

Direction

Direct City of Bellevue staff to prepare a letter for the mayor's signature on behalf of the Council in support of King County Metro's RapidRide K Line draft Locally Preferred Alternative.





RAPIDRIDE

RapidRide K Line Update Bellevue City Council

March 25, 2025

Ryan Whitney, RapidRide Lead, K Line

Lluvia Ellison-Morales, Sr. Community Engagement Planner

Amanda Pleasant-Brown, Government Relations Jurisdictional Lead

Presentation Outline



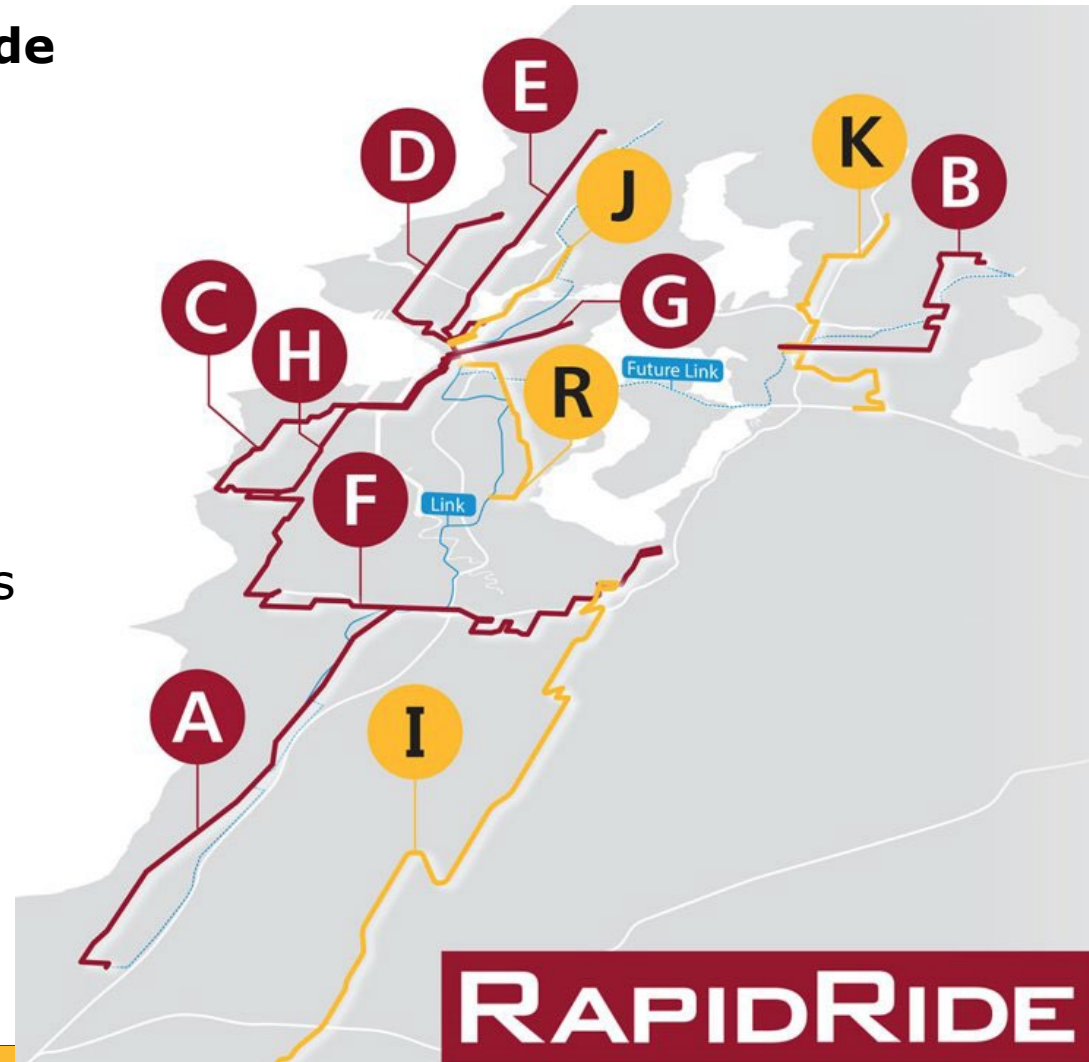
- **Why Invest in RapidRide?**
- **Project Schedule**
- **February Recap**
- **Phase 3 Engagement**
- **Project Vision Summary**
- **NE 10th Street BAT Lanes**
- **Letter of Support Request**
- **Next Steps**

