



RAPIDRIDE

RapidRide K Line Update Bellevue City Council February 11, 2025

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Presentation Outline



- **Why Invest in RapidRide?**
- **Project Schedule**
- **Community Engagement Phase 3**
- **November Recap**
- **Access to Transit Improvements**
- **Speed & Reliability Improvements**
- **Proposed BAT Lane Analysis**
- **Summary & Next Steps**

Presentation Objective: Information Only.

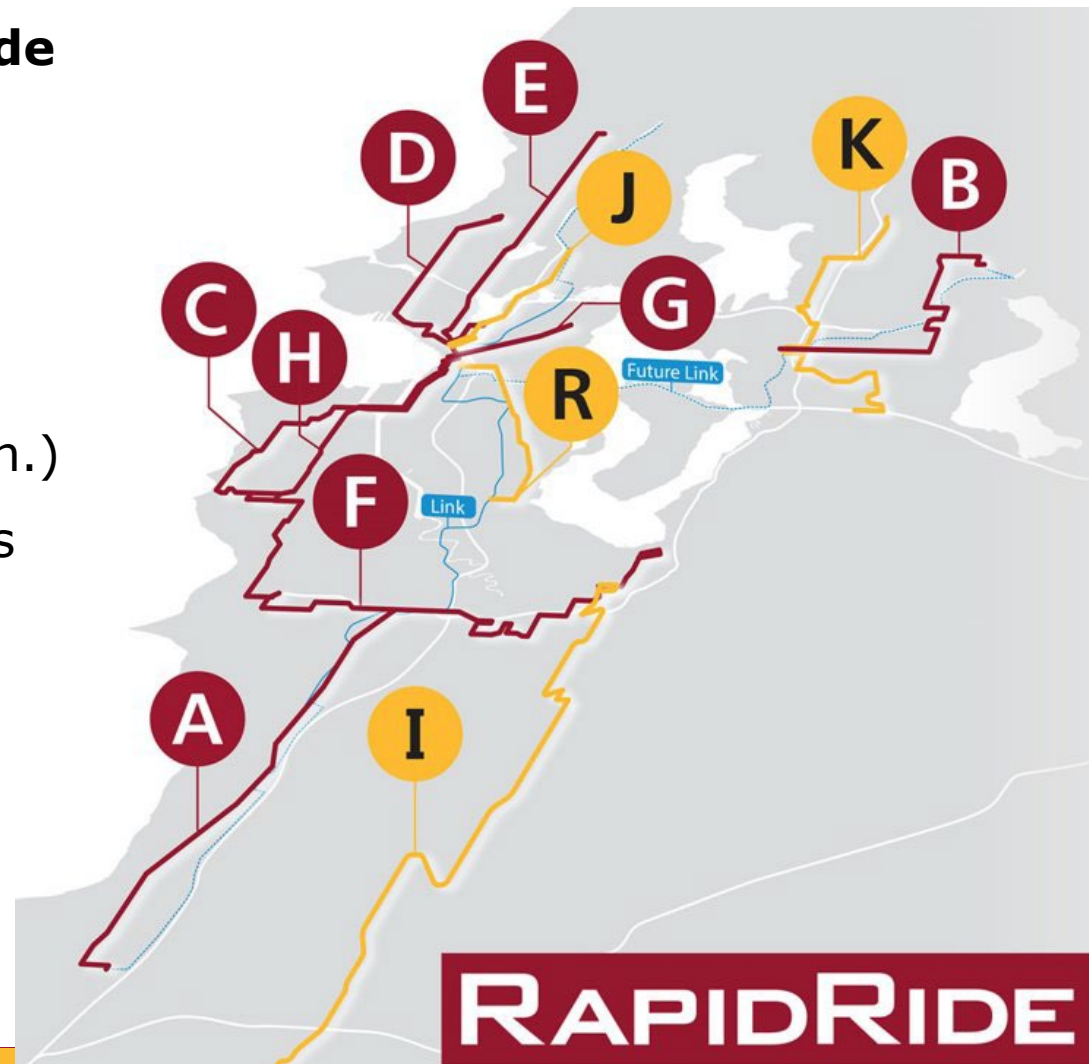
Highlight analysis of BAT Lanes and prepare Bellevue City Council to provide Letter of Support in March 2025.

