

Metro Policy Updates

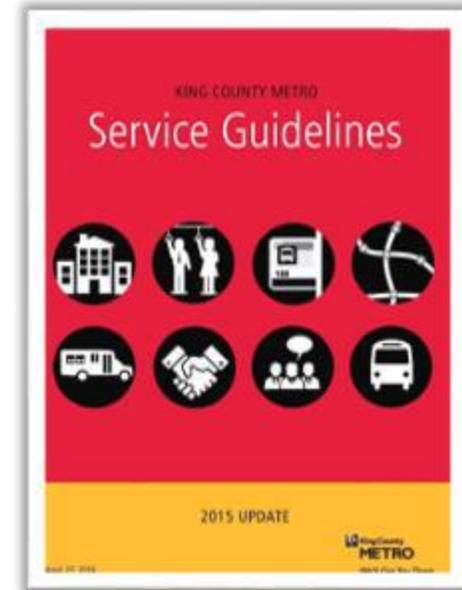
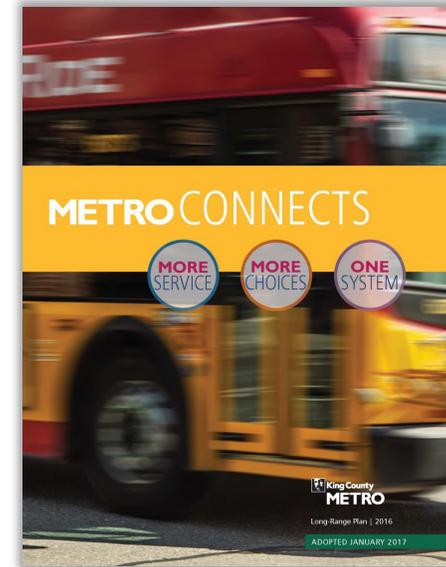
Mobility & Environment Committee

January 27, 2021



Presentation Goals

- Recap plans for 2021 policy updates
- Review potential scenarios for Service Guidelines approach to Service Growth (Priority 3)



Grounding in Core Values

- Mobility is more than a service – it can have profound outcomes
- **By centering equity, climate, and safety in Metro’s work, we can better advance key outcomes**
 - This theory of change is consistent with recommendations in adopted Mobility Framework
 - A focus on equity and leading with race aligns with King County’s ESJ ordinance
- We ask you to consider those values and how the region can best deliver healthy communities, a thriving economy, and a sustainable environment as you review the material



Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan

- Strategic Plan outlines Metro's goals, the strategies and objectives to achieve them, measures to determine if we are succeeding
- Goals are:
 1. Safety
 2. Human potential
 3. Economic growth & built environment
 4. Environmental sustainability
 5. Service excellence
 6. Financial stewardship
 7. Public engagement & transparency
 8. Quality workforce



UPDATES: Strategic Plan

Updates will:

- **Align** goals, strategies and objectives with the Mobility Framework's Guiding Principles and recommendations
- **Include** updated information on:
 - Marine Division
 - Climate goals
 - Innovation
 - Equitable transit-oriented communities' policy
- **Simplify** performance measures, align them with policy drivers, and make them more transparent (online dashboard)



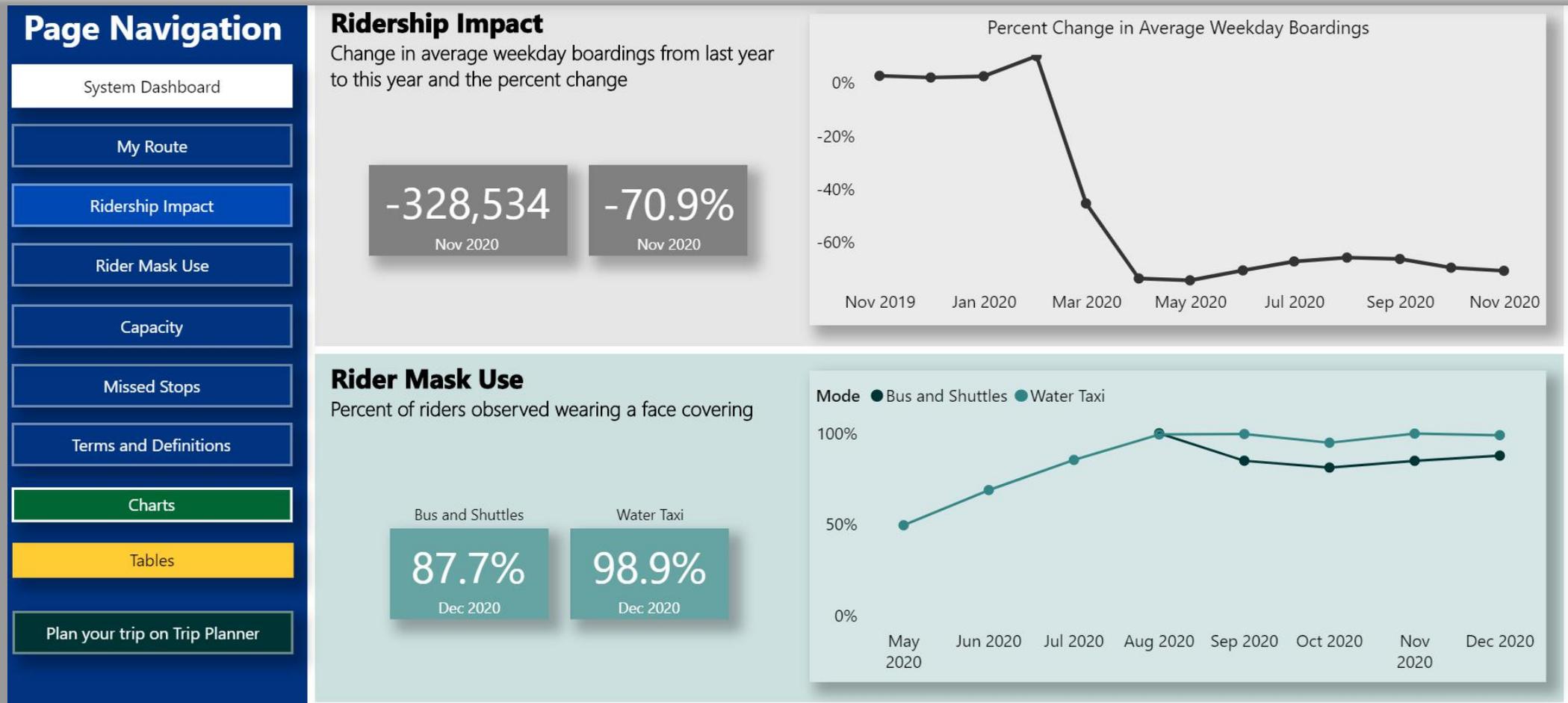
Intent: Guiding Principles Strategic Plan Goals

