Metro’s Long Game: An Integrated Service Network in Renton
Renton City Council Committee of the Whole
August 12, 2019
Agenda

• METRO CONNECTS
• Metro’s Long Game: An Integrated Mobility Network
• Service Planning and Investments in Renton
• Renton Transit Access Study
• Next Steps
METRO CONNECTS
METRO CONNECTS

- Metro’s adopted long-range vision
- Identified a network of high capacity transit throughout King County
- Integrated transportation system connecting people and places
- Shaped by input from cities, passengers, transportation agencies, businesses and other stakeholders
Getting to Metro's Long Game: An Integrated Mobility Network
Becoming a Mobility Agency

As a value-driven, data-supported mobility agency, Metro will:

• Develop a regional mobility ecosystem with transit at the center and complementary shared mobility services
• Provide seamless, multi-modal mobility solutions
• Lower number of vehicles, vehicle miles traveled, congestion, and energy use
• Be safe, sustainable, and equitable
Determinants of Equity

- Access to health and human services
- Healthy built and natural environments
- Quality education
- Family wage jobs and job training
- Early childhood development
- Economic development
- Strong, vibrant neighborhoods
- Affordable, safe, quality housing
- Access to parks and natural resources
- Equity in county practices
- Access to affordable, healthy, local food
- Equitable law and justice system
- Community and public safety
- Access to safe and efficient transportation
Metro Service Planning and Implementation in Renton

Fall 2019 Service Investments
RapidRide I Line
Renton-Kent-Auburn Area Mobility Plan
Fall 2019 Service Investments

Metro will directly invest 111 weekly service hours for routes serving Renton.

Fall 2019 investments include:

- **Route 101**: Adding 4 trips on weekdays, Saturday, and Sunday
- **Route 105**: Increasing Sunday frequency from every 60 to every 30 minutes
- **Route 107**: Adding 1 trip on weekdays and adjusting schedules to combine with Route 60 for 15-minute frequency between Beacon Hill Station and Renton Transit Center during evenings and nights
- **Route 906**: Increasing weekday peak frequency from every 60 to every 30 minutes
RapidRide Expansion Timeline

- **H Line**
  - Burien-Downtown Seattle
  - 2021

- **G Line**
  - Madison Valley-Downtown Seattle
  - 2022

- **I Line**
  - Renton-Kent-Auburn
  - 2023

- **Downtown Seattle-Rainier Beach**
  - 2024

- **Downtown Seattle-Roosevelt**
  - 2025

- **Totem Lake-Eastgate**
  - 2026

- **East or South King County Line**
  - 2027


RapidRide Capital Investments

- Passenger Facilities (New Kit of Parts)
- Accessibility
- Speed & Reliability
- Communications & Technology
- Safety, Comfort & Security
- Access to Transit

Conceptual design rendering of a shelter location. Actual design may vary.
RapidRide I Line: Renton, Kent & Auburn

- Current routes 169 & 180
- 6,000 Daily Riders
- ~$120M expected capital investment
- Applying for FTA Small Starts Funding in 2020

Planning 2019

Preliminary Design 2019-2021

Final Design & Construction 2021-2023

Start Service September 2023
Renton-Kent-Auburn Area Mobility Plan

- Increase network efficiency and invest in equity priority areas
- Develop a network of mobility services
- Create a single route from Renton to Kent to Auburn to be upgraded to the RapidRide I Line

Outreach and Plan Development
Now – Fall 2019

Service Change Ordinance Developed
Fall 2019 – Spring 2020

Service Change Education
Summer 2020

Service Change Begins
Sept 2020
I Line and Area Mobility Plan Timeline

- **Needs Assessment**: March - May
- **Concept Development**: June - Early September
- **Finalize Concept**: September - November
- **Partner Review Board**: Ongoing
- **Mobility Board Meetings**: May 30/Jun 1
- **City of Renton**: Feb 25: Council, Aug 12: Council
- **Community Outreach**: Mid-July to Mid-August, End of July, End of September, Mid-November, Early November, Fall, October to November

**Timeline**:
- Spring 2019: Needs Assessment
- Summer 2019: Concept Development
- Fall 2019: Finalize Concept
- Winter 2020: Ongoing
Needs Assessment Phase: Outreach and Engagement

Metro collected feedback and shared project information the following ways:

- Presented to City Council and City of Renton staff
- Convened a Mobility Board
- Recruited members for a Partner Review Board

- 8 Tabling events
- 30 Outreach at 30 bus stops
- 18 Stakeholder interviews
- 840 Survey respondents
## Needs Assessment Phase: What We've Heard

*Preliminary feedback from City of Renton, Mobility Board, public engagement, and needs survey*

### Key Themes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>How Feedback will be Incorporated?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Need for more service frequency and span, better transit access and coverage in Highlands, better east-west connections</td>
<td>Service change concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure RapidRide stations serve important local destinations, including regional transit centers and service providers</td>
<td>Bus station locations and service investments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continue to prioritize engaging historically underserved populations</td>
<td>Public Involvement Plan</td>
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Summer Outreach and Engagement

- Share information and gather input at community events
  - Renton River Days
  - ORCA To-Go at City Hall
  - Renton Refugee Forum

- I Line online open house

- Renton-Kent-Auburn Area Mobility Plan survey

- Mobility and Partner Review Boards

View the online open house and take the survey at: www.kingcounty.gov/metro/iline
What is the Renton Transit Access Study?

