



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

July 12, 2011

Ordinance 17143

Proposed No. 2011-0114.2

Sponsors Dunn and Phillips

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to public transportation;
2 adopting the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-
3 2021 and Metro Transit Service Guidelines; and repealing
4 Ordinance 12060, Section 1, Ordinance 12060, Section 2;
5 Ordinance 12060, Section 3, Ordinance 12060, Section 4;
6 Ordinance 12060, Section 5, Exhibit A to Ordinance
7 12060, Exhibit B to Ordinance 12060, Exhibit C to
8 Ordinance 12060, Exhibit D to Ordinance 12060,
9 Ordinance 14464, Section 1, Ordinance 14464, Section 2,
10 Ordinance 14464, Section 3, Ordinance 14464, Section 4,
11 Ordinance 14464, Section 5, Ordinance 14464, Section 6,
12 Attachment A to Ordinance 14464, Attachment B to
13 Ordinance 14664, Attachment C to Ordinance 14464,
14 Attachment D to Ordinance 14464, Ordinance 15047,
15 Section 1, Ordinance 15047, Section 2, Attachment A to
16 Ordinance 15047, Attachment B to Ordinance 15047,
17 Attachment C to Ordinance 15047, Attachment D to
18 Ordinance 15047, Ordinance 15962, Section 1, Ordinance
19 15962, Section 2, Attachment A to Ordinance 15962,

20 Ordinance 15963, Section 1, Ordinance 15963, Section 2,
21 Attachment A to Ordinance 15963, Ordinance 16708,
22 Section 1, Ordinance 16708, Section 2, Ordinance 16708,
23 Section 3, Attachment A to Ordinance 16708 and
24 Attachment B to Ordinance 16708.

25 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

26 **SECTION 1. Findings:**

27 A. A Comprehensive Plan for Public Transportation ("Comprehensive Plan") was
28 adopted by Resolution 6641 on October 21, 1993, by the council of the former
29 municipality of metropolitan Seattle and ratified by the King County council by adoption
30 of Ordinance 11032, Section 28.

31 B. On December 11, 1995, the council passed Ordinance 12060, amending the
32 Comprehensive Plan and adopting a Six-Year Transit Development Plan, which guided
33 implementation of service changes and improvements in a way consistent with the new
34 Comprehensive Plan.

35 C. Following periodic updates to the Comprehensive Plan and The Six-Year
36 Transit Development Plan, the council adopted Ordinance 15963 in November 2007,
37 replacing the Six-Year Transit Development Plan with a ten-year strategic plan. That
38 strategic plan included guidance about the priorities for improvements to the public
39 transportation system consistent with the Transit Now program as established via
40 Ordinance 15962.

41 D. Beginning in 2008 and 2009, the global recession caused a significant
42 downturn in sales tax revenues funding the current and future years of the Metro transit

43 system. As a result of these changing conditions, the council engaged in a multi-year
44 strategy to refocus, make more efficient and save as much transit service as possible.
45 This strategy involved: a comprehensive audit of the transit division; reductions in
46 staffing and services that support the delivery of transit service; deferral of non-
47 RapidRide and Partnership Transit Now services; multiple fare increases; changing the
48 way transit service is planned and delivered; and appointment of a broad stakeholder
49 group as a regional transit task force with a charge to make recommendations regarding
50 the policy framework for the Metro transit system.

51 E. Following seven months of intensive deliberations, the regional transit task
52 force delivered its final recommendation report with the unanimous support of task force
53 members. The recommendations in the task force report focused on the following areas:

54 1. Transparency and clarity: that the transit division provide more transparency
55 and clarity to the public on the agency's decision-making process and develop a set of
56 performance measures and clear and transparent guidelines to be used in service
57 allocation decisions;

58 2. Cost control: that the transit division continue to control costs and build
59 toward a more sustainable financial structure over time; and

60 3. Productivity, social equity and geographic value: that, in making decisions
61 about service reduction and service growth, the transit division emphasizes productivity,
62 ensures social equity and provides geographic value.