Why Invest in RapidRide



RapidRide K Line will provide key transit connections for East King County:

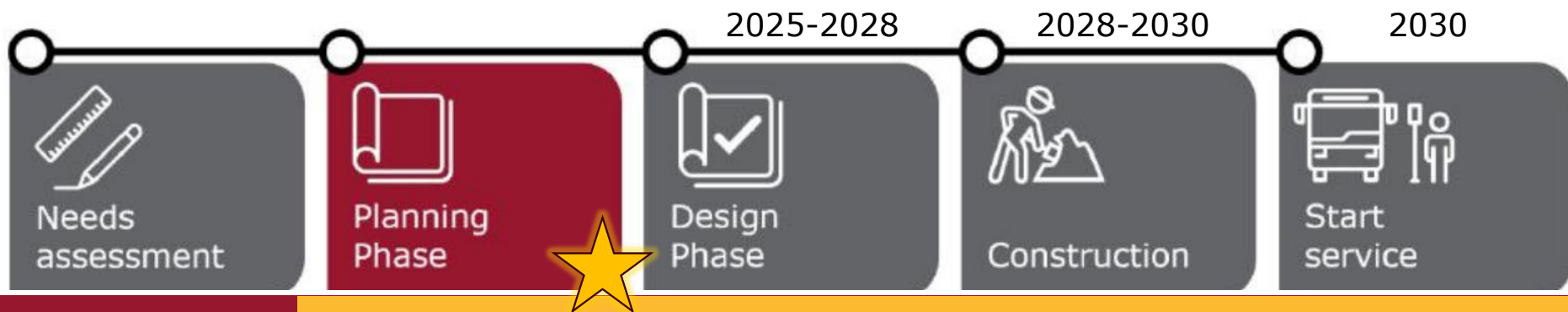
- 16-mile Route
- 35 Station Pairs
- Frequent Service (10-15 min.)
- Regional Transit Connections
- Eligible for Federal Funding
- Connects Activity Centers



Project Schedule



- **January 16th – February 13th** : Community Engagement Phase 3
- **March:** Request Letter of Support from Bellevue Council
- **April:** Project Vision Revised
- **June:** Project Vision Adopted by King County Council
- **August:** Submit Small Starts Grant Application
- **Fall 2025:** Preliminary Design Begins
 - NEPA Approval Expected Spring 2026/Summer 2026



Community Engagement Update

Phase 3 of Engagement



We are here



Needs assessment




Planning Phase

2024



Final design



Preferred concept
(Jun 27 – Jul 24, 2024)

- Routing choices in downtown Bellevue
- Station location in main areas
- Areas of focus to improve path and walkways for transit, bike or pedestrians

Final concept
(Jan 16 – Feb 13, 2025)

- Get comments on the vision and feedback on ways to improve the project
- Confirm project meets community values

- Coming next

Community Engagement Update

Phase 3 Engagement



Online Survey: Jan 16 – Feb 13

Available in Spanish, Korean, Japanese, Simplified and Traditional Chinese, Vietnamese and Russian

Briefings

(14)

Open House

(4)

Tabling

(6)

Street
Teaming

(3)

Virtual
Office Hours

(4)

Email/Phone

(various)

Community Engagement Update

Phase 3 Engagement



kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro/travel-options/bus/rapidride/k-line

- PROJECT OVERVIEW
- COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
- PROJECT TIMELINE
- FAQ
- RESOURCES AND BLOG POSTS
- SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

Your opinion matters | Help shape the new RapidRide K route—take Metro’s K Line survey by Thursday, February 13. [TAKE OUR SURVEY](#)

Project overview

Metro plans to bring RapidRide to more Eastside communities by 2030. The RapidRide K Line will serve a 16-mile north-south corridor between Kirkland and Bellevue as part of Metro Connects, Metro’s long-range vision approved by the King County Council in 2017.