Mobility Framework Guiding Principles...	REPLACE existing Strategic Plan Goals
Invest where needs are greatest	Goal 2. Human Potential
Address the climate crisis & environmental justice	Goal 4. Environmental Sustainability
Innovate equitably and sustainably	---
Ensure safety	Goal 1. Safety
Encourage dense, affordable housing near transit	Goal 3. Economic Growth & Built Environment
Improve access to mobility	--
Provide fast, reliable, integrated mobility services	Goal 5. Service Excellence
Support our workforce	Goal 8. Quality Workforce
Align our investments with equity, sustainability, and financial responsibility	Goal 6. Financial Stewardship
Engage deliberately and transparently	Goal 7. Public Engagement & Transparency

Proposal: Adapted Guiding Principles Strategic Plan Goals

Mobility Framework Guiding Principles...	REFRAMED as new Goal Statements (not numbered)
Invest where needs are greatest	Investments are made upstream and where needs are greatest
Address the climate crisis & environmental justice	Meaningful progress in addressing the climate crisis and environmental justice
Innovate equitably and sustainably	Innovation improves mobility, complements transit, and advances equity and sustainability
Ensure safety	Passengers, employees, and communities are safe
Encourage dense, affordable housing near transit	Thriving, equitable, transit-oriented communities
Improve access to mobility	Improved access to mobility
Provide fast, reliable, integrated mobility services	Fast, reliable, integrated mobility services
Support our workforce	A skilled, diverse, well-supported workforce with opportunities to grow
Align our investments with equity, sustainability, and financial responsibility	Be responsible stewards of financial resources and invest in line with values and goals
Engage deliberately and transparently	Deliberate and transparent engagement with communities

Dashboard will be like "The Dash"