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 minute)
- Regional Transit Connections
- Connects Major Activity Centers
- Eligible for Federal Funding
- B Line Average Weekday Boardings 4,500+ in 2025



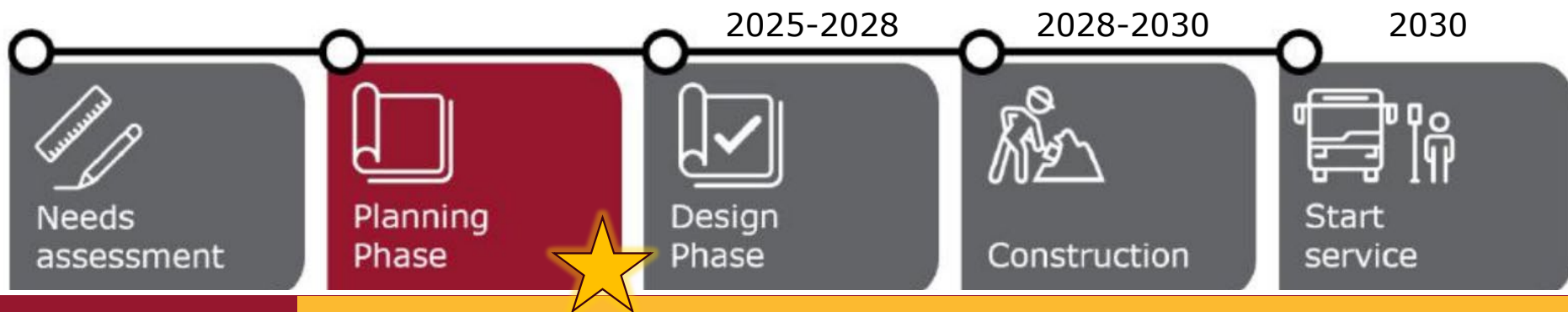
RAPIDRIDE



Project Schedule



- **March:** Request Letter of Support from Bellevue Council
 - Kirkland Provided Letter of Support on 3/18
- **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