Current ridership data

Service predictions

Originally planned to begin service in 2025, Metro paused work on the RapidRide K Line due to funding issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Metro is committed to engaging key partners and eastside communities as project work starts up again with a planned launch of the service by 2030.

kingcounty.gov/en/dept/metro/travel-options/bus/rapidride/k-line

During Phase 3 of engagement, Metro is working to inform community members and asking for more input to help shape the route in these three areas:

1. Passenger route facilities (bus shelters)
2. Access to Transit Improvement Areas

Metro prioritizes improvements in areas that lead to transit on each RapidRide project. Feedback received during Phase 2 of community engagement on the K Line emphasized the ability to safely access RapidRide stations. This includes improvements to the various ways people get to transit service, whether on foot or with a mobility device. Access to transit investments were incorporated into the overall project based on a combination of community input, equity goals, partner input.

Segment A: Recommended route section showing the various Access to Transit Improvement Areas

Segment B: Recommended route section showing the various Access to Transit Improvement Areas

Segment C: Recommended route section showing the various Access to Transit Improvement Areas

Segment D: Recommended route section showing the various Access to Transit Improvement Areas

Segment E: Recommended route section showing the various Access to Transit Improvement Areas

metro/travel-options/bus/rapidride/k-line

Community engagement

Metro is committed to conducting engagement throughout a project’s life cycle. Community input plays an important role in the evaluation and planning phase.

Background

Metro has identified key community engagement goals for each project phase. See below for overall goals that we’ve set the tone for this work, including what we have most commonly heard from the public.

Goals

What we heard

What we’ve done

Have a say

[Take our survey](#) to share your opinions on the K Line, or join a community conversation to get involved!

Community conversations

January 16 to February 13, 2025

- [Open houses](#): Learn about the project at one of our events.
- [Virtual office hours](#): Ask a question during our 30-minute online, weekly sessions.
- [Tabling and street teaming events](#): Visit us at various locations near you.

Organize a briefing

Want to host a conversation about the RapidRide K Line in your neighborhood or community? Contact us to schedule a meeting.

Reach out

- Email: rapidride@kingcounty.gov
- Phone: [206-263-9768](tel:206-263-9768)
Note: Please leave a message with your name, phone number, and details to receive a callback.

Next steps

During Phase 3 of engagement, Metro is working to inform community members and asking for more input to help shape the route in these three areas:

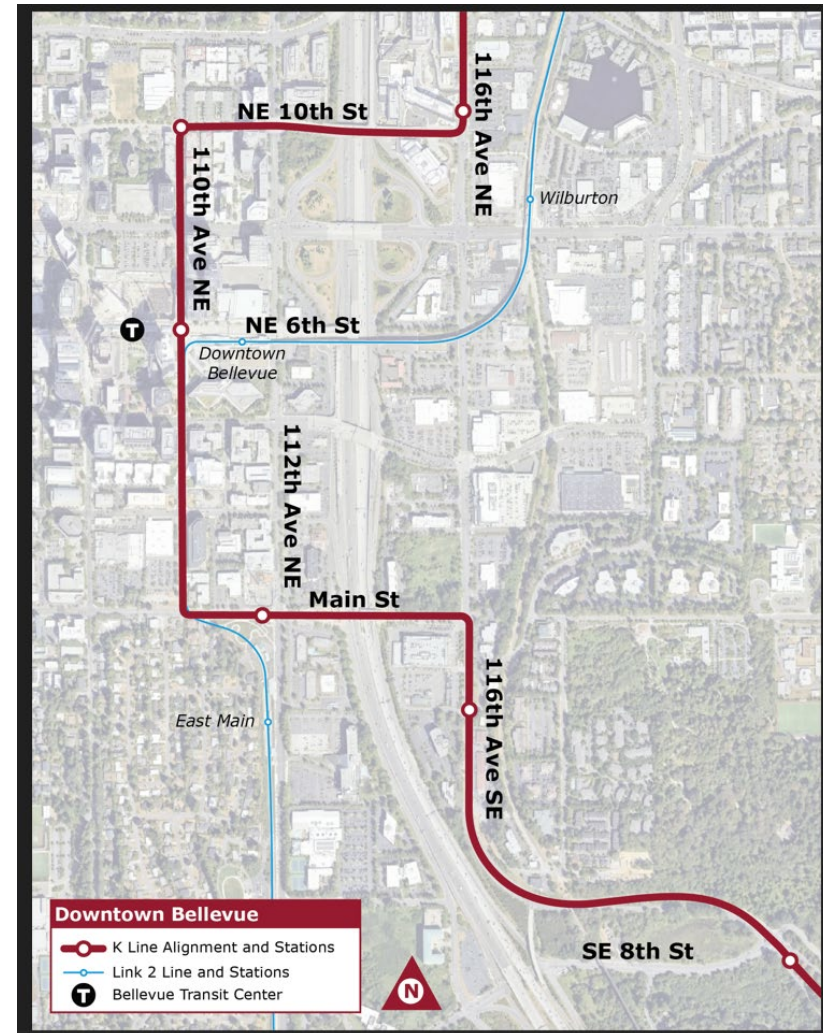
1. Passenger route facilities (bus shelters)

