



City of Bellevue

City Council

November 3, 2022

The Honorable Claudia Balducci
Chair, King County Council
516 Third Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: RapidRide K Line funding in King County's 2023-2024 Biennial Budget

Dear Councilmember Balducci:

The City of Bellevue appreciates King County Metro's coordination with cities, passengers, and stakeholders to update Metro's long-range plan, *Metro Connects*, including RapidRide service expansion. **I am writing to request the King County 2023-2024 Biennial Budget include RapidRide K Line funding to ensure the service is operational by 2030.**

Building on the success of six existing RapidRide lines and Metro's North Eastside Mobility Project (NEMP), *Metro Connects* identified the K Line as a confirmed RapidRide line to be implemented in the Interim Network. Advancing the K Line furthers the King County Strategic Plan's mobility goal to deliver a safe, reliable, and seamless network of transportation options and the King County Strategic Climate Action Plan's goal of reducing reliance on driving.

Bellevue's Transit Master Plan outlines our highest transit priority: to enhance all-day service on frequent transit network corridors. Advancing the K Line will do just that.

Encouraging long-term ridership growth on the K Line requires service enhancements paired with a supportive land use environment, transit facilities, safe and connected pedestrian and bicycle facilities, and speed and reliability infrastructure. Bellevue is committed to working with King County Metro and community partners to advance *Metro Connects* and the K Line, particularly when the federal government has committed capital investment grants through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.



I appreciate Executive and Metro leadership in assessing the federal funding viability and schedule feasibility of the K Line during budget deliberations. Ensuring operational K Line service by 2030 is critical so that our communities will see the promise of this exceptional transit service that we've planned for years.

Sincerely,

Lynne Robinson, Mayor

cc: King County Councilmembers
King County Executive Dow Constantine
Terry White, King County Metro General Manager