63 F. In July 2010, the council adopted the first-ever countywide King County
64 Strategic Plan 2010-2014, establishing prioritized goals, objectives and strategies for the
65 programs and services of King County government. This countywide plan was also

66 intended to provide a framework for all agency-level strategic planning, including
67 planning for the transit division.

68 G. The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021, including the King
69 County Metro Service Guidelines, adopted by this ordinance, builds on the King County
70 Strategic Plan 2010-2014 and the policy framework and recommendations of the regional
71 transit task force and is also guided by the challenges King County Metro faces: regional
72 growth; the evolving transportation system; climate change; diverse customer needs; and
73 a structural funding deficit.

74 H. The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 modifies the Transit
75 Now program service implementation phasing plan and revises the description of the
76 Transit Now program that will occur within the 2011-2021 time frame. The King County
77 council, as authorized by K.C.C. 4.29.020 and, if passed by a supermajority of at least six
78 affirmative votes of the council, may allow the proceeds from the Transit Now tax to
79 fund service consistent with King County Code and King County Metro transit policies
80 and goals.

81 I. The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 replaces the
82 Comprehensive Plan for Public Transportation, the Strategic Plan for Public
83 Transportation 2007-2016 and the separately adopted Transit Program Financial Policies,
84 which are therefore repealed by this ordinance together with the ordinances approving
85 and amending them.

86 J. The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 and King County
87 Metro Service Guidelines are meant to be living documents setting the policy for and
88 guiding the implementation of the Metro transit service network while responding to

89 growth throughout the county, while also incorporating regular review of policies by the
90 regional transit committee.

91 K. Regional transit committee review of policies within the timeframe provided
92 by the county charter for deliberation of legislation could be challenging due to the
93 multiple due dates of reports and plan updates required by this ordinance and other
94 county issues such as budget deliberations or recess commitments. City and county
95 leaders intend to work cooperatively to ensure that regional committee meetings and
96 review provide the full time allocated in the county charter for future deliberations on the
97 Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 and King County Metro Service
98 Guidelines. This intent is recognized in King County council rules, K.C.C. 1.24.065.B.5,
99 which provide that the chair of a regional committee cannot take a unilateral action to
100 cancel a regional committee meeting without concurrence of the vice chair or action of
101 the full committee in lieu of vice chair agreement.

102 SECTION 2. The following are each hereby repealed:

103 A. Ordinance 12060, Section 1;

104 B. Ordinance 12060, Section 2;

105 C. Ordinance 12060, Section 3;

106 D. Ordinance 12060, Section 4;

107 E. Ordinance 12060, Section 5;

108 F. Exhibit A to Ordinance 12060, Six-Year Transit Development Plan for 1996 -
109 2001;

110 G. Exhibit B to Ordinance 12060, Six-Year Transit Development Plan for 1996 -
111 2001 Appendices;

112 H. Exhibit C to Ordinance 12060, Six-Year Transit Development Plan for 1996 -
113 2001 Public Involvement Report;

114 I. Exhibit D to Ordinance 12060, Six-Year Transit Development Plan for 1996 -
115 2001 Addendum to the Regional Transit System Plan Final Environmental Impact
116 Statement;

117 J. Ordinance 14464, Section 1;

118 K. Ordinance 14464, Section 2;

119 L. Ordinance 14464, Section 3;

120 M. Ordinance 14464, Section 4;

121 N. Ordinance 14464, Section 5;

122 O. Ordinance 14464, Section 6;

123 P. Attachment A to Ordinance 14464, Six-Year Transit Development Plan for
124 2002 to 2007;

125 Q. Attachment B to Ordinance 14664, Six-Year Transit Development Plan for
126 2002 to 2007: Appendices RTC Recommended September 2002;

127 R. Attachment C to Ordinance 14464, Public Involvement Report Summary
128 Proposed Initiatives for the Six-Year Transit Development Plan King County Metro
129 Transit Fall 2001;

130 S. Attachment D to Ordinance 14464, Addendum to the Regional Transit System
131 Plan Final Environmental Impact Statement, Six-Year Transit Development Plan for
132 2002-2007;