November Recap



Presented to Bellevue Council on 11/26

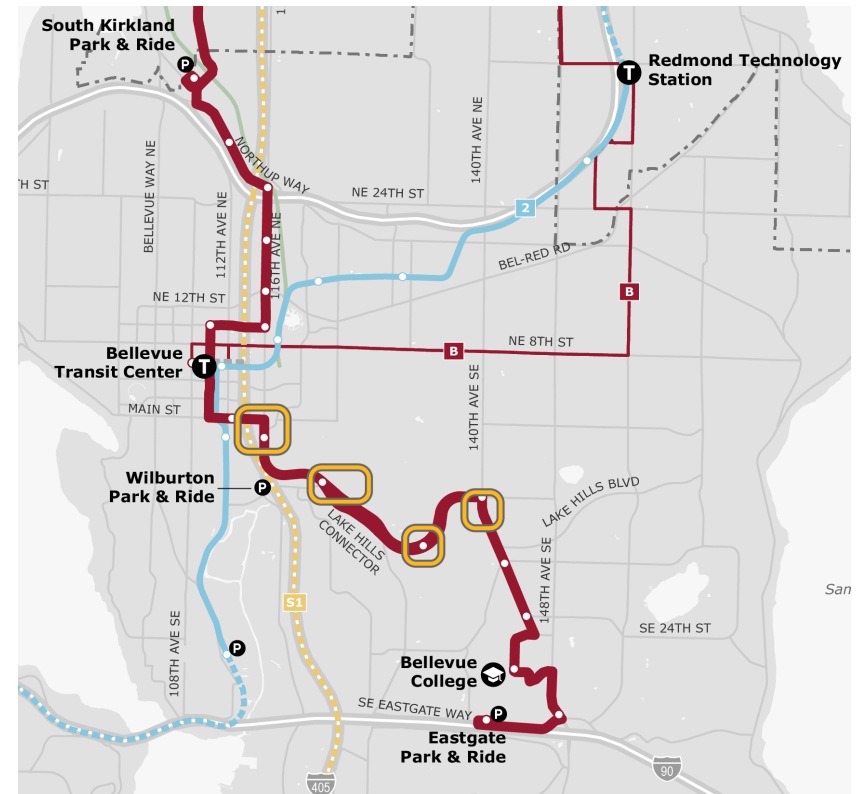
- Update on Project Vision and Schedule
- Shared Phase 2 Community Engagement Feedback
- Confirmed Downtown Routing Recommendation
- Introduced Speed & Reliability Projects



Access to Transit Improvements

Nine Proposed Access to Transit Improvements

- **Project Investments Include:**
 - Sidewalks
 - Bike Lanes, Shared-Use Paths
 - Enhanced Crossing Treatments
- **Investment Areas:**
 - Main Street & SE 1st Street
 - Lake Hills Connector Corridor