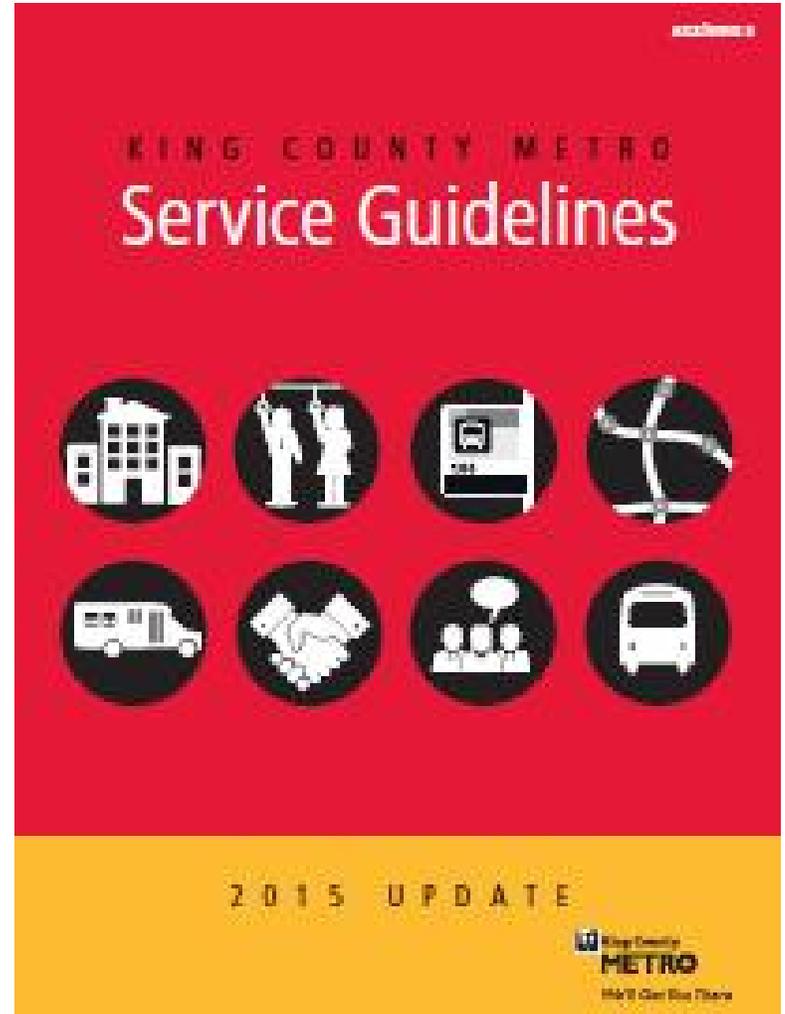


For more information, visit: kingcounty.gov/thedash or kingcounty.gov/thedash/es

Service Guidelines

Service Guidelines

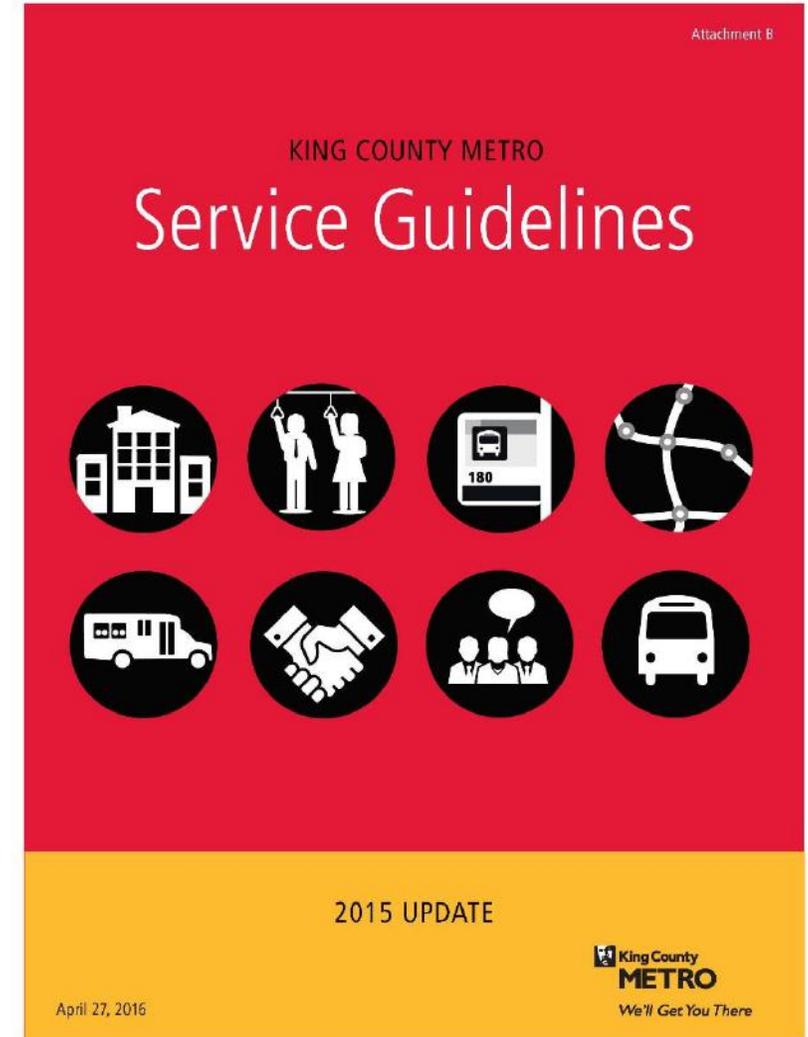
- Set framework for evaluation and reporting on existing services
- Provide guidance for planning and designing service
- Inform system planning
 - Investment
 - Reductions
 - Restructures and changes



