

Information Sheet

King County Metro Transit has a fleet of 159 electric trolley buses that run along nearly 70 miles of overhead wire in Seattle. These buses are reaching the end of their useful lives, and Metro may need to order replacement buses before the end of 2012.

Before doing that, the agency has been directed by the Metropolitan King County Council to study potential alternative bus-propulsion technologies in order to evaluate and compare their costs, limitations, and benefits. The goal is to evaluate several factors to ensure the best overall value for the region.

This in-depth study will be limited to the current 14-route trolley system, with some variations as appropriate for each technology. The study findings will help the county make an informed decision about the best vehicle technology to use on these routes as the current trolley buses wear out.

The following chart outlines the proposed evaluation and procurement timeline:



For more information please contact Ashley DeForest, Community Relations Planner, at 206-684-1154 or ashley.deforest@kingcounty.gov, or visit the study website at www.kingcounty.gov/TrolleyEvaluation.