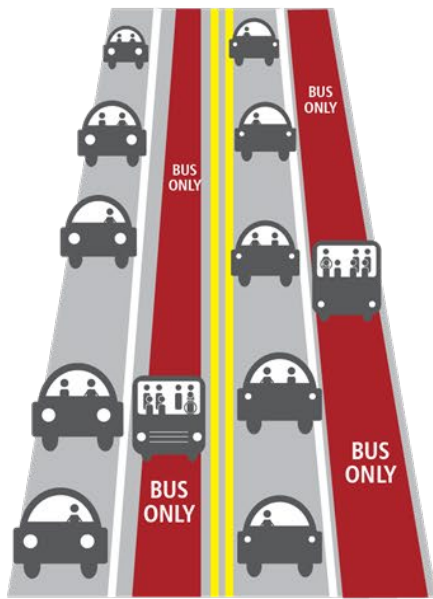
Speed & Reliability Improvements

26 Proposed Speed & Reliability Improvements

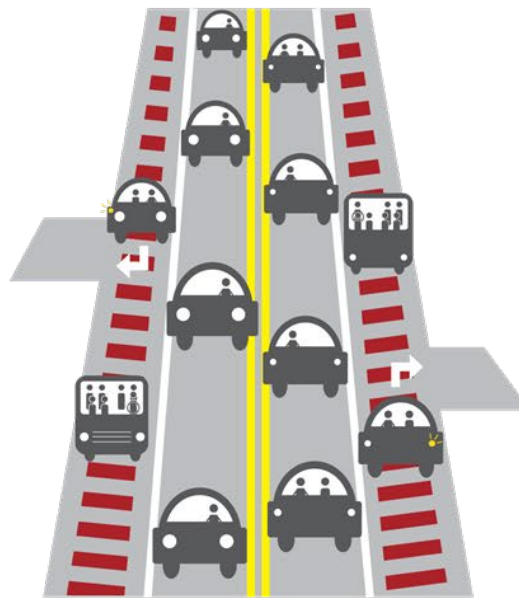
- BAT Lanes
- Transit Signal Priority (TSP)
- Intersection Improvements (e.g. new turn lanes, re-channelization)
 - 116th Avenue NE & Northup Way
 - 145th PI SE & SE 24th Street

Types of Speed & Reliability Treatments

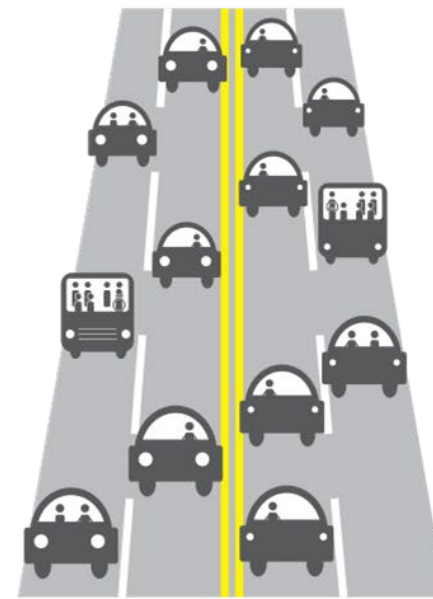
Transit Priority Lanes



Bus-Only Lanes
Exclusive Transit use
<1% Recommended



Business Access and Transit (BAT) Lanes
Transit + Right Turning Vehicles
15% Recommended



