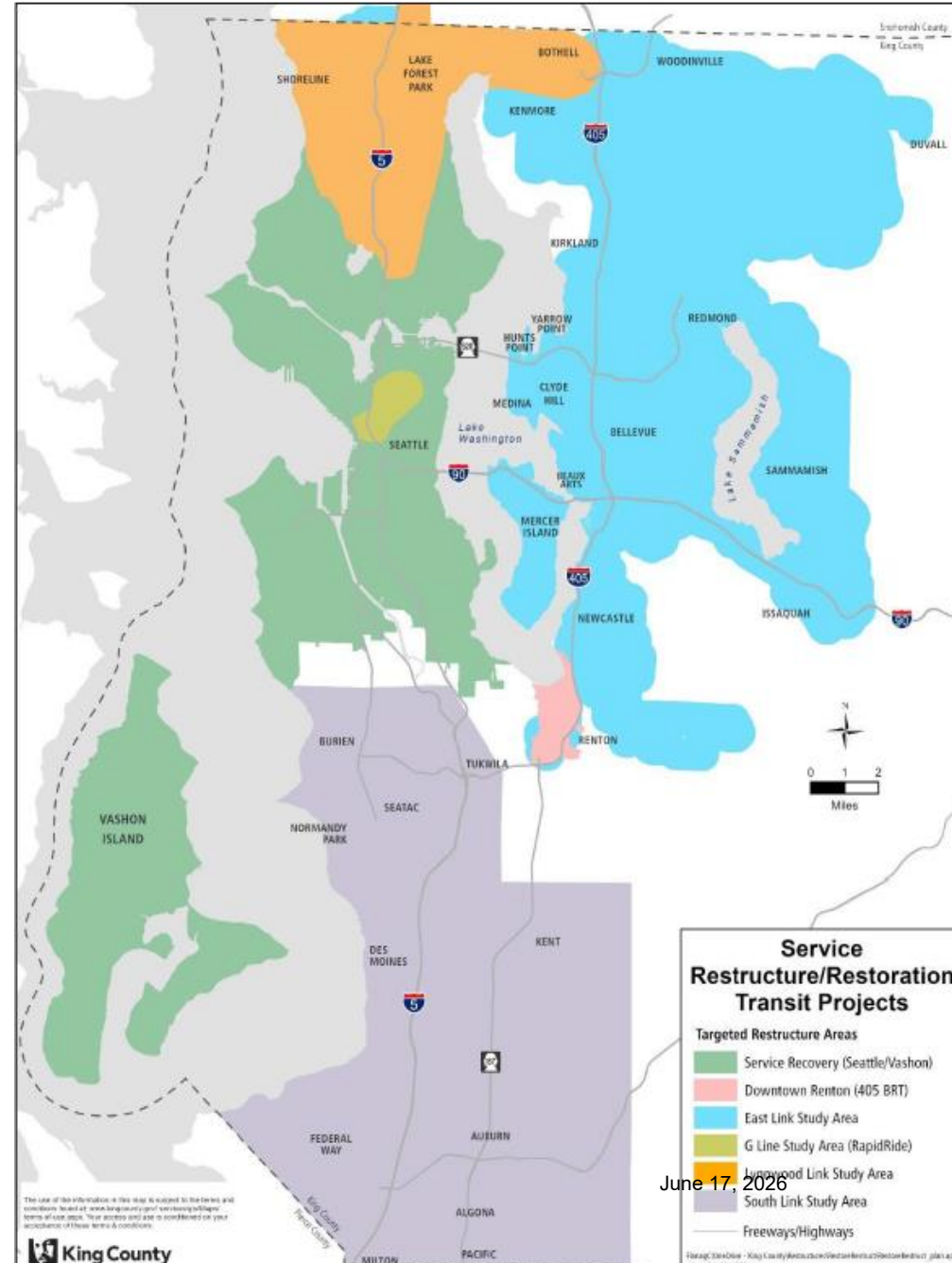


**Seattle-area**



**Madison Street Area (G Line)**

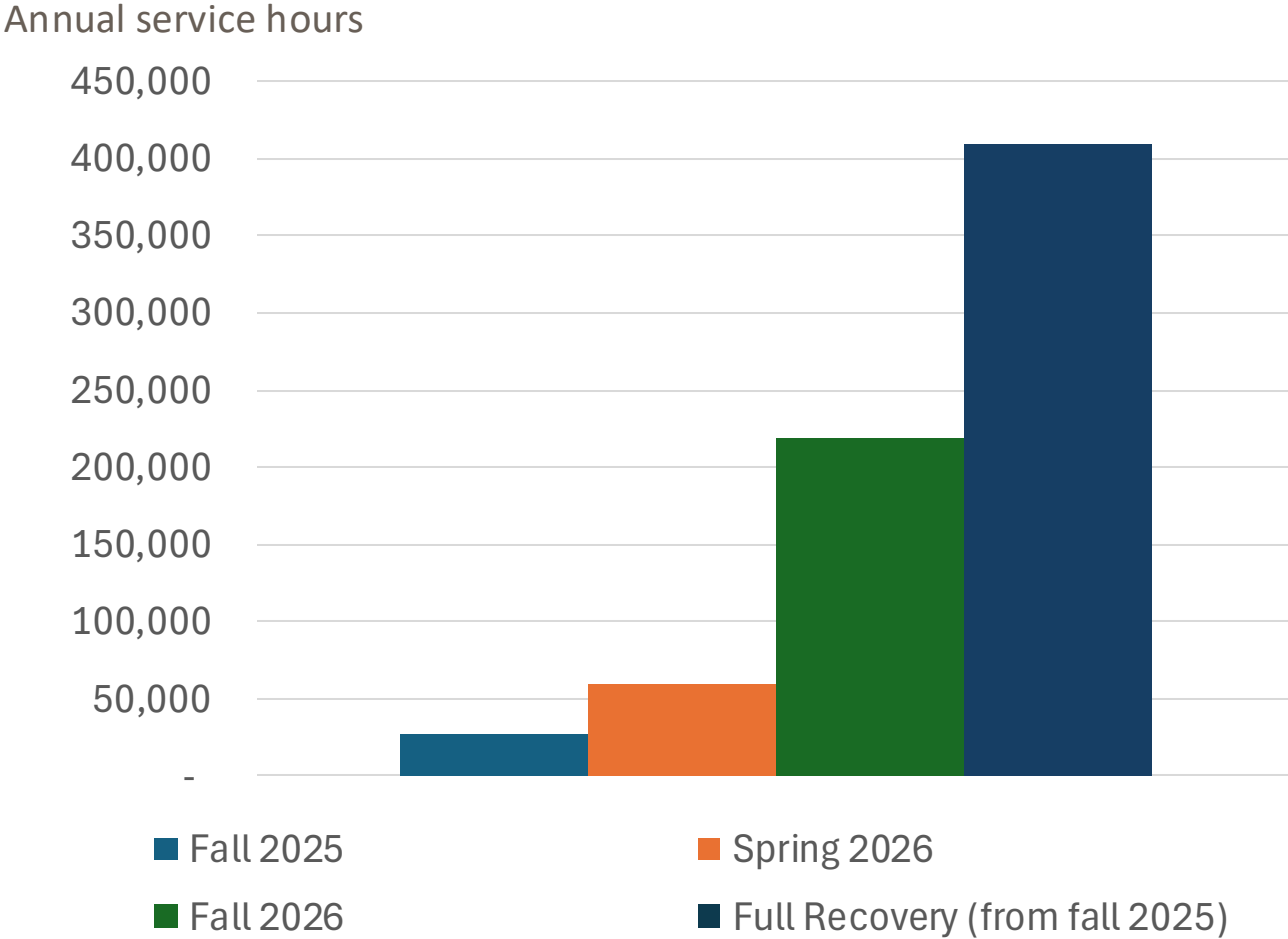
**Renton-area**



# Current status by service hour recovery

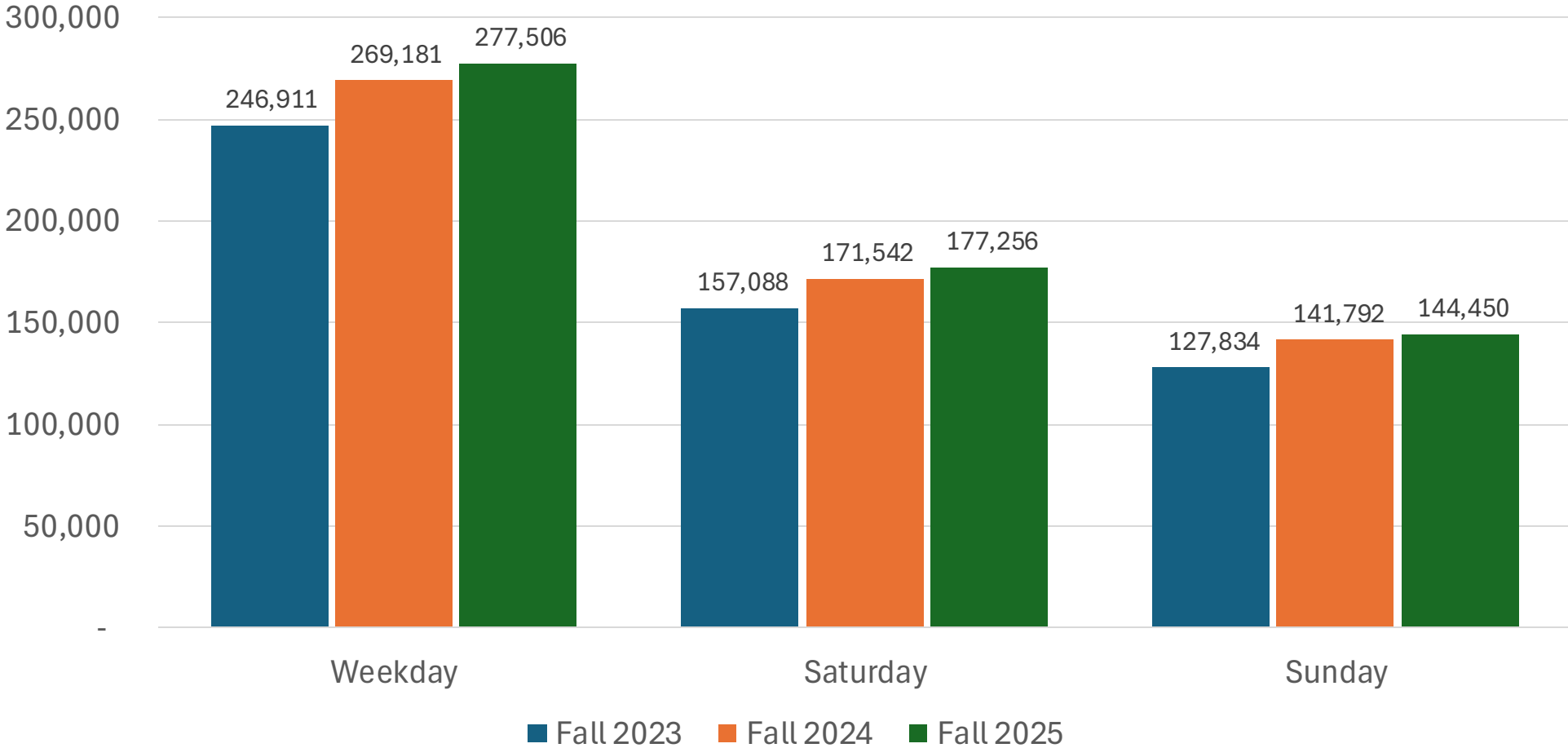
## Service hours are being restored over time via phased projects

- Ramping up significant service hour restorations later this year in North, South, and East county
- Planned to be over halfway (53%) to the full budgeted recovery by fall 2026



