



**A message from Metro Transit
General Manager Kevin Desmond**



You received this message because you have shown an interest in public transportation. I want to keep you informed about events and issues that affect Metro and the people we serve.

April 22, 2011

Metro offers many ways to go green

Today, as many as a quarter-million people might use Metro services—an excellent way to observe Earth Day.

The bus, vanpool and ridesharing services Metro provides help sustain our communities and natural environment. They reduce energy consumption, air pollution, and roadway runoff—as I'm sure you know. Transit also contributes to economic prosperity and livable communities by getting people to jobs, schools, health care and leisure activities.

At Metro, we amplify our contribution to sustainability by operating one of the largest fleets of hybrid articulated buses in the nation. Our electric trolleys produce zero emissions. Our diesel coaches run on the cleanest fuels available.

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Plug-in electric vehicle charging stations are coming

This year we'll help pave the way for plug-in electric vehicles, which have recently become commercially available. Metro is using federal grant resources to install about 70 charging stations around the county—many in park-and-rides where they'll be available for public use. We plan to add 20 plug-in electric vehicles to Metro's vanpool fleet. And King County has received federal funding to purchase a prototype electric-powered bus that will be able to operate on the trolley grid and travel up to 30 miles off the grid before recharging.

We've also adopted green practices behind the scenes. Metro's recycling program kept 100 tons of material out of landfills last year. We recycle everything from paper to engine oil to broken bus-shelter glass.

Our custodial group is justifiably proud of the award-winning green cleaning program they developed. They use "green seal" cleaning products and microfiber mops that require less water to do the job. Recently they started using ionized water and steam pressure on many of the surfaces they clean.

There's much more I could tell you about, but I'll sum it up this way: transit is a great way to go green. Give Metro a try.

Sincerely,

Kevin Desmond, General Manager
King County Metro Transit