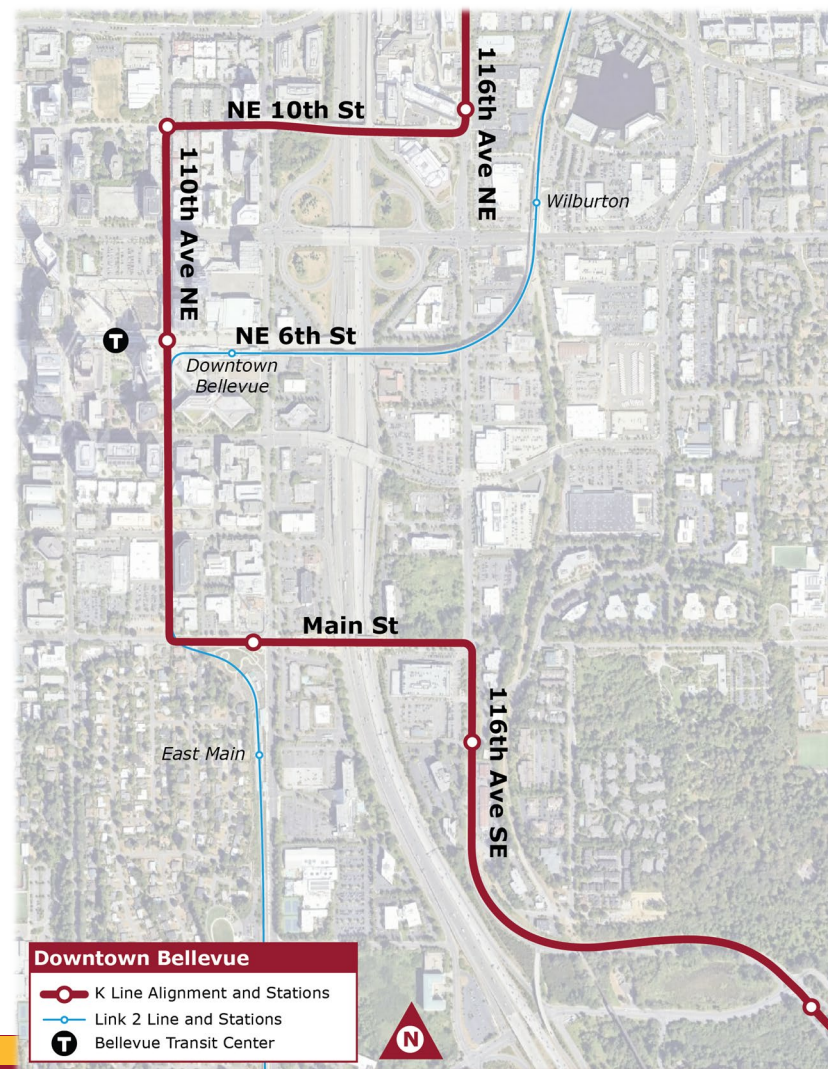


February Recap



Presented to Bellevue Council on 2/11

- Speed & Reliability and Access to Transit Improvements
- Transit Travel Time Savings and Person Throughput
- Impacts to General Purpose Traffic



RAPIDRIDE

Phase 3 Engagement: Sharing the Locally Preferred Alternative

Community Engagement

Working together over time



Connecting Across Communities

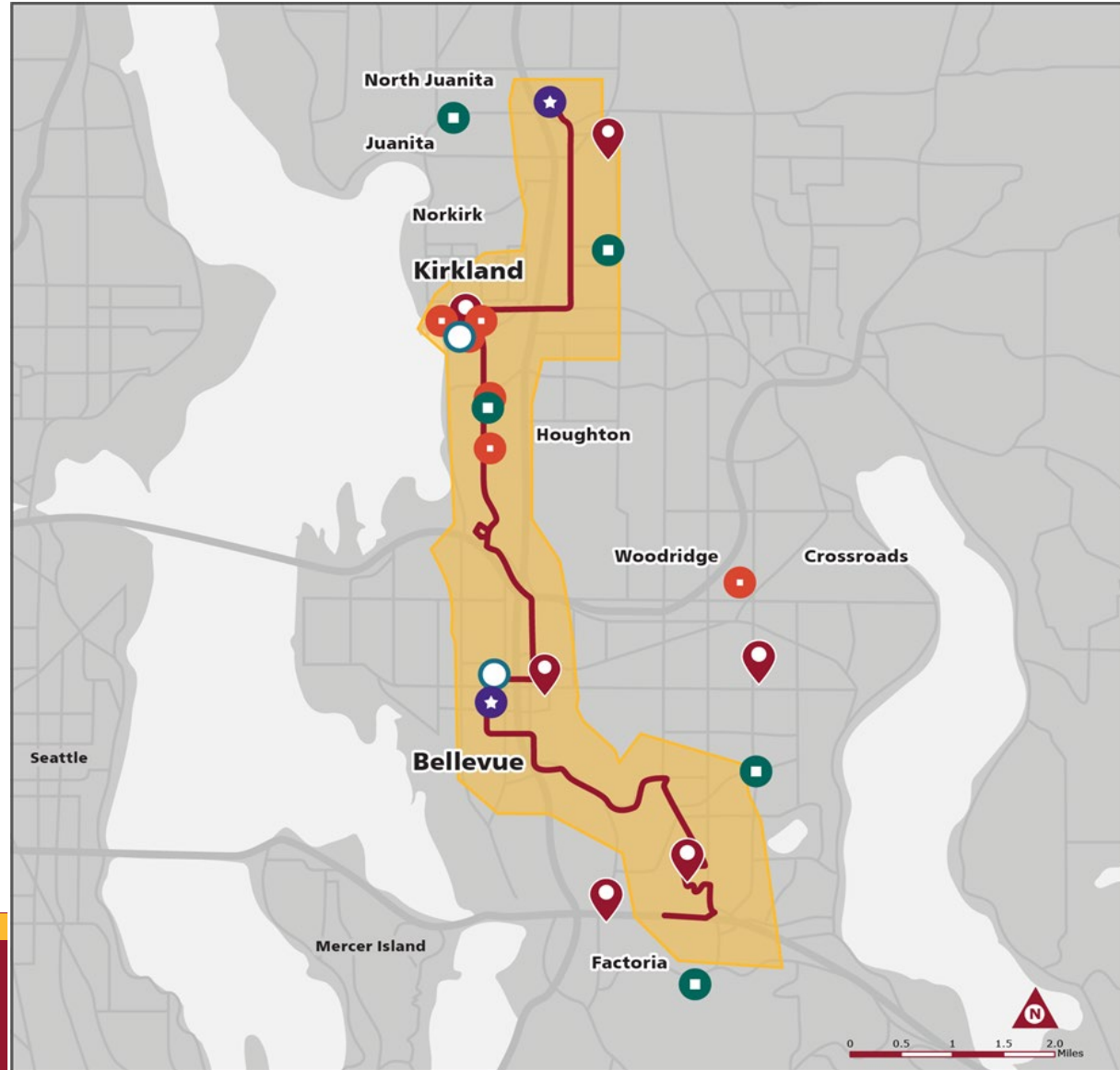
January 16 – February 13 (4 weeks)