UPDATES: Service Guidelines

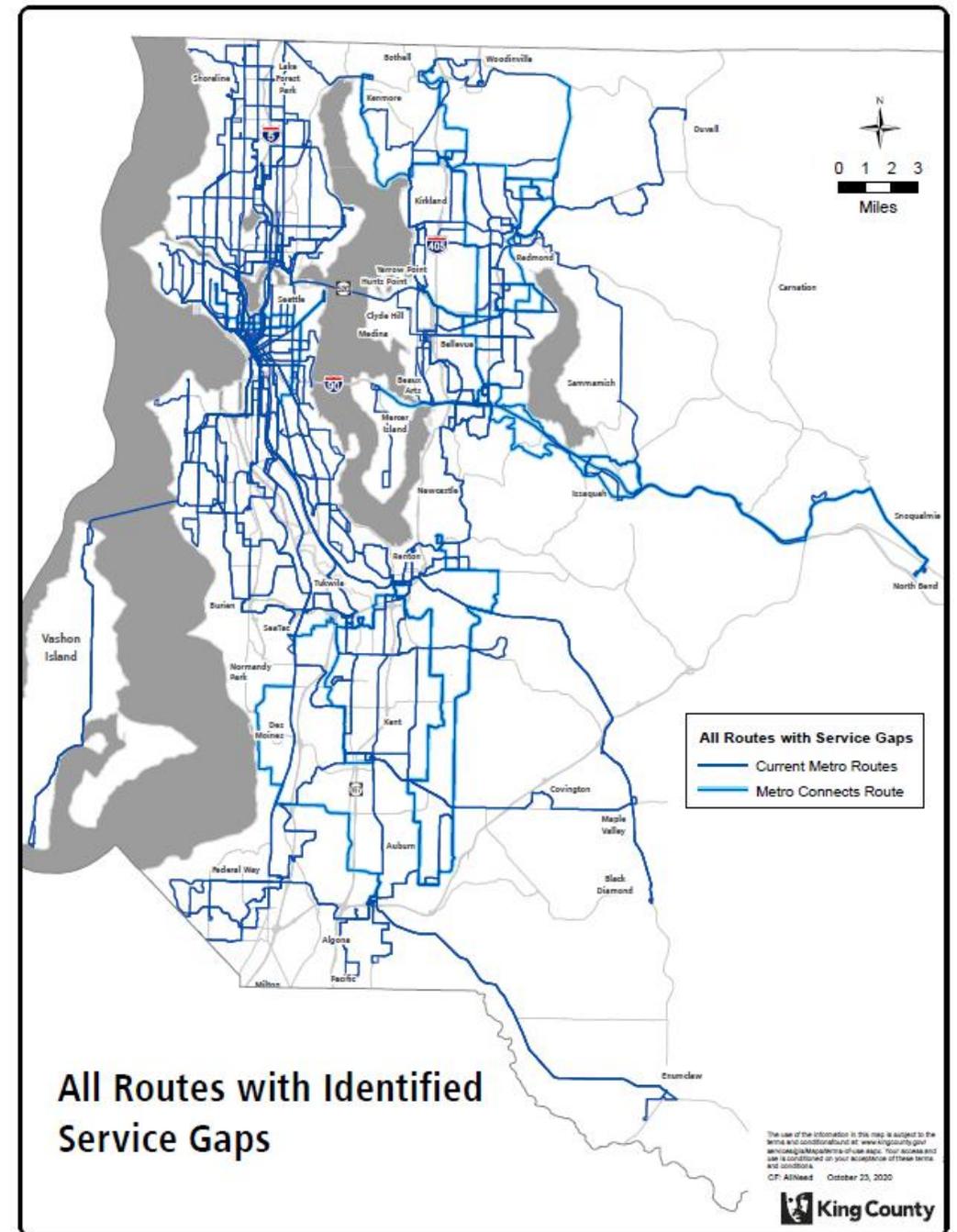
Updates will:

- Align priorities with Mobility Framework
- Identify roles and performance measures for Flexible Services
- Prioritize equity in all service investments
- Describe land uses that support each transit service type
- Better incorporate METRO CONNECTS
- Update engagement and partnership sections
- Create guidelines for Marine Service
- Look at low-performing routes for negative greenhouse gas impacts



Metro Connects Means Countywide Need Grows

- Metro Connects network and service levels vastly increase the service need throughout the county
 - Target service levels include a minimum of 1-hour headways throughout King County
- **The more funding Metro has, the further we can invest down the priority list.**
 - There are many implementation options if new resources and funding are available
- These options are aiming for long-term growth, so they build on our existing network
- COVID-19 has resulted in near-term emergency changes that were driven by factors other than the guidelines (e.g. collapse of peak commute) but in the long-term these policies will describe how our system grows



Defining What We Mean

Equity

- King County defines equity as a system of fairness, providing full and equal access to opportunities, power, and resources. King County is leading with racial justice because historical and racial inequities continue to affect all of us, and our region’s ability to thrive.”
- Metro is proposing to use five equity factors from Census data: race, income, disability, foreign born, and limited English-speaking populations

Productivity

- Potential productivity is defined in Priority 3 analysis by measuring the potential market for transit based on land use and growth. It measures the number of households, jobs, students, and park-and-rides along the corridor. Higher concentrations of people support higher potential use of transit.
- Route productivity is the defined in annual evaluations by using two measures of actual measured ridership—*rides per platform hour* and *passenger miles per platform mile*. These are standard metrics for transit efficiency that define how many customers a route serves and how full buses are along their route.

Geographic Value

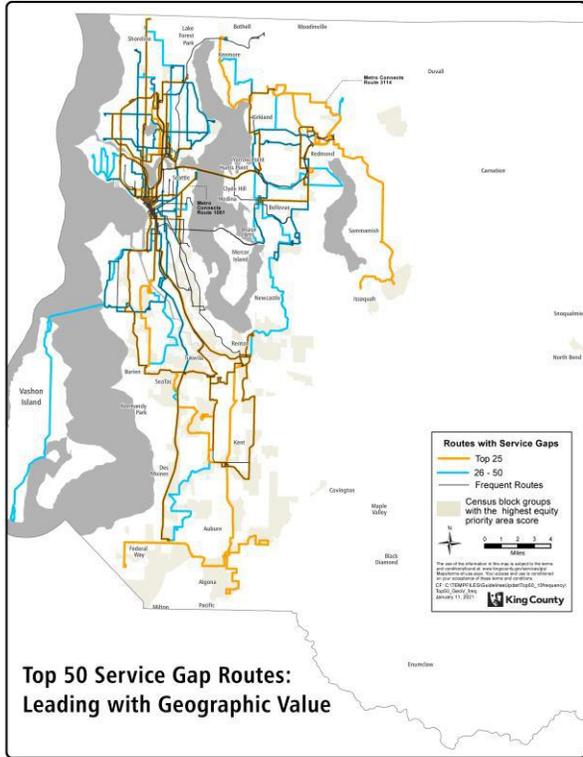
- Establishes the value a corridor provides by connecting to, from, and between PSRC-defined Regional Centers and Metro-defined transit activity centers throughout King County

