Dear King County Executive Zahilay,

As transit riders and activists we are concerned about transit funding in King County. We are facing an impending fiscal cliff and national economic downturn which will simultaneously increase the need for transit while reducing its funding. Seattle's Transit Measure, which purchases transit service from Metro, expires in mid-2027. A recent Transportation Choices Coalition poll found overwhelming support for a county-wide transit measure. This presents a crucial opportunity to ensure that high-quality transit isn't confined to the wealthiest parts of the county, but expanded more equitably regionwide. We request that the executive's office investigate a county-wide transit benefit district similar to Seattle's.

As our country and region face a retracting economy, it is important to fulfill the affordability mandate voters resoundingly endorsed in the 2025 elections. Car dependency puts a financial burden on families and limits access to economic opportunity. Our transit network deserves investment, especially in South King County. A fully-funded transit system is crucial to meeting these needs. A robust bus network, coupled with recent investment in Link light rail, provides a viable and affordable way to navigate the region. These investments are also a necessary component to meeting King County's equity goals, especially in South, East, and North King.

We urge you to investigate a countywide transit funding measure for an election within the next year. Our members are excited and motivated to work with you, the County Council, and city leaders across the county to make this a reality.

Sincerely,
Seattle Transit Riders Union (Bus and Transit Service Subcommittee)
ATU Local 587
Livable Kirkland
Move Redmond
Transportation Choices Coalition
Seattle Subway
Complete Streets Bellevue
Urbanist Shoreline
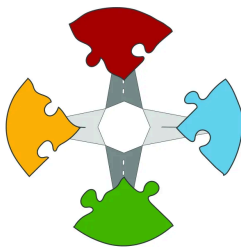West Seattle Urbanism
Eastside Urbanism
Nondrivers Alliance

Transit Riders Union

Amalgamated Transit Union Seattle Local 587 110 Year Anniversary EST. 1912

Liveable KIRKLAND

Move Redmond

Transportation Choices — transit for all

seattle subway

Complete Streets Bellevue

US Urbanist Shoreline