

May 8, 1997

Introduced By: Jane Hague

97-296

Proposed No.: 97-296

MOTION NO. **10228**

A MOTION requesting the executive to institute a school transit demonstration program at Newport High School for school year 1997/1998.

WHEREAS, the Council wishes to encourage youth transit ridership by developing Student Transit programs with school districts incorporating both regular and contracted bus service, and

WHEREAS, by Ordinance 12060, the Council adopted the Six Year Transit Development Plan including Service Strategy S-7 which reads "Ensure that the mobility requirements of student passengers are recognized on a par with others in those school districts that choose to participate in Student Transit programs. All Student Transit expenses will be reimbursed by participating districts," and

WHEREAS, the Bellevue School District wishes to expand its participation in the King County Transit Division's Student Transit program to include Newport High School, and

WHEREAS, in September 1997, the Executive proposes to add trips or larger vehicles to three existing transit routes in support of a Student Transit program serving Newport High School, and

WHEREAS, in addition to improvements to existing routes, the District proposes three new routes to provide regular bus service

1 for commuters and Newport High School students residing in areas  
2 currently without transit service, and

3 WHEREAS, the District-proposed additional service, one  
4 morning and two afternoon trips per route, would fall below  
5 Metro's Transportation Service Guidelines which state that regular  
6 bus services "typically provide at least three trips in the  
7 primary direction of travel" during peak periods, and

8 WHEREAS, the Council wishes to consider the feasibility of  
9 providing transit service to lower-density residential areas such  
10 as those near Newport High School where, to date, factors such as  
11 density, street patterns and topography have limited transit  
12 options, and

13 WHEREAS, other questions the Council wishes to consider  
14 include: the effect of very low service levels on the viability of  
15 regular bus routes and the compatibility of student and commuter  
16 transit needs at very low service levels, and

17 WHEREAS, the Council's Transportation Committee, in  
18 consultation with the Executive, will review and recommend  
19 revisions to the County's student transit policy while updating  
20 the Six-Year Transit Development Plan;

21 WHEREAS, in a May 29, 1997 letter to Rob McKenna, Chair of  
22 the Council's Transportation Committee, the District acknowledged  
23 "the fact that the proposed Newport-Somerset community service  
24 routes constitute a pilot project on the county's part" and the  
25 District further stated that "should they be discontinued, the  
26 district is prepared to drop student transit at Newport High  
27 School and return to yellow school buses;"

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

2 A. The Executive is requested to implement a transit  
3 demonstration program for the 1997/1998 school year at Newport  
4 High School. Under that ten month program, the Bellevue School  
5 District will enter into a Student Transit agreement and purchase  
6 at least 580 passes for Newport High School students and the  
7 County will provide one morning and two afternoon trips on each of  
8 three new routes substantially as shown on the attached map but  
9 subject to modification as needed to accommodate the operational  
10 limitations of transit vehicles.

11 B. The Executive is further requested to submit an evaluation  
12 and recommendation to the Council by May 1, 1998. The  
13 demonstration program should be evaluated based upon its benefits,  
14 revenues, operational and capital costs and non-student ridership.  
15 Continuation of the new service beyond June 1998 shall occur only  
16 upon Council approval.

17 PASSED by a vote of 11 to 1 this 23rd day of  
18 June, 1997.

19 KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
20 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

21 Jane Hague  
22 Chair

23 ATTEST:

24 [Signature]  
25 Clerk of the Council

26 Attachments: Map of District-proposed bus service

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