A study of barriers to transit and identifying potential solutions

Approach: Coordinate with concurrent Metro service projects. Focus on six areas in Renton.

• Pedestrian & bicycle improvements, crossings, lighting
• Wayfinding
• Flexible services for first/last mile connections to fixed-routes
• Parking management
• Mobility hubs
• Demand management options
## Concurrent Metro Projects in Renton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Type</th>
<th>Renton-Kent-Auburn Area Mobility Plan</th>
<th>RapidRide I Line</th>
<th>Access to Transit Study (Proviso)</th>
<th>Metro service integration with Sound Transit’s I-405 BRT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type</td>
<td>Fixed route and flexible service planning and implementation</td>
<td>Fixed route corridor service planning, capital elements, and implementation</td>
<td>Study of barriers to reaching transit and potential solutions</td>
<td>Fixed route and flexible service planning and implementation</td>
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| Geographic Scope | Includes Community Connections pilot projects in the Benson Hill Area | Auburn-Kent-Renton, portions of current routes 180 and 169 | Focus areas*:  
  ▪ Rainier/Grady Transit Center*  
  ▪ Downtown Renton*  
  ▪ Valley Industrial Area  
  ▪ Lake Washington/ Southport/water taxi*  
  ▪ I-405/NE 44th BRT  
  ▪ Sunset/Highlands * | In Renton includes:  
  ▪ South Renton Park-and-Ride (Rainier/Grady)  
  ▪ Downtown Renton  
  ▪ I-405/NE 44th BRT  
  ▪ Sunset/Highlands (current all-day Route 240) |

*These locations are also included in the RapidRide I Line or Area Mobility Plan service planning project areas.*
# Concurrent Metro Projects in Renton: Timeline

## Access to Transit Study
- Needs Assessment
- Plan Development
- Finalize Plan

## Ongoing Service Investments
- Additional service on Routes 101, 105, 107, 906

## Renton Kent Auburn Area Mobility Plan
- Needs Assessment
- Plan Development
- Finalize Plan

## RR I Line
- Existing conditions
- Develop preferred alternatives
- Planning & preliminary design
- Final design
- Construction

## Metro Service Restructure for I-405 BRT
- ST Facility Planning: South Renton Transit Center
- ST BRT design and construction

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<th>Q1</th>
<th>Q2</th>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Q4</th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Q2</th>
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**Investments as resources allow to address crowding, reliability, and service growth based on Service Guidelines**

**September 2020**
- Service changes begin

**September 2023**
- Service begins

**September 2024**
- Service begins

Potential private-public water taxi launch 2021 or 2022
Evaluating Gaps and Needs

• Equity: income, language, people of color, other access factors
• Safety: crash data involving people walking or biking
• Access to key destinations (current, future)
• Access to transit hubs (current, future)
• Feedback about barriers from city, public, community-based organizations as part of service projects
Solution concepts

Infrastructure
- Fill sidewalk gaps
- Improve intersection safety
- Improve corridor safety

Other access strategies
- First/last mile connections, on-demand services
- Car-share, bike/scooter share, bike parking
- Curb-space management, drop-offs
- Parking management: on-site, nearby
- Other mobility-hub treatments
## Flexible Services and Other Access Solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>Recommended for further study in</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-demand first/last mile services, TNCs/taxis, employer shuttles</td>
<td>Rainier &amp; Grady; Southport, with water taxi; Valley Industrial area</td>
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<tr>
<td>Micromobility (bike/scooter share)</td>
<td>City-wide, with designated parking near transit, activity centers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parking management, eg area-wide time limits, on-site pricing/permitting, garage management, real time availability</td>
<td>Rainier &amp; Grady, Southport, downtown, NE 44th/I-405</td>
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<tr>
<td>On-site bike parking: racks, secure lockers, micromobility spaces</td>
<td>Transit centers, Southport/water taxi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drop off areas, curb space management, access points</td>
<td>Southport, transit centers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand management incentives, pass programs, on-site amenities, guaranteed ride home, etc.</td>
<td>Major employers &amp; property owners, eg Southport, Valley Industrial Area</td>
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Implementation and Funding

• Pursue near-term actions as feasible
  • Paint, signals
  • Policy considerations
  • Pilot projects, partnerships

• Prepare for longer-term actions

• Continue working with Metro on fixed route and flexible services, capital improvements, Safe Routes to Transit infrastructure partnerships

• Apply for grants, eg Regional Mobility 2020

• Work with Sound Transit on station design and funding
Next Steps
What’s Next?

- Concept Development Phase (through early-September)
- Mobility Framework development

- Online open house (through August 25)
- Mobility Board (mid-September)

- Renton City Council briefing (anticipated in October)
  - Update on corridor concept and plan development
  - Look ahead to locally preferred alternative

- Coordination with City staff and Technical Advisory Committee (ongoing)
Questions?

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