133 T. Ordinance 15047, Section 1;

134 U. Ordinance 15047, Section 2;

- 135 V. Attachment A to Ordinance 15047, Exhibit A - 2002 Six-Year Transit
136 Development Plan Update;
- 137 W. Attachment B to Ordinance 15047, Exhibit B - 2002 Six-Year Transit
138 Development Plan Update;
- 139 X. Attachment C to Ordinance 15047, Exhibit C - 2002 Six-Year Transit
140 Development Plan Update;
- 141 Y. Attachment D to Ordinance 15047, Exhibit D - 2002 Six-Year Transit
142 Development Plan Update;
- 143 Z. Ordinance 15962, Section 1;
- 144 AA. Ordinance 15962, Section 2;
- 145 BB. Attachment A to Ordinance 15962, Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan
146 for Public Transportation, dated November 5, 2007;
- 147 CC. Ordinance 15963, Section 1;
- 148 DD. Ordinance 15963, Section 2;
- 149 EE. Attachment A to Ordinance 15963, Strategic Plan for Public Transportation
150 2007-2016, November, 2007;
- 151 FF. Ordinance 16708, Section 1;
- 152 GG. Ordinance 16708, Section 2;
- 153 HH. Ordinance 16708, Section 3;
- 154 II. Attachment A to Ordinance 16708, Strategic Plan for Public Transportation
155 2007-2016, dated November 5, 2009; and
- 156 JJ. Attachment B to Ordinance 16708, 2010/2011 Transit Program Financial
157 Policies, dated October 30, 2009.

158 SECTION 3. The Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021, which is
159 Attachment A to this ordinance, is hereby adopted, superseding the Comprehensive Plan
160 for Public Transportation and the 2007-2016 Strategic Plan for Transportation.

161 SECTION 4. The King County Metro Service Guidelines, which are Attachment
162 B to this ordinance, are hereby adopted.

163 SECTION 5. Beginning with a baseline report in 2012 and then annually
164 thereafter through the duration of the plan, the executive is directed to transmit to the
165 council, for acceptance by motion, an annual service guidelines report of Metro's transit
166 system, complementary to the biennial report on meeting the goals, objectives and
167 strategies identified in chapter three of the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-
168 2021. This service guidelines report is shaped by the Strategic Plan for Public
169 Transportation 2011-2021 and the King County Metro Service Guidelines.

170 A. For the period of the report, the service guidelines report shall include:

171 1. The corridors analyzed to determine the Metro All-Day and Peak Network
172 with a summary of resulting scores and assigned service levels as determined by the King
173 County Metro Service Guidelines;

174 2. The results of the analysis including a list of over-served and under-served
175 transit corridors and the estimated number of service hours, as either an increase or
176 decrease, necessary to meet each underserved corridor's needs;

177 3. The performance of transit services by route and any changes in the King
178 County Metro Service Guidelines thresholds since the previous reporting period, using
179 the performance measures identified in Chapter III of the strategic plan and in the
180 guidelines;

181 4. A list of transit service changes made to routes and corridors of the network
182 since the last reporting period;

183 5. Network and rider connectivity associated with transit services delivered by
184 other providers; and

185 6. A list of potential changes, if any, to the strategic plan and guidelines to
186 better meet their policy intent.

187 B. The report and motion shall be transmitted by March 31 of each year for
188 consideration by the regional transit committee.

189 SECTION 6. By April 30, 2012, 2013 and 2015, and as necessary thereafter for
190 the purpose of validating policy intent of the strategic plan, the executive shall transmit to
191 the council an ordinance to update the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021
192 and the King County Metro Service Guidelines. At a minimum, the legislation and
193 update should include:

194 A. Changes necessary to account for separately adopted transit policy documents
195 including updating the plan and guidelines, and repealing or rescinding, as necessary,
196 appropriately accounted for policies;

197 B. Any proposed changes to address unanticipated issues associated with
198 implementing the plan and guidelines, including the factors that implement the concepts
199 of productivity including land use, social equity and geographic value;

200 C. Changes that may be necessary to achieve the five-year implementation plan
201 required in Section 7 of this ordinance;

202 D. Changes necessary to address the results of the collaborative process required
203 in Section 8 of this ordinance; and