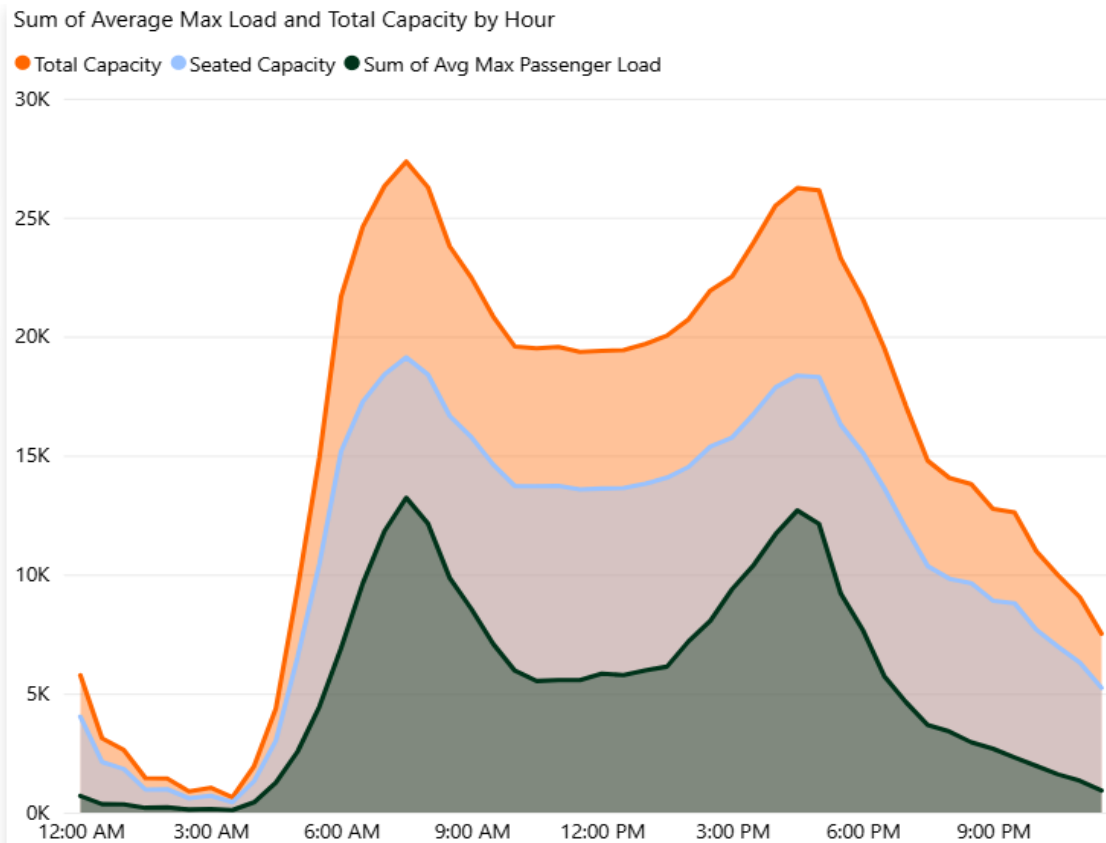
# Ridership Updates

# Average daily ridership trends 2023 - 2025

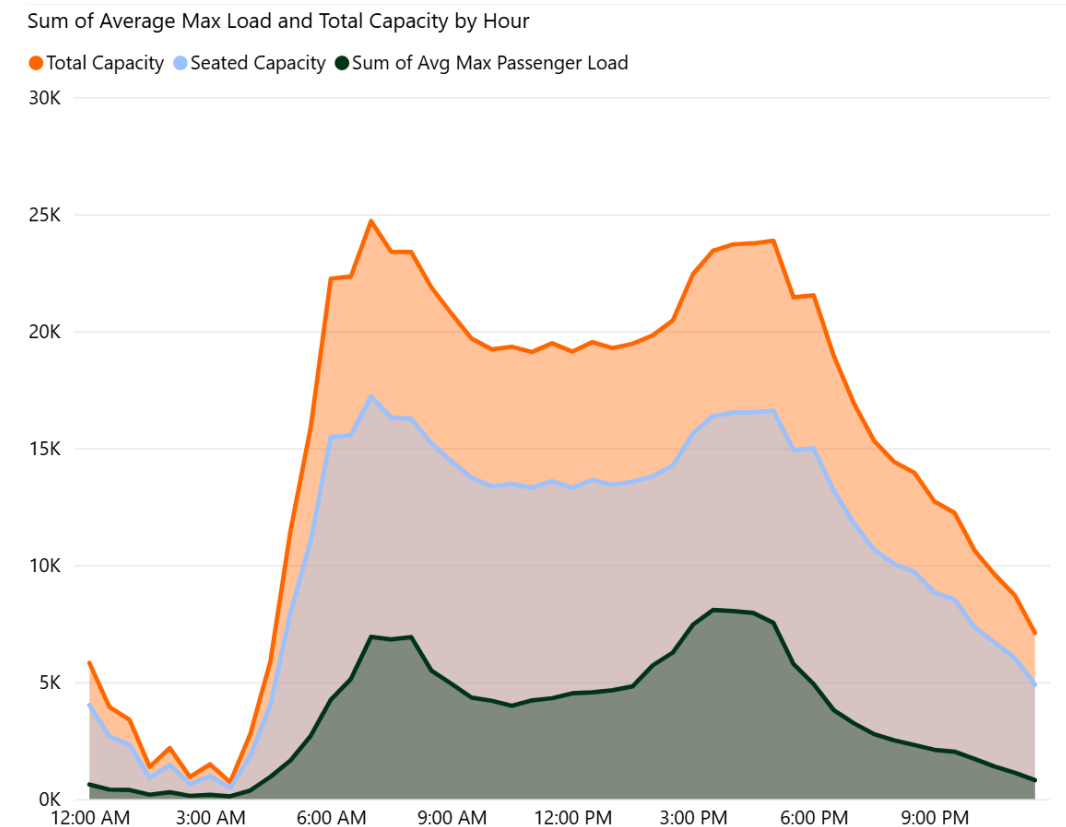


# Ridership and service more spread throughout the day

## Fall 2019



## Fall 2025



# Mobility Project Updates

# Why does Metro restructure service?

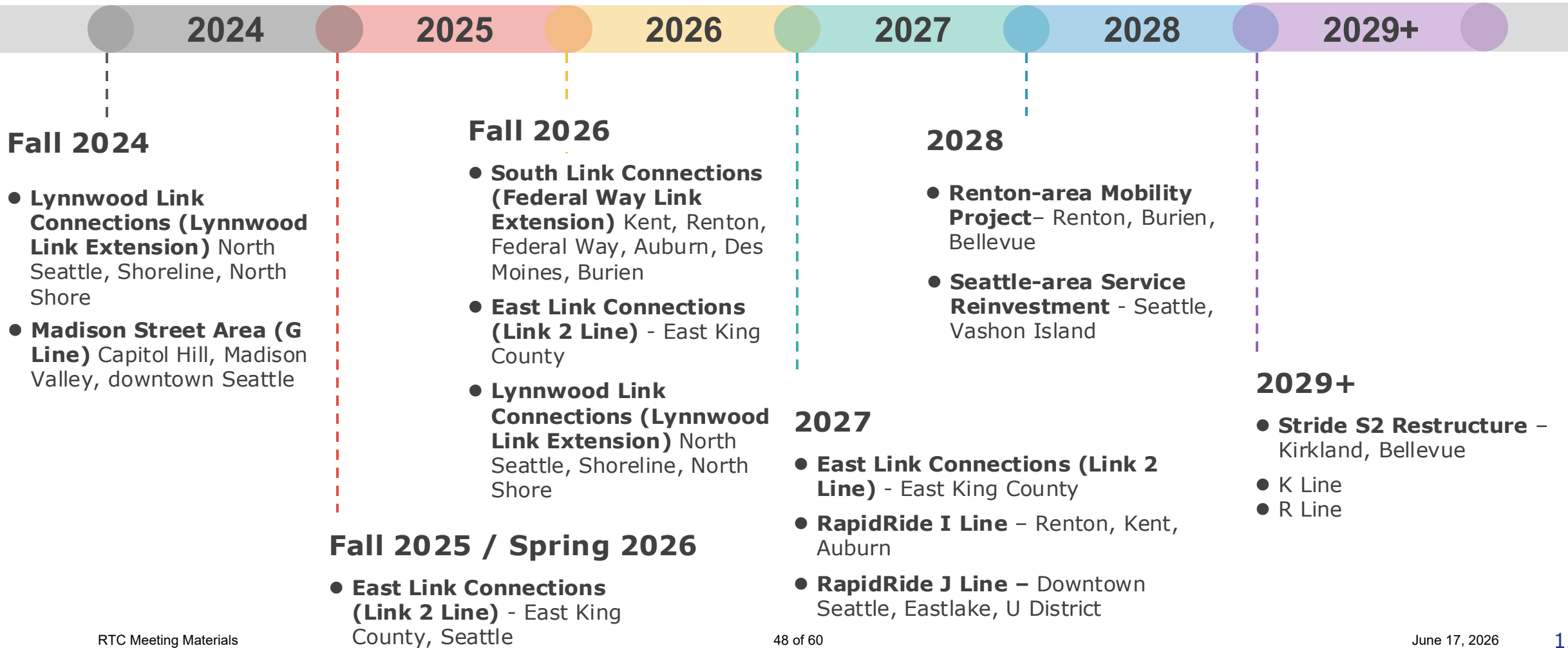
In general, restructures are done to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the transit system and to better integrate with the regional transit network, including Link light rail.