Legend

- Postcard/Mailing area
- Open house
- Community liaisons
- Briefing
- Street teaming
- Tabling
- K Line route
(including all proposed routes)
- Virtual briefings
(see table)

Total community
engagement activities:
35





Virtual Briefings

Wright Runstad & Company (Spring District),
Deloitte and Meta

Amazon

Bellevue Chamber of Commerce

Bellevue Downtown Association – employers
only

Bellevue Downtown Association – property
owners

Eastside Easy Rider Association /Hopelink

Kirkland Business Community

Norkirk Neighborhood Association

Juanita Neighborhood Association



Community Engagement

People we engaged



1,759



**PEOPLE
ENGAGED**

1,094



Survey
Respondents

230



Briefing
Attendees

19



Social Media
Comments
and Emails
Received

275



Tabling Event
Attendees

66



Street Teaming
Attendees

73



Open House
Attendees

2



Virtual Office
Attendees

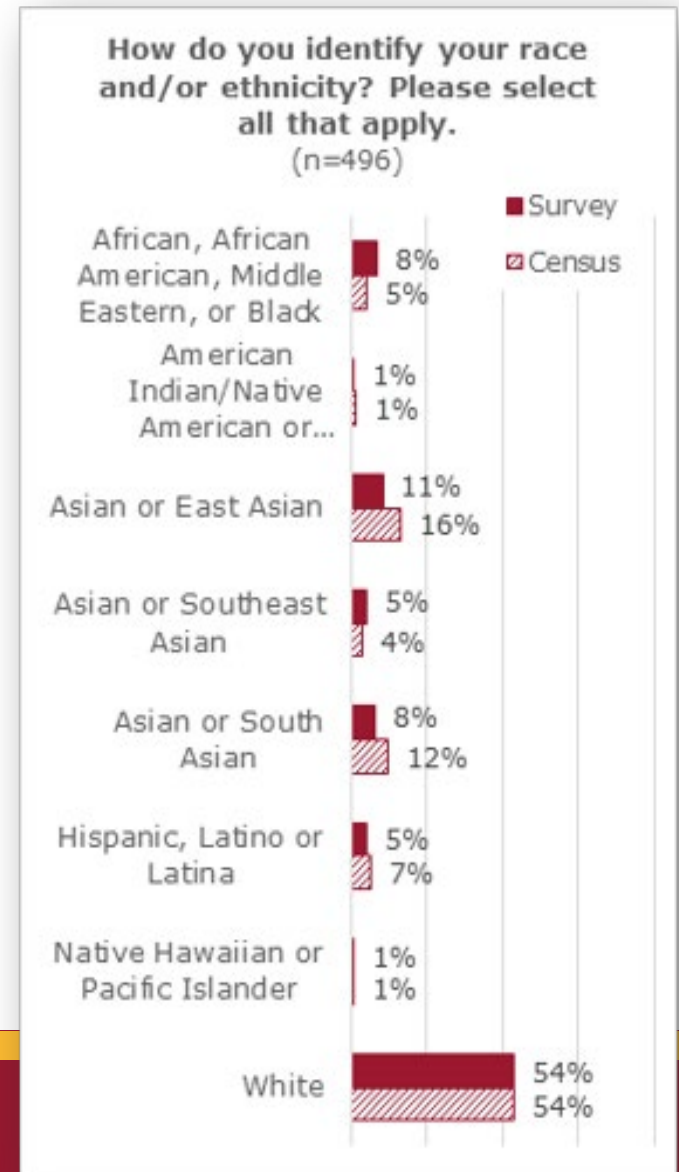
Community Engagement

People we engaged



Metro used several outreach strategies to ensure this survey reached a representative sample of the local community and are pleased to report a response that very closely matched area demographics in the following areas:

- Race
- Age
- People with disabilities
- Household income



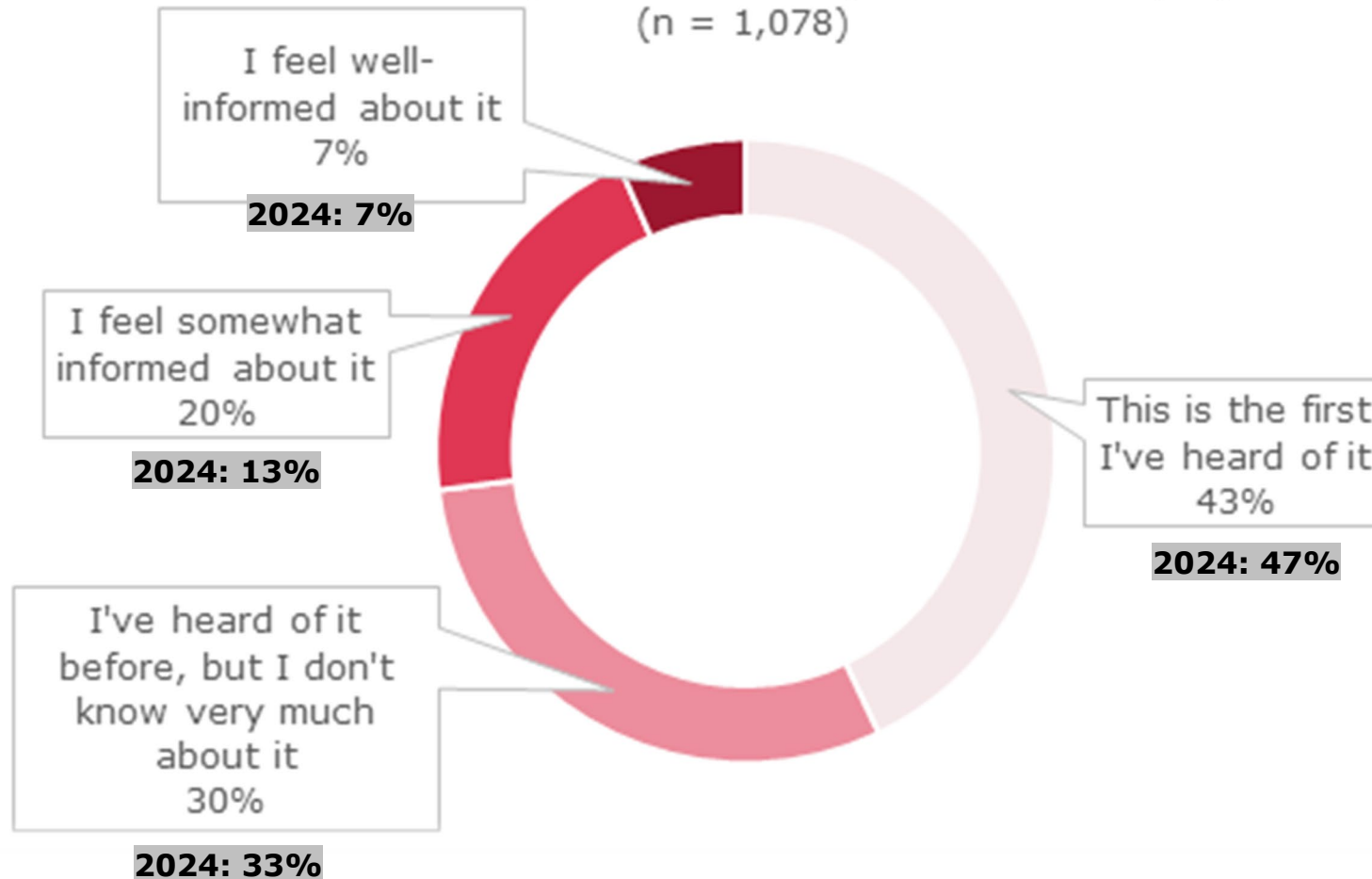
Community Engagement

Project awareness



How familiar are you with the RapidRide K Line project?

