Transportation Resources

Objective:

Meet the growing need for transportation services and facilities throughout the county

Strategy:

Focus transportation resources to support density and growth

Why is this strategy important?

Focusing our transit resources to support residential density allows for more and better transportation choices, including mass transit, biking, and pedestrian trails. It allows for faster commute times for all King County residents, and contributes to improve health, increased open space, protection of rural areas, and more efficient use of transportation and utilities.

How is our performance?

Overall, we are providing routes to and from urban centers and providing most residents with easy access to transit. King County Metro Transit is serving increasing numbers of customers even though service hours have remained more constant. Metro Transit is able to accomplish this by increasing efficiencies and providing service where it's needed most, making the best use of the public's tax and fare dollars.

For example, Metro Transit made major service revisions on the Eastside over the past two years to increase mobility and meet demand for increased ridership on the 520 bridge. Part of this was the introduction of the second RapidRide line, the B Line, serving Bellevue and Redmond. This restructure, as well as the A Line between Tukwila and Federal Way, have resulted in significant ridership gains.

Moving forward

Demand for transit has been rising and will continue to increase as employment and population grow. At the same time, we're still facing a substantial transit funding shortfall after the expiration in 2014 of the congestion reduction charge -- supplemental funding that is enabling us to keep our system whole for the next two years. Additional funding is necessary not only to sustain the system but also to grow the system to meet the future growth and development targets of the cities.

Related Links

King County Metro Transit
Annual Metro Transit Boardings (in Millions)

Data Source: Metro Transit Annual Management Report 2012

Annual Metro Transit Service Vehicle Hours

Data Source: Metro Transit Annual Management Report 2011
2011 Scheduled Bus Trips (weekday)
Going to Urban Centers and Manufacturing / Industrial Centers
(# of trips, percent of total weekday trips)

Data Source: King County Metro Transit

King County Housing Units with Access to Transit
(# of units, percent of King County total for Spring 2012)

Data Source: King County Metro Transit

Housing units within a 1/4 mile walk of a bus stop, within a DART area, or within a two mile radius of a permanent park and ride, Sounder station or transit center with parking.