Since 2020, restructures have typically incorporated:

- Responding to changes in travel patterns since the pandemic
- Shift to more all-day and weekend service to meet rider needs
- Restoring (adding back) service hours held in suspension since the pandemic



# Major system changes



# Coordination with Sound Transit

**Infrastructure** – multi-year process ahead of Sound Transit station openings

- Formal coordination on station-area design and bus-rail facility integration
- Supports high quality bus and light rail connections and rider amenities
- Metro leads development of upgraded rider amenities at bus stop transfer points

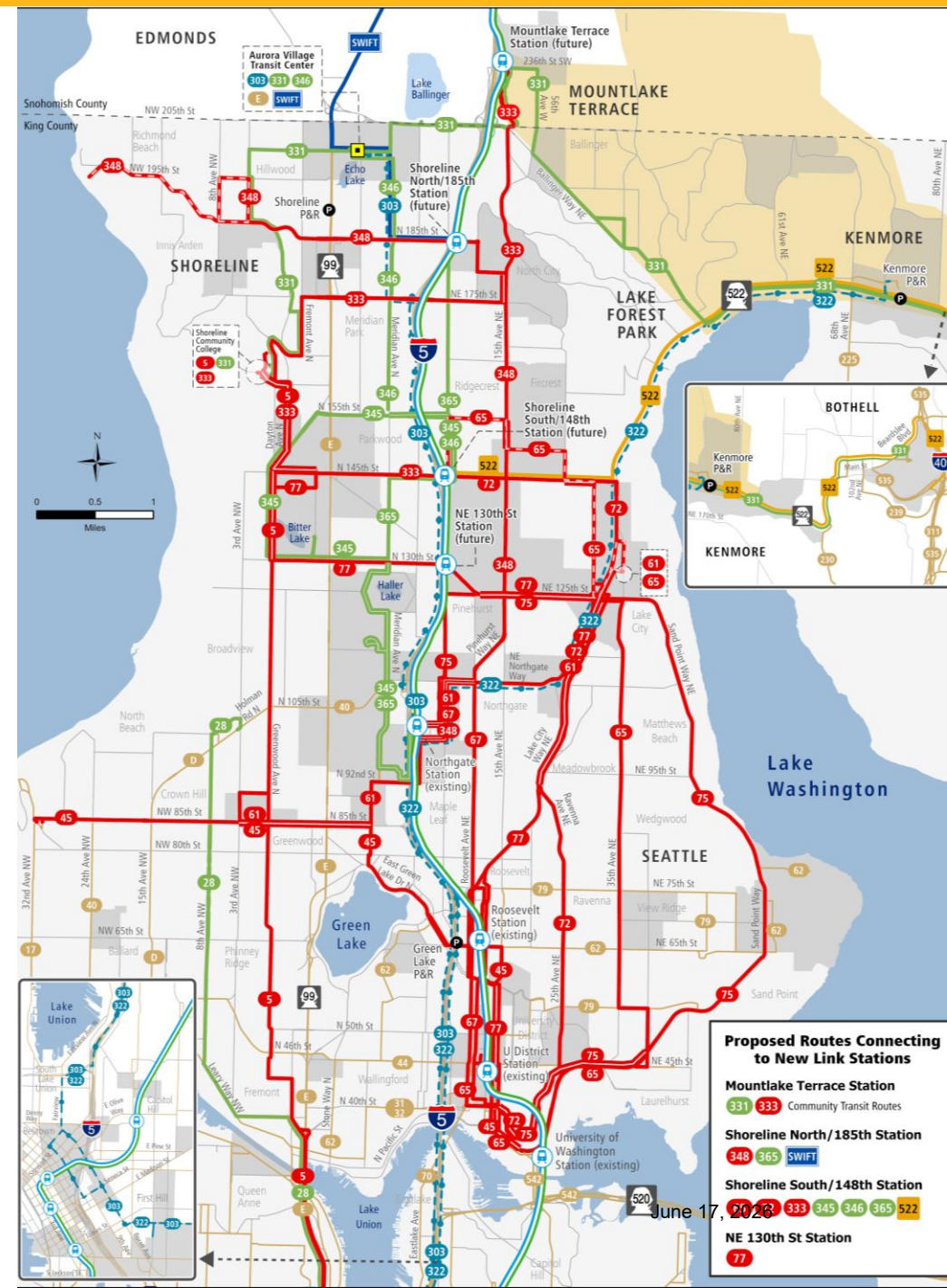
**Service** – ongoing coordination with Sound Transit Express bus & rail planning

- Sound Transit staff participate in mobility project planning process and establish coordinated service assumptions
- Sound Transit service changes subject to board approvals

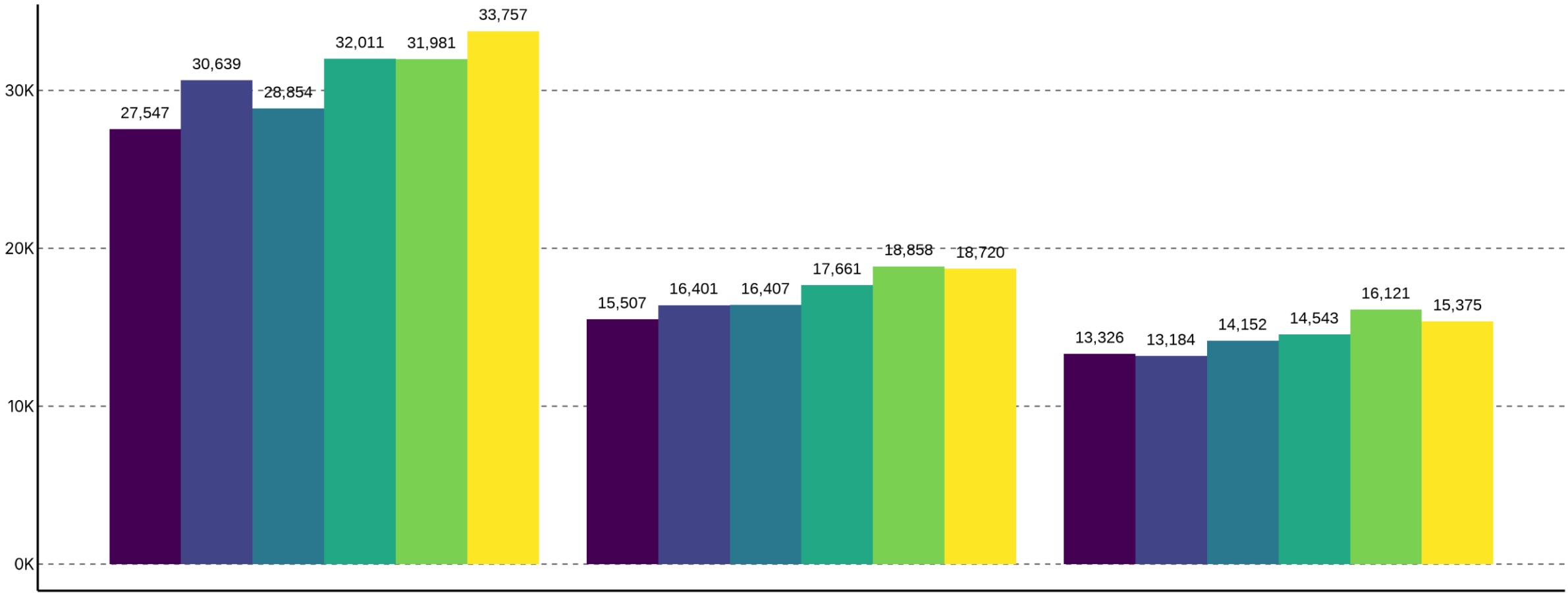
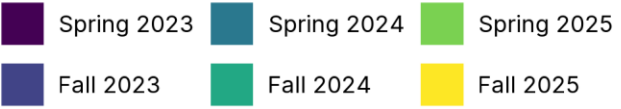