Low- & medium-income jobs

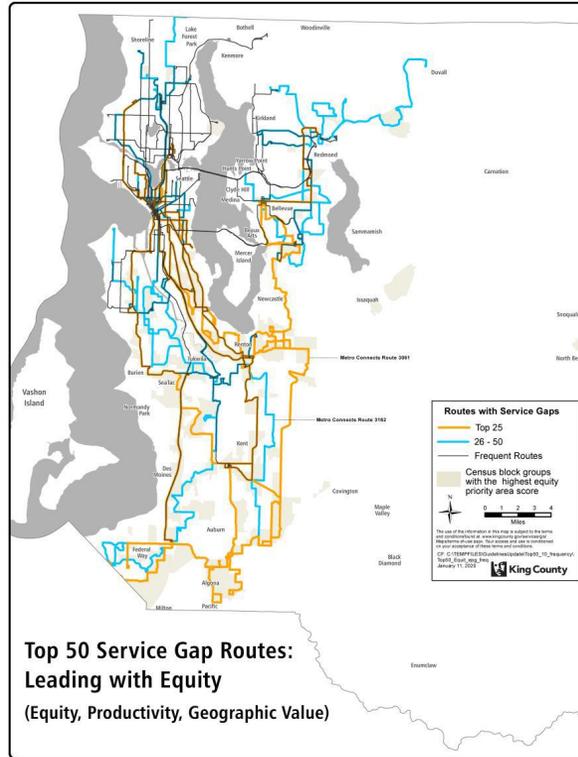
- The Longitudinal Employment Household Dynamics (LEHD) considers a job with a monthly wage of less than \$1,250 a low-wage job and jobs with monthly wages between \$1,251 and \$3,330 to be medium-wage jobs

All Scenarios

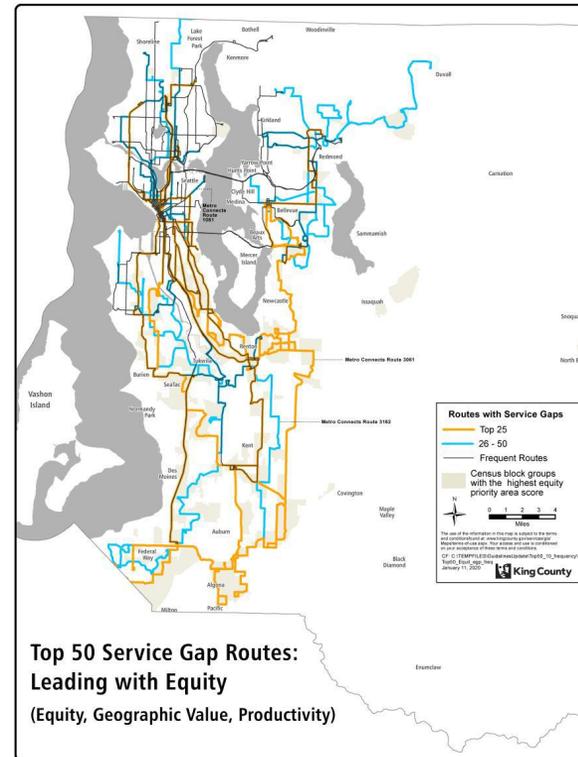
Top 50 Routes (Top 25 Routes Identified in Gold)



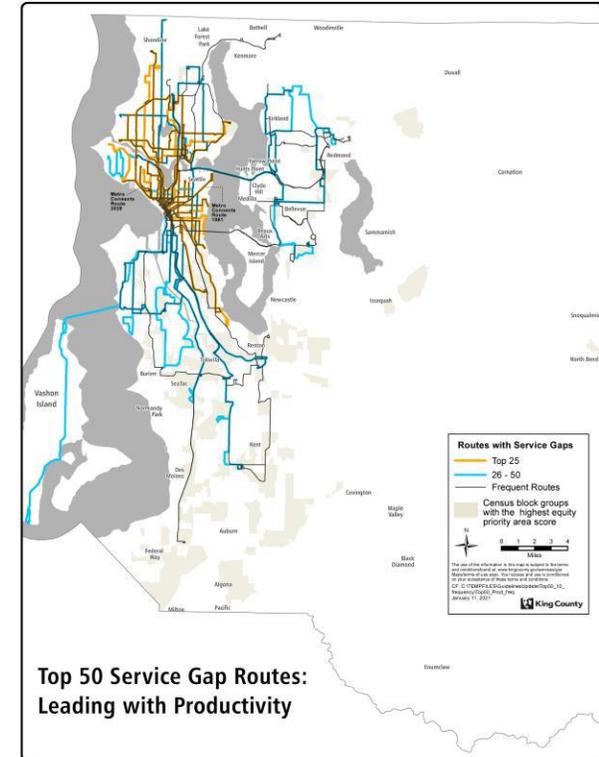
**Priority order (current):
Geographic Value,
Productivity, Equity**