(n = 1,078)



Community Engagement

What we heard - Themes

Community priorities

- More transit service
- Prioritize fast, reliable public transit

Access to transit

- No major concerns
- Support access to transit improvement areas

Community Engagement

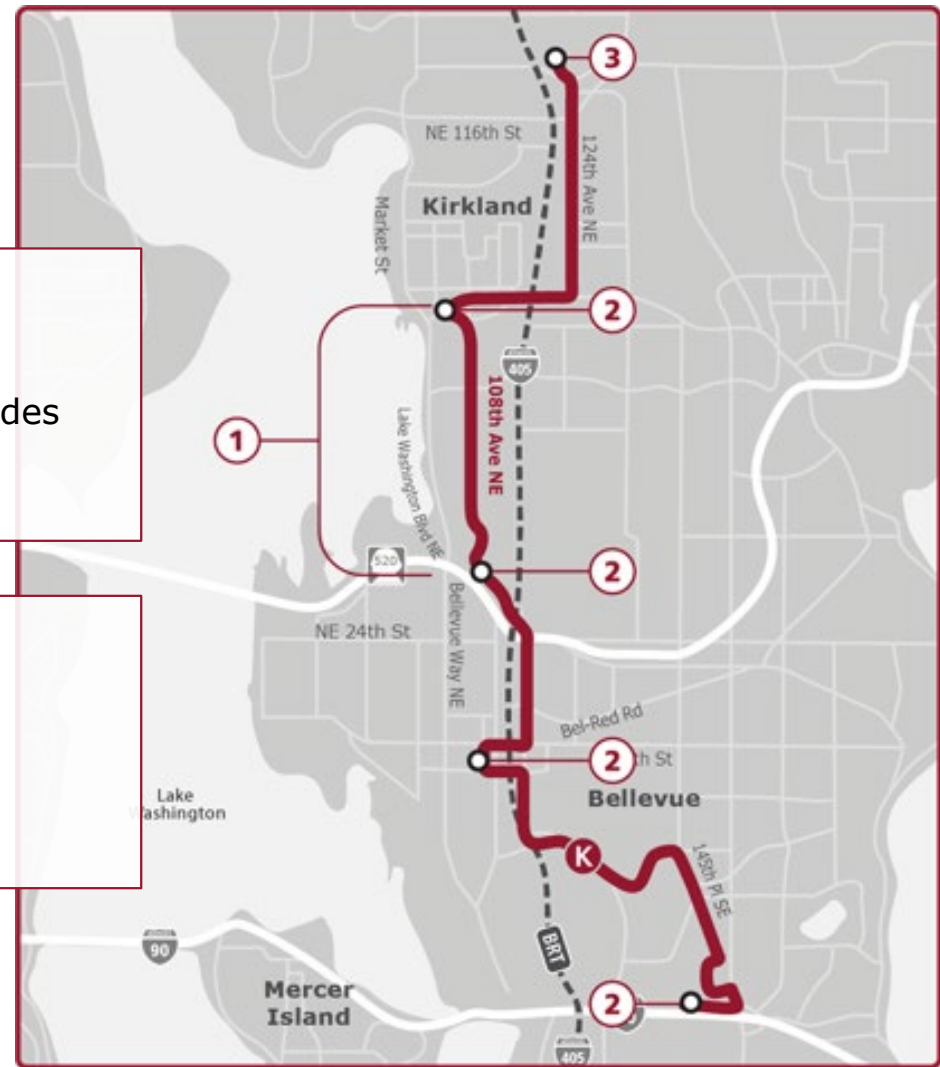
What we heard

Routing and Station Locations

- 1 Routing along 108th (in Kirkland)
- 2 Prioritizing transit centers and park & rides
 - Property impacts

Service Coverage and Connections

- Existing routes
- 3 Expand service area
 - Direct access to seattle



RAPIDRIDE

Revising the Locally Preferred Alternative

Project Vision Summary



The Locally Preferred Alternative includes the following project recommendations:

- 35 Passenger Facilities (Station Pairs)
- 11 Access to Transit Investment Areas
 - Sidewalks, Bike Lanes, Enhanced Crossings
- 20 Speed & Reliability Projects
 - BAT Lanes, Queue Jumps, Transit Signal Priority

NE 10th Street BAT Lanes



- Based on feedback from the Council, community, and Bellevue staff, Metro removed the NE 10th Street BAT Lanes
- Revised Transit Travel Time Savings of 45.7 Minutes (PM Peak, Year 2035)

Impacts of removing NE 10th Street BAT Lanes:

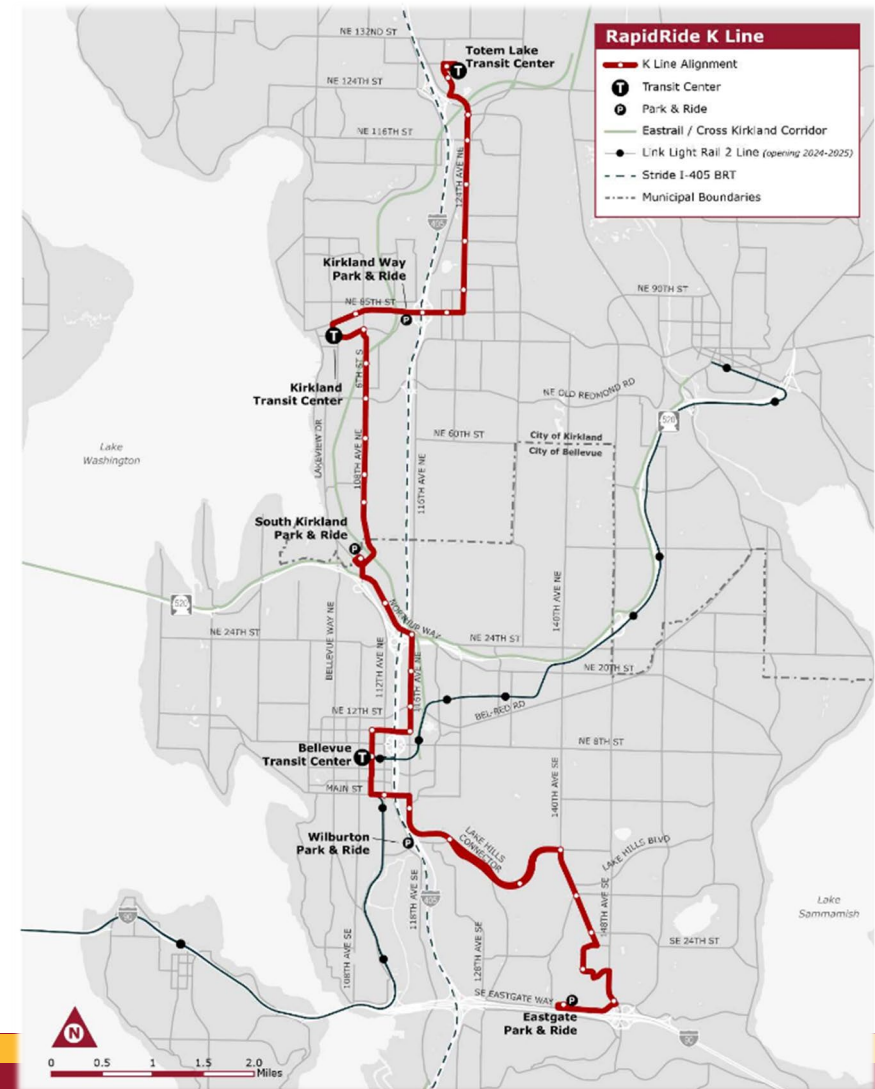
- Fully mitigates increase to eastbound general purpose travel time on NE 8th Street and NE 12th Street
- The NE 8th Street/116th Ave NE intersection meets intersection vehicle performance target in 2044
- Transit Travel Time Savings: 24% (45.7 minutes)
 - Metro Target for RapidRide Investment is 15% - 30%

Letter of Support Request



Adoption of the LPA achieves several project milestones:

- Confirms the RapidRide K Line Route and General Station Locations
- Allows Metro to apply for Initial Small Starts Rating (Grant Funding Pipeline)
- Allows Metro to Begin Preliminary Design Work



RAPIDRIDE



Next Steps



- **May 2025:** Metro to transmit LPA + Alignment Ordinance Package to King County Council for Adoption
- **August 2025:** Metro to Prepare Small Starts Grant Application package for FTA submittal
- **Fall 2025:** Begin Preliminary Design Activities for RapidRide K Line



RAPIDRIDE

Thank You

Ryan Whitney, RapidRide Lead, K Line

Lluvia Ellison-Morales, Sr. Community Engagement Planner

Amanda Pleasant-Brown, Government Relations Jurisdictional Lead

Direction

Direct City of Bellevue staff to prepare a letter for the mayor's signature on behalf of the Council in support of King County Metro's RapidRide K Line draft Locally Preferred Alternative.