# Lynnwood Link Connections

- 27 Routes
- Multi-phase implementation starting 2024
- Final phase of changes planned for fall 2026
- Coming fall 2026:
  - ~61,000 additional hours planned, including 16,000 Seattle-funded hours
  - New route 77 connecting to the new Pinehurst Station once open
  - Changes to Route 372 and Sound Transit 522 Express service on SR522 and 145<sup>th</sup> St

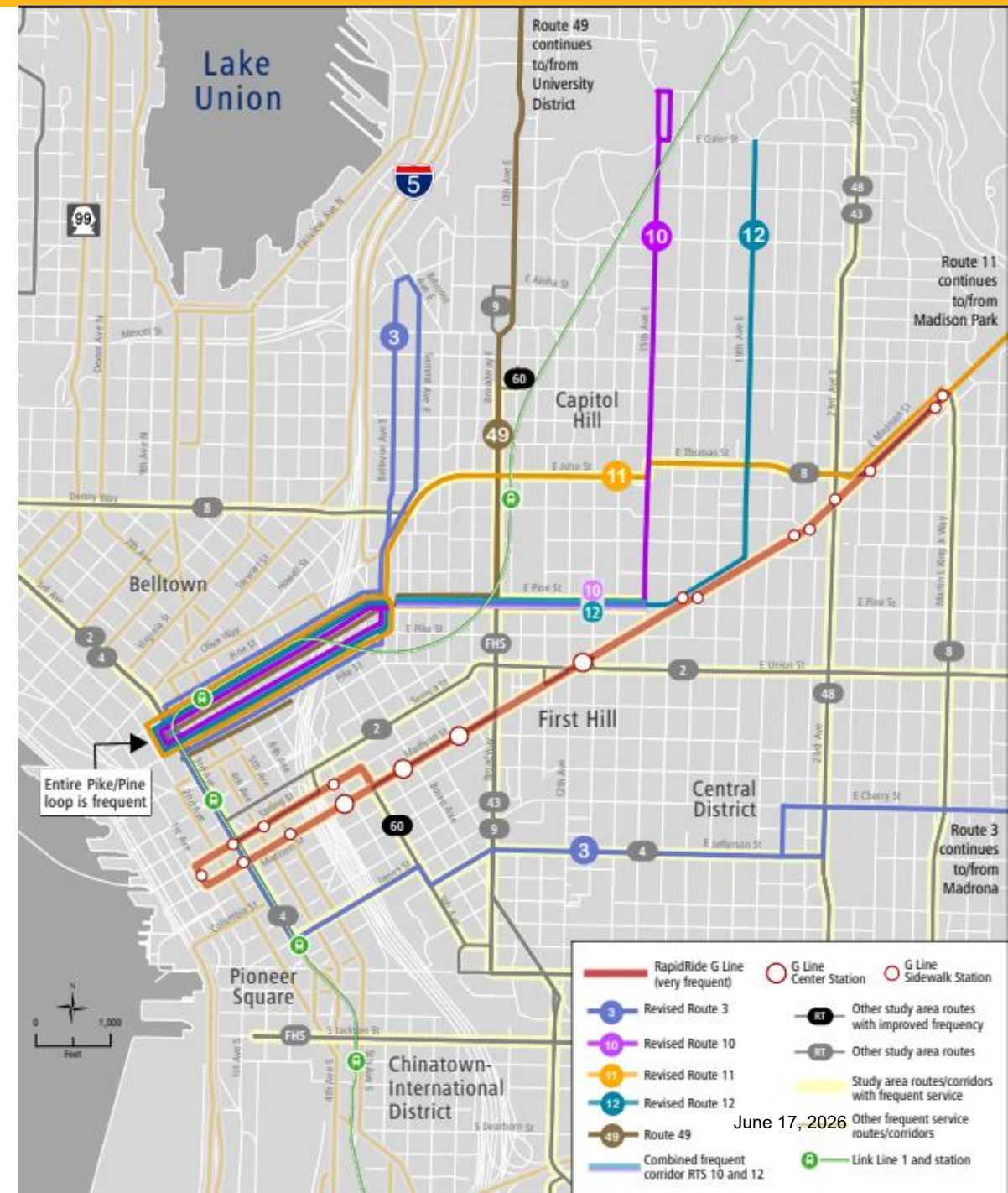


# Lynnwood Link Connections: Preliminary Ridership Results

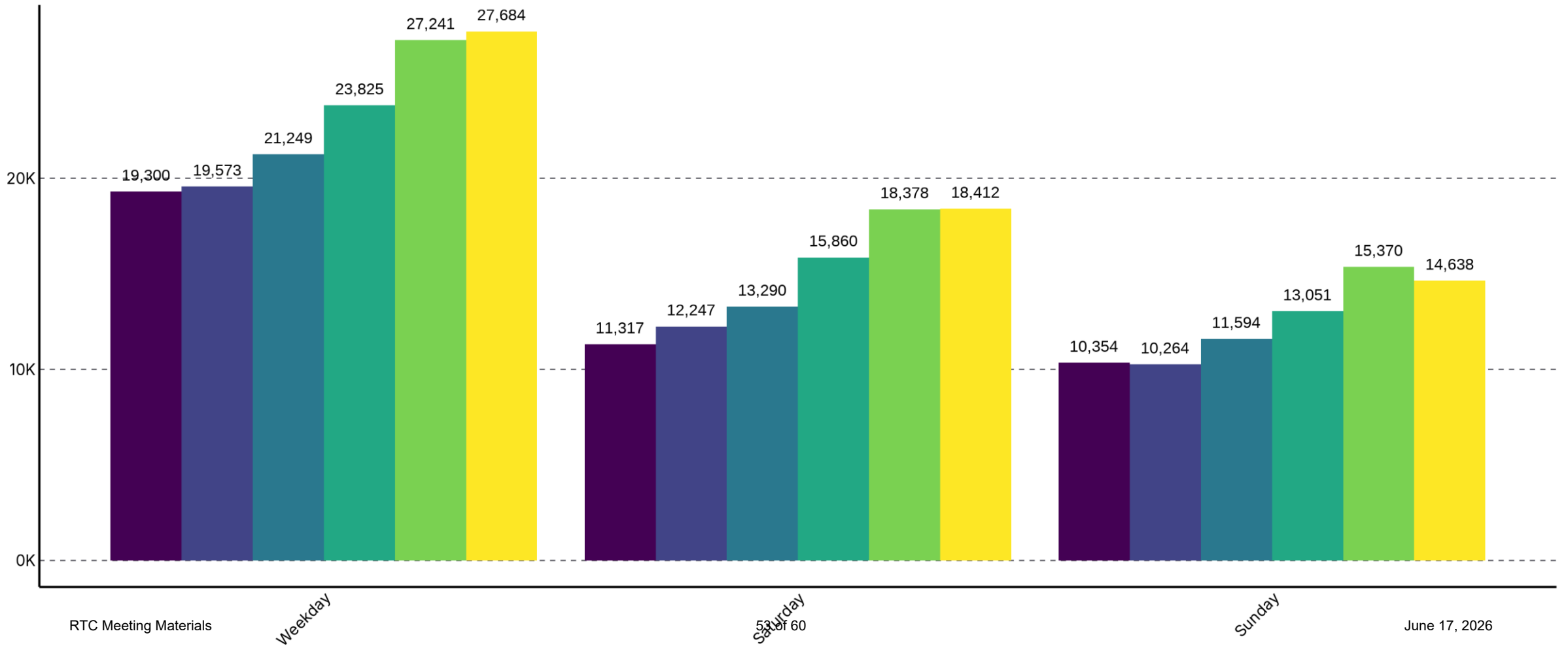
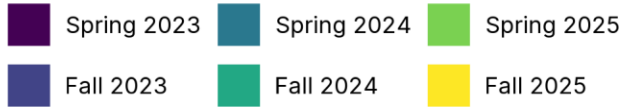


# Madison Street/RapidRide G

- G Line and 9 routes
- Full implementation in Fall 2024
- Project highlights:
  - Opened RapidRide G line with new service hours
  - Restored ~4K suspended service hours
  - Returned trolley bus service to Summit area
  - Based on community feedback, rebalanced service where demand and need is greatest