**Priority order:
Equity, Productivity,
Geographic Value**



**Priority order:
Equity,
Geographic Value,
Productivity**

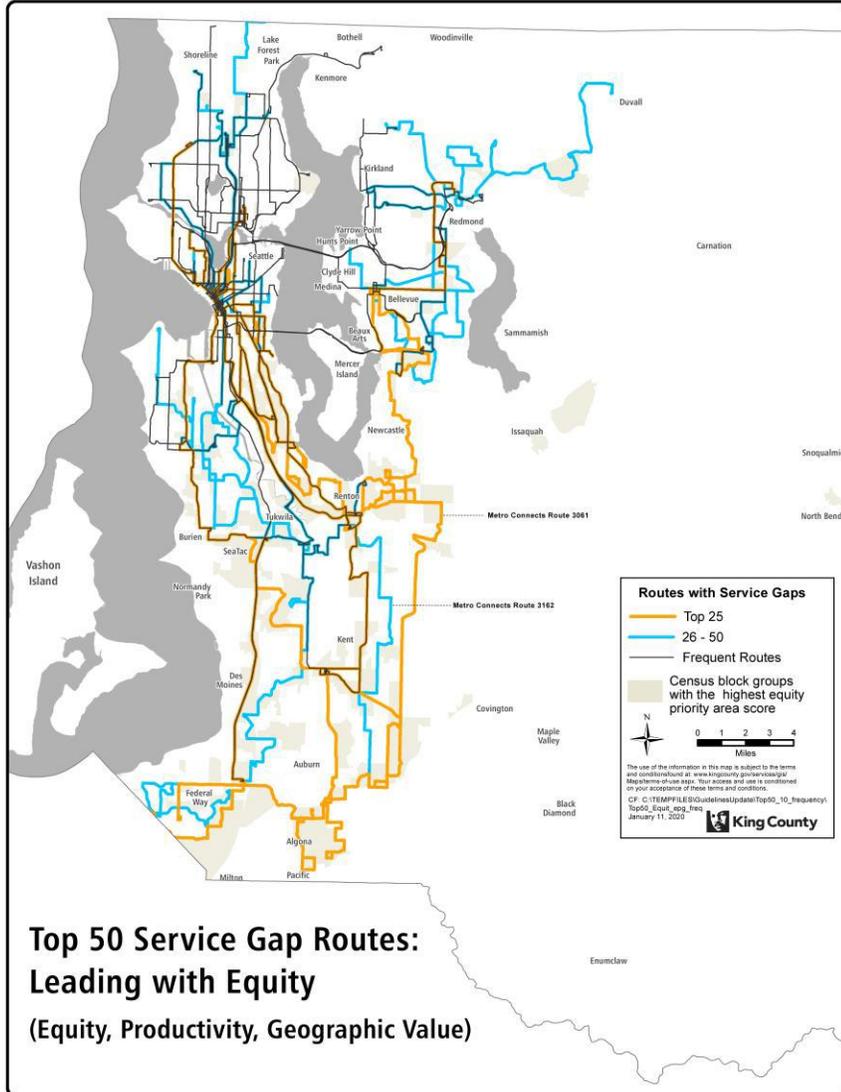


**Priority order:
Productivity, Equity,
Geographic Value**

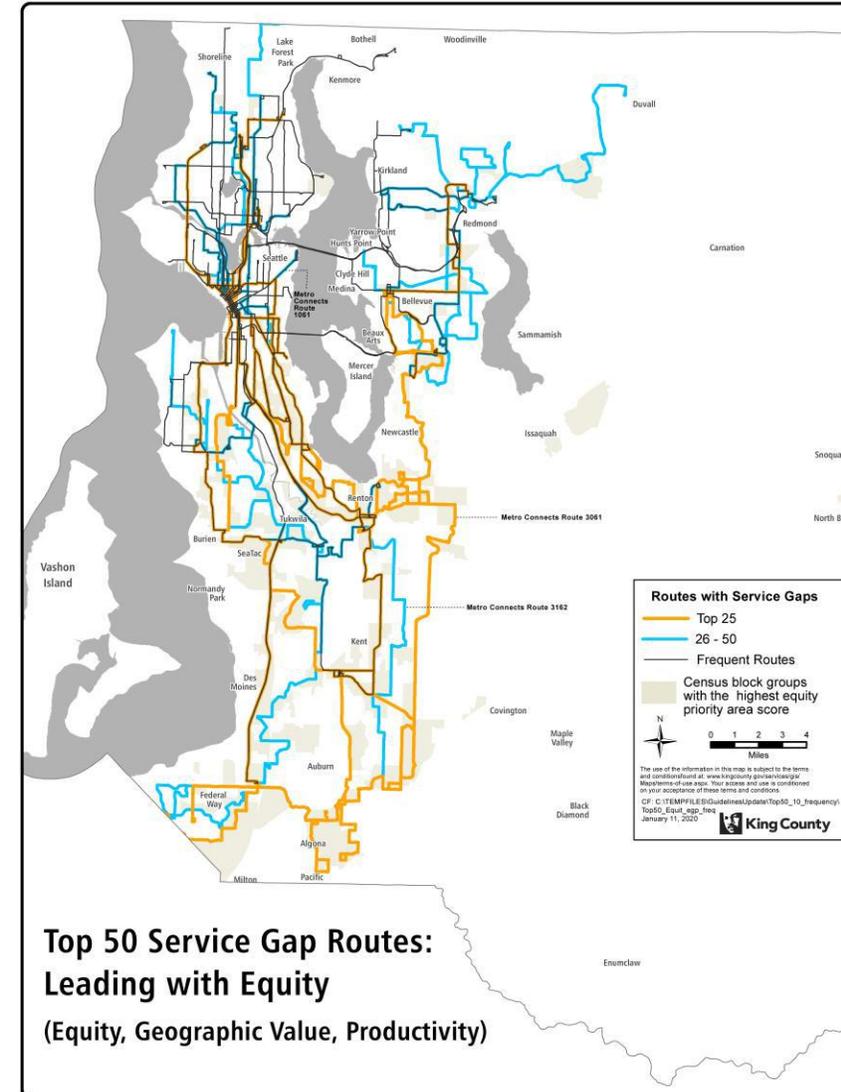
Equity First Scenarios