204 E. Additional substantive changes that may also be proposed following regional
205 transit committee discussion.

206 SECTION 7. By June 15, 2012, the executive shall transmit to the council, for
207 acceptance by motion, a five-year implementation plan for alternatives to traditional
208 transit service delivery consistent with the recommendations from the 2010 regional
209 transit task force and guidance from the King County Metro Service Guidelines. This
210 plan should, at a minimum, include:

211 A. A review of alternative service delivery best practices in the transit industry;

212 B. Consideration of local service needs;

213 C. Stakeholder involvement;

214 D. Costs and benefits of all evaluated alternative service delivery options;

215 E. A summary of constraints to implementation and methods to reduce barriers
216 for change;

217 F. Strategies to build ridership, such as through marketing, where resources are
218 available to do so;

219 G. Recommendations for alternative service delivery; and

220 H. A timeline for implementation actions.

221 SECTION 8. By April 30, 2013, and as part of the 2013 transmittal required in
222 Section 6 of this ordinance, the executive shall transmit to the council an ordinance to
223 update the Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021 and the King County
224 Metro Service Guidelines recognizing that the strategic plan and guidelines are based
225 upon Metro's current network, which will require future changes to meet the 2010
226 regional transit task force recommendations. Additionally, by October 31, 2012 the

227 executive shall transmit a preliminary results report produced through the collaborative
228 process identified in Section 8.A. of this ordinance to the regional transit committee. At a
229 minimum, the legislation and update should include refinements to the guidelines'
230 methodology to:

231 A. Incorporate input from local jurisdictions as generated through a collaborative
232 process defined by the executive;

233 B. Address the factors, methodology and prioritization of service additions in
234 existing and new corridors consistent with Strategy 6.1.1;

235 C. More closely align factors used to serve and connect centers in the
236 development of the All-Day and Peak Network and resulting service level designations,
237 including consideration of existing public transit services, with jurisdictions' growth
238 decisions, such as zoning and transit-supportive design requirements, and actions
239 associated with but not limited to permitting, transit operating enhancements, parking
240 controls and pedestrian facilities; and

241 D. Create a category of additional service priority, complementary to existing
242 priorities for adding service contained within the King County Metro Service Guidelines,
243 so that priorities include service enhancements to and from, between and within Vision
244 2040 regionally designated centers, and other centers where plans call for transit-
245 supportive densities and jurisdictions have invested in capital facilities, made operational
246 changes that improve the transit operating environment and access to transit, and
247 implemented programs that incentivize transit use.

248 SECTION 9. When submitting a proposal for reduction of total Metro transit
249 system service hours greater than ten percent of the current service hours, the executive

250 should include a proposed community outreach and awareness program to be
251 implemented in support of developing and implementing the service hour reductions.
252 The program should be appropriate to the size and scale of the transit service reductions
253 and incorporate a community feedback process. In light of the scope and schedule of the

254 necessary outreach, the program should include consideration of the use of external
255 professional resources to augment county staffing.
256

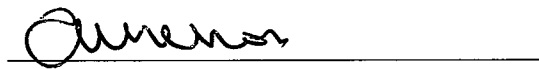
Ordinance 17143 was introduced on 3/7/2011 and passed by the Metropolitan King County Council on 7/11/2011, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Phillips, Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Hague,
Ms. Patterson, Ms. Lambert, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Dunn and Mr.
McDermott
No: 0
Excused: 0

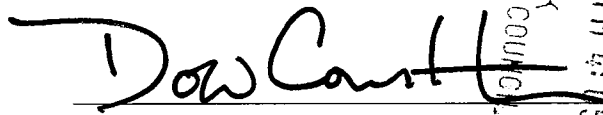
KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON


Larry Gossett, Chair

ATTEST:


Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 13 day of JULY, 2011.


Dow Constantine, County Executive

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2011 JUL 13 PM 4:05
KING COUNTY COUNCIL
CLERK

Attachments: A. King County Metro Transit Strategic Plan for Public Transportation 2011-2021, dated June 15, 2011, B. King County Metro Service Guidelines, dated June 15, 2011