# Madison Street/RapidRide G: Preliminary Ridership Results



RTC Meeting Materials

Weekday

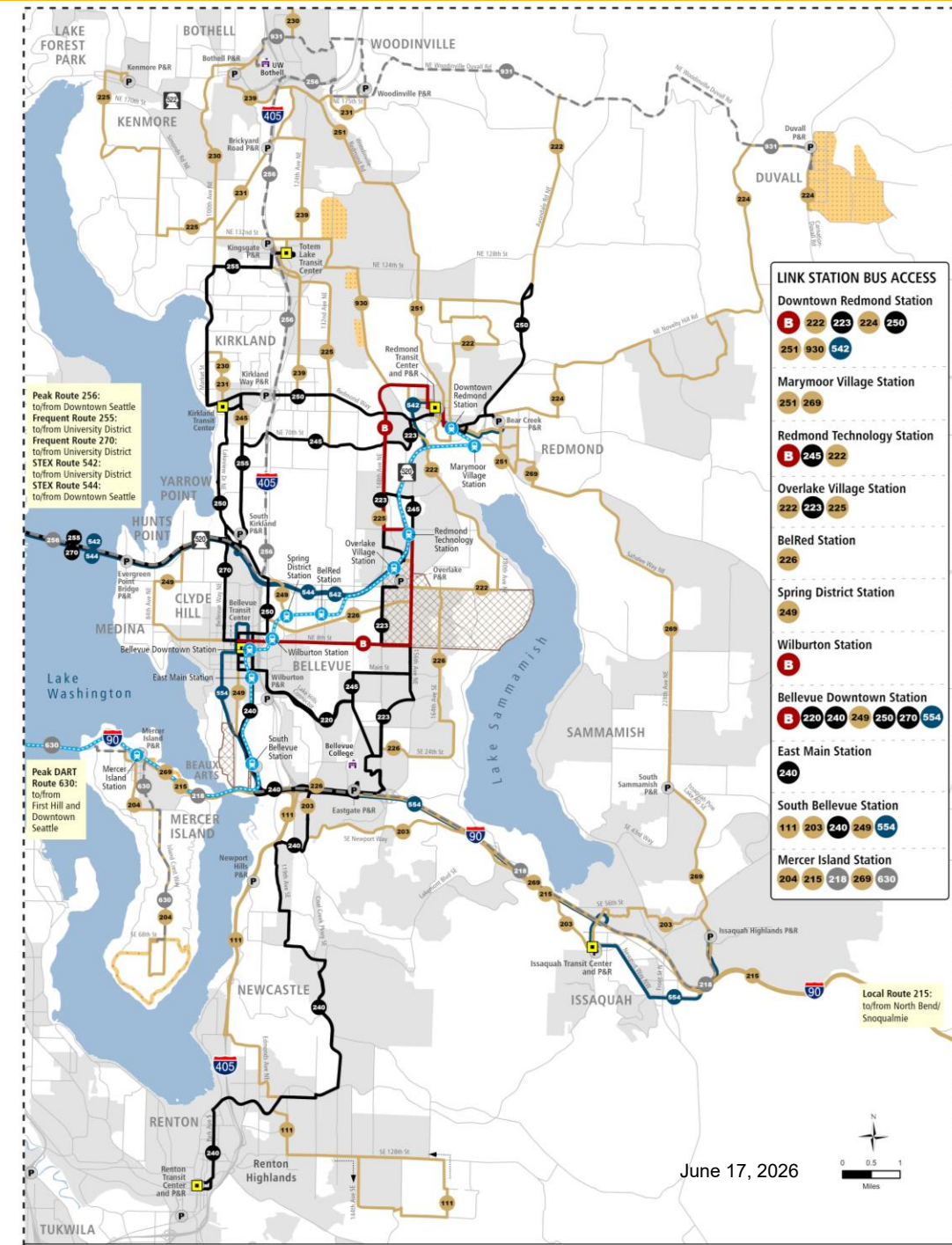
Saturday

Sunday

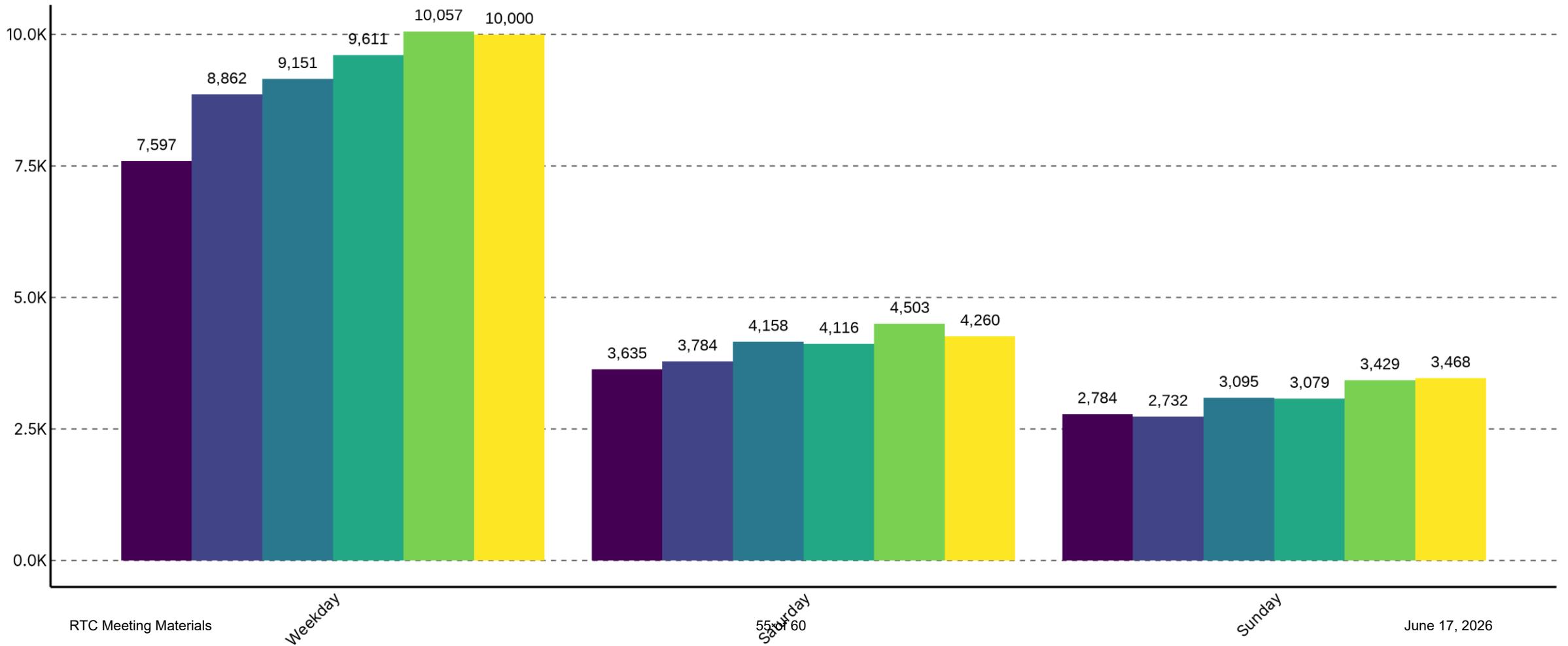
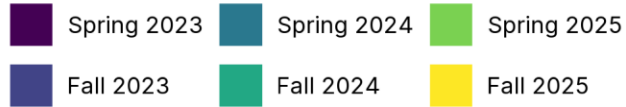
June 17, 2026

# East Link Connections

- 36 routes
- Phased implementation (2024-2027)
- Implementation steps:
  - Spring 2026 - Restored over 23,000 hours, bringing three routes to full service levels (223, 225, and 240)
  - Fall 2026 plans to restore over 46,000 hours, including 3 new routes, 8 revised, and 3 deleted
  - Spring 2027 will be the final phase of East Link Connections changes, including a new Route 251 (Woodinville – Redmond)



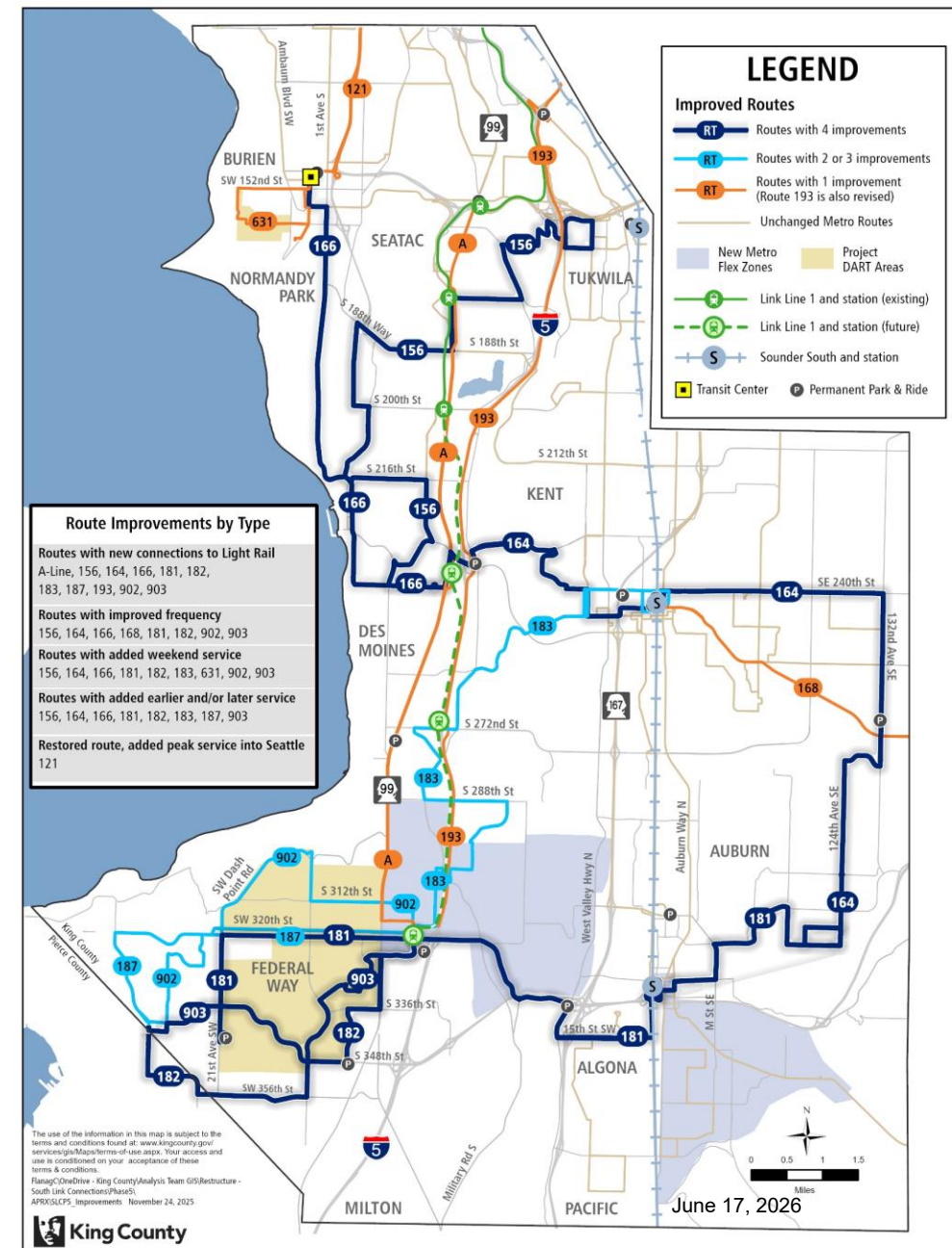
# East Link Connections: Preliminary Ridership Results