No Transit Priority
all vehicles share the roadway
84% Recommended

Proposed BAT Lane Analysis

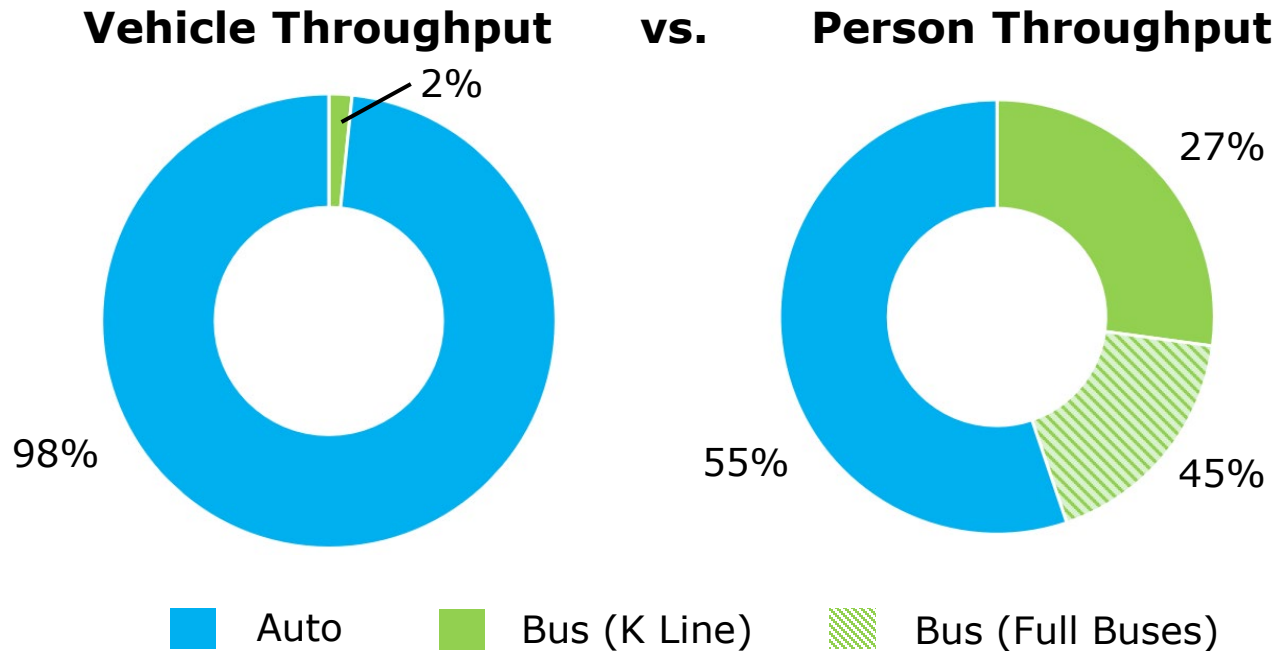


- 2044 Evening Peak Travel Period Analysis
- Assessed Transit Travel Time and Impacts to General Purpose Traffic
- Assessed Parallel Routes

Proposed BAT Lane Analysis



- Implementing BAT lanes saves seven minutes of travel time for the K Line in downtown Bellevue
- There are also benefits to person throughput:



Proposed BAT Lane Analysis



Impacts to General Purpose Travel Time (during 3 p.m. – 7 p.m.)

- Some corridors will see reductions in travel time ranging between 10 seconds to one minute
- Most corridors that observed impacts will see less than an 18 second of increase in travel time
- NE 12th Street and NE 8th Street observed eastbound travel times increases of 54 seconds and 90 seconds respectively



Speed & Reliability on K Line

Benefit of Recommended Projects



Estimated corridor travel time (during weekday PM peak hour)



	Southbound Totem Lake -> Eastgate	Northbound Eastgate -> Totem Lake
 <p>Corridor travel time No RapidRide investment¹ K Line</p>	96.5 minutes	88.5 minutes
	70.0 minutes	68.0 minutes
 <p>Travel time savings Minutes saved per trip Percent travel time reduction</p>	26.5 minutes	20.5 minutes
	27%	23%

Next Steps



- **Jan. 16th – Feb 13th:** Phase 3 Community Engagement
 - Take the survey by February 13th
- **March 25th:** Bellevue Council Presentation
 - Provide Results of Phase 3 Engagement
 - Request Letter of Support for Project Vision
- **June:** King County Council Planned Adoption of Locally Preferred Alternative



RAPIDRIDE

Thank You

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