Making Transit Our Own
An overview of Seattle’s approach

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Seattle: Fastest Growing City

Back on top: Seattle is fastest-growing big city

For the first time since 2013, Seattle had the fastest one-year growth rate among the nation’s 50 most-populous cities. Seattle added more than 20,000 people between 2015 and 2016.

Seattle 704,352* 3.1%

Five fastest-growing cities

Colorado Springs 465,101* 