# South Link Connections

- 23 routes
- Spring 2026 – Minor investments to connect to new Link stations and improve evening and weekend service
- Fall 2026 – Full implementation of service changes
- Highlights of full proposal:
  - Restores 80K suspended service hours.
  - Added 51% more trips on weekdays and 72% more trips on weekends
  - Improved weekday frequency in Covington & Maple Valley
  - 70% increase in access to frequent transit
  - Creates 2 new Metro Flex pilots in Auburn and Federal Way

## South Link Connections Final Network: Transit Improvements



# Upcoming mobility projects

## Seattle-area Service Reinvestment

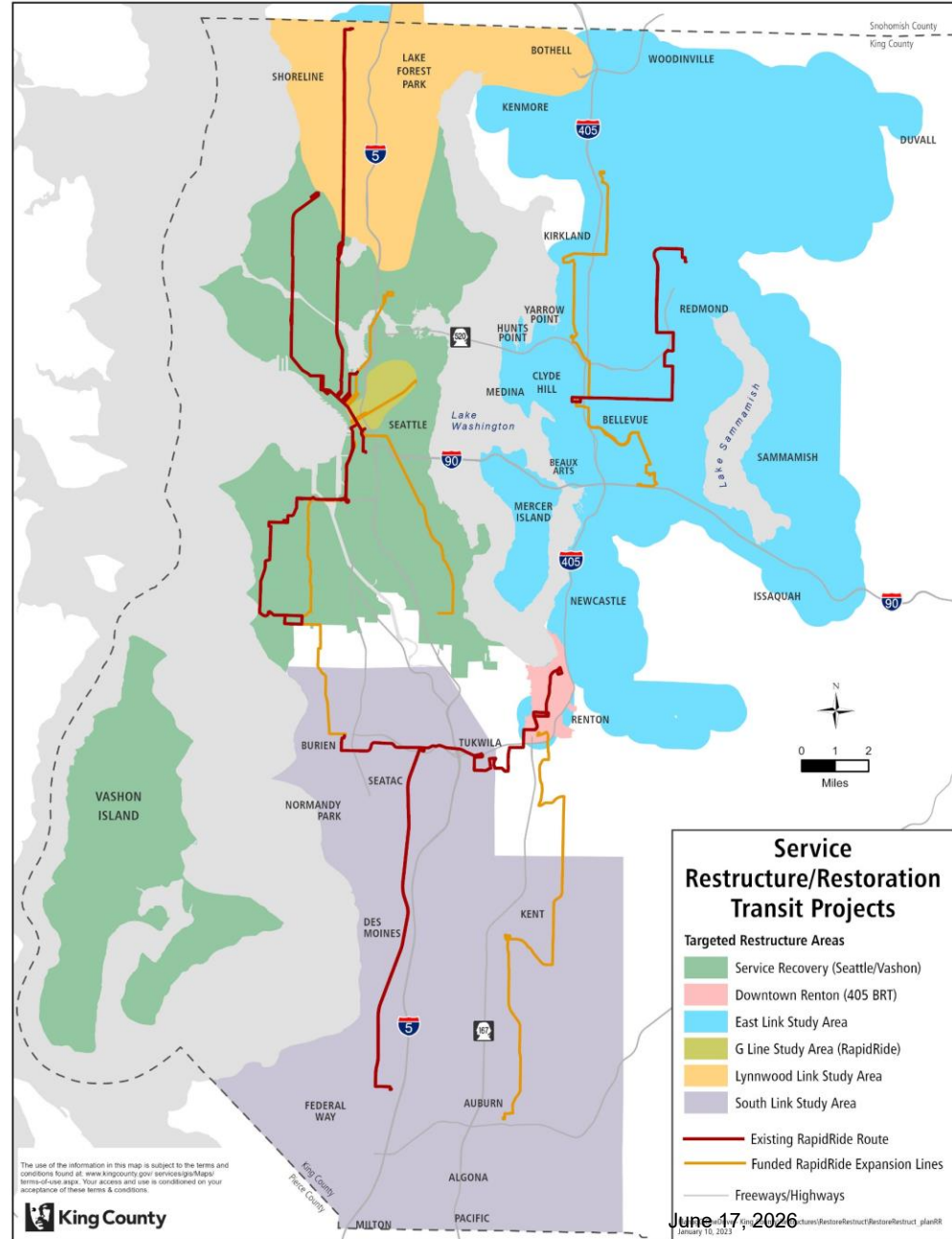
- Reinvesting suspended resources to respond to new and emerging mobility needs
- Partnership with SDOT for changes within Seattle, including for both service and capital needs
- Planned 2028 implementation

## Renton-area Mobility Project

- Restructuring of routes responding to relocation of Renton transit facility & Sound Transit Stride S1 bus rapid transit
- Planned 2028 implementation

## Kirkland-area Mobility Project *(scope in development)*

- Restructuring of routes to develop the future RapidRide K Line alignment and consider other potential eastside bus service changes.
- Is not a service recovery project and does not include restoration of suspended service hours.
- Potential 2029 implementation



# Closing and Questions



**King County  
Regional Transit Committee**

**STAFF REPORT**

<b>Agenda Item:</b>	9	<b>Name:</b>	Mary Bourguignon
<b>Proposed No.:</b>	2026-B0076	<b>Date:</b>	June 17, 2026

**SUBJECT**

Today’s briefing will provide an overview of Metro’s Next Stop, which is the name of its plan to identify and prioritize investments through 2038.

**SUMMARY**

Metro Connects,<sup>1</sup> which was last updated in 2021, is Metro’s adopted vision for the future. It described future transit service through an Interim Network (mid-to-late 2030s) and a 2050 Network. For the 2050 Network, Metro Connects envisioned a transit system with:

- Seven million annual transit service hours, up from four million in 2019
- 200 million annual riders, up from 121 million in 2019
- 19-23 RapidRide lines, up from six in 2019
- \$28.3 billion in associated capital improvements

Metro Connects, as adopted, was not fully funded. At the time it was adopted, Metro projected a funding gap of \$18 billion for transit capital investments and \$724 million a year for service investments to achieve the 2050 Network.

In 2022, at the Council’s request, Metro analyzed<sup>2</sup> the funding gap and potential funding sources to implement Metro Connects, including those available through the King County Transportation District (KCTD), King County’s transportation benefit district.

During today’s briefing, Metro will share Next Stop, which is the name of its plan to identify and prioritize future investments, specifically investments that will provide a bridge between near-term investments and the long-term investments envisioned in Metro Connects, to identify the transit improvements Metro can deliver by 2038.

**ATTACHMENTS**

A supplemental packet will be distributed prior to the RTC meeting to provide a link to the Next Stop web site and include Metro’s presentation.

<sup>1</sup> Ordinance 19367, Attachment C ([link](#))

<sup>2</sup> Motion 16155

**INVITED**

- DeAnna Martin, Chief of Staff, Metro Transit Department
- Chris O'Claire, Director, Mobility Division, Metro Transit Department