

Community Engagement Plan Overview



Project Summary

- Sound Transit will open three new Link light rail stations in north Seattle in 2021, extending from the current terminal at University of Washington – Husky Stadium to Northgate Transit Center. Metro is assuming a March 2021 opening.
- In order to prepare for the Northgate Link opening, respond to changing transportation needs, and improve mobility and access for historically underserved populations, Metro is initiating a mobility project in north Seattle and north King County. The project will be done in coordination with Sound Transit, the Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), the University of Washington, Community Transit, and many other partners.
- The updated mobility network will be implemented at Metro’s service change in either March or September 2021, whichever most closely follows the opening of the Link light rail extension.

Project Scope

Metro will evaluate and consider major changes to over 30 routes serving communities within Seattle, Shoreline, Kenmore, Lake Forest Park, Bothell, and Woodinville. Service network scenarios will be developed to be adaptable to multiple revenue scenarios, including different levels of funding from the Seattle Transportation Benefit District.

Goals & Objectives

1. Improve mobility for historically underserved populations, centering on people of color
 - a. Increase accessibility to community assets for priority populations
 - b. Increase accessibility to jobs, especially family wage jobs, for priority populations
 - c. Increase access to frequent service for priority populations
2. Equitably inform, engage, and empower current and potential customers traveling in the project area
 - a. Employ an equity-focused approach to planning & decision making
 - b. Evaluate project using an Equity Impact Review (EIR)
3. Deliver integrated service that responds to Link expansion and meets customer needs
 - a. Minimize duplication of Metro service with Link light rail
 - b. Improve connections to Link, including development of facilities that support easy, comfortable, and convenient transfers between modes
 - c. Redesign existing fixed-route service to respond to current and future mobility needs, consistent with the METRO CONNECTS service network vision
 - d. Plan for changes that encompass the full range of Metro mobility services including fixed-route, flexible service, ridesharing, and accessible services

March to May 2019

Project Planning

June 2019

Finalize Project Management Plan & Public Involvement Plan

June to July 2019

Phase 1 Outreach

September to November/December 2019

Phase 2 Outreach

March to April 2020

Phase 3 Outreach

June to July 2020

Finalize plan and draft service change legislation

Sept 2020

Service change ordinance adopted by Council

Oct 2020

March 2021 Service Change Package published

March 2021

New changes implemented

Community Engagement Plan Overview



Goals

- Build authentic and lasting relationships with historically un(der)served populations in project study area
- Design final changes in partnership with historically un(der)served communities in order to build a strong transit network that increases access and mobility, especially for those who are disproportionately affected by transit inequities
- Communicate the service proposal goals and Metro’s goals related to equitable outcomes to the broader-affected communities, demonstrating how the service proposal helps Metro advance equitable outcomes in the study area

Main Activities

	PHASE 1 June–July 2019	PHASE 2 September–December 2019	PHASE 3 March–April 2020	June 2020–March 2021 and beyond
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project goal conversations with jurisdictions, King County Council, Executive’s Office, Institutions, and Community Based Organizations • Inform & engage with community within project area of goals and opportunities to shape decision-making • Recruit Mobility Board, and identify and collect community priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop draft network concepts based on Mobility Board recommendation • Engage with community more broadly to further modify/improve draft network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with Mobility Board to make final trade-off decisions • Site qualitative and quantitative data gathered from community engagement for significant network choices • Communicate final network concept and next steps to community (with Mobility Board) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to be present in the community at events and meetings to continue to build relationships • Update communications as needed
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stakeholders and general public aware of project scope, goals, and what their role may be in the outreach and engagement process • Mobility Board convened and developed list of priorities and needs related to a transit network based on community input 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A transparent and iterative concept drafting process where the community and major stakeholders understand where and how changes are being made, as well as how and why their feedback was or was not incorporated • Trade-offs are understandable and the ability to choose between priorities is achievable by both Service Planning and the community at large 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities affected understand how their feedback has shaped final outcome and what next steps are • Planners prepared to make recommendation with knowledge of risks/benefits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and Community Based Organization stakeholders trust and see Metro as a partner • Metro is prepared for Northgate Link light rail extension implementation • Council adopts service changes

Outcomes