Top 50 Routes (Top 25 Routes Identified in Gold)

Priority order:
Equity,
Productivity,
Geographic Value
(preferred alternative)



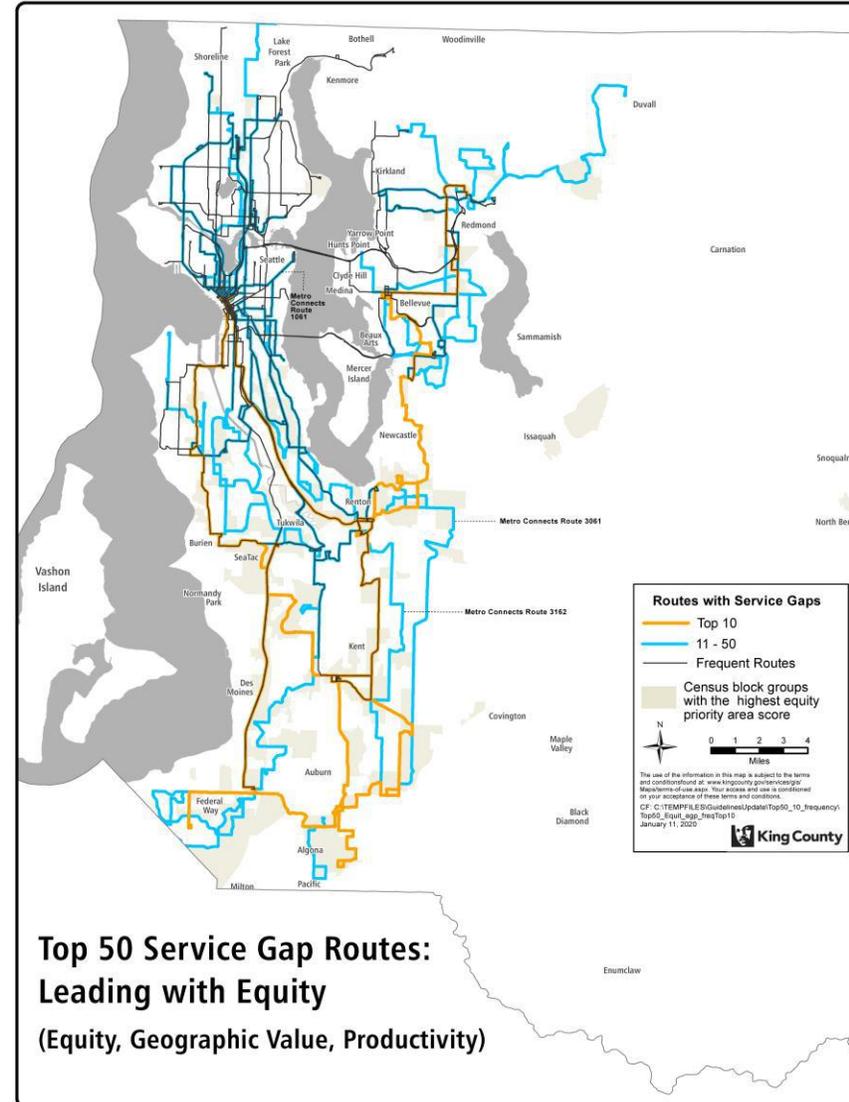
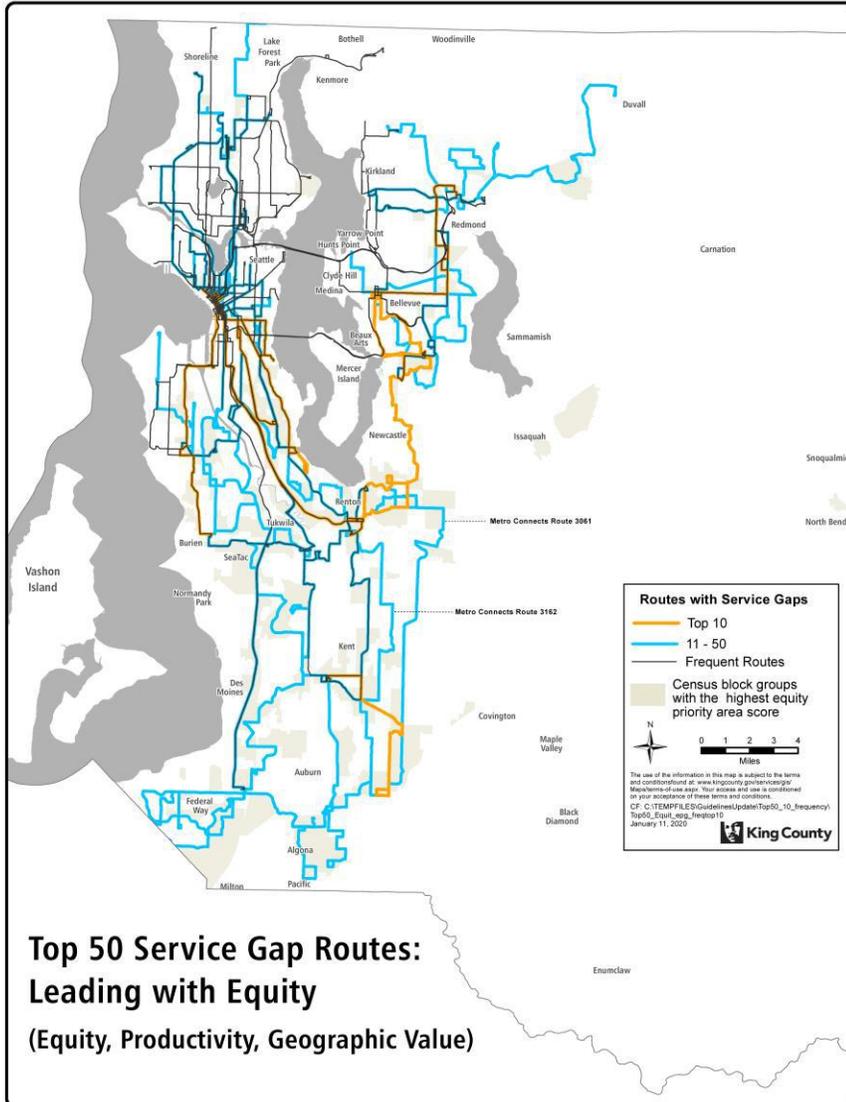
Priority order:
Equity,
Geographic Value,
Productivity



Equity First Scenarios

Top 50 Routes (Top 10 Routes Identified in Gold)

Priority order:
Equity,
Productivity
Geographic Value
(preferred alternative)



Priority order:
Equity,
Geographic Value,
Productivity



Metro Connects

METRO CONNECTS

- METRO CONNECTS is our adopted vision for the future, based on regional growth plans
- It aims to increase bus service hours by 70% between 2015 – 2040
- 2040 network would be larger with better access throughout the county, including for communities of color and low-income people
- The plan covers capital investments (bus bases, roadway improvements) and partnership opportunities
- METRO CONNECTS is not fully funded, so additional regional funding is needed



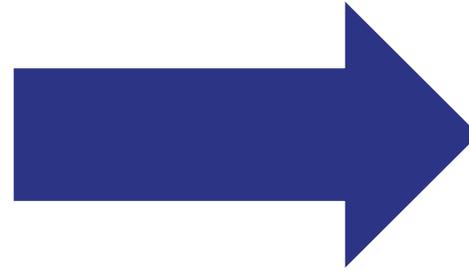
UPDATES: METRO CONNECTS

Updates will:

- Update costs for inflation, population growth, ST3, etc.
- Incorporate mobility framework recommendations (including equity and climate goals)
- Update sections to reflect current direction and add new sections as needed (ie, more information re-electrification, Marine)
- Clarify expectations and opportunities for partners, how policy and public engagement will shape implementation
- Targeted revisions to the service network map (based on current planning, Vision 2050, RapidRide assessment, equity gap analysis)
- Updates to acknowledge COVID-19, reflect Metro becoming a mobility agency



Metro Connects Network Map Updates



1. Update implementation timelines and known changes
 1. 2025 → “interim”
 2. 2040 → 2050
2. Identify equity gaps
3. Evaluate RapidRide Network

“Attaining the Vision” Section Updates

- **Currently describes** costs and partnership opportunities with cities and communities, including through “Metro Connects Development Program” (rolling 6-year interim plan)
- **Metro will update the “Attaining the Vision” section to:**
 - Clarify how Metro will collaborate with and communicate to partners and community
 - Describe how policy will guide Metro in making service and capital investments
 - Update financial costs and clarify how partners can support the vision
 - Incorporate mobility framework recommendations

How we would attain the vision

Metro can't achieve the METRO CONNECTS vision all at once, and we can't do it alone.

Collaboration, partnerships, and incremental change over time will be the keys to getting there.

Next Steps

Engagement Plan

Complete - Summer-Fall 2020:

- *Stakeholder workshops*
 - *feedback summarized and shared with Equity Cabinet and RTC*
 - *Metro drafts updates based on stakeholder, Equity Cabinet and RTC input*
- *Regular Equity Cabinet and RTC briefings (sometimes joint with Mobility & Environment Committee)*



Winter –Spring 2021

- Follow up stakeholder workshops
 - Show how input was used to create draft updates
 - Gather feedback that will be shared with Equity Cabinet, RTC, and Mobility & Environment to shape the final updates
- Regular Equity Cabinet, RTC, and Mobility & Environment meetings/briefings

July 2021

- Metro and King County Executive transmit updated policies for King County Council review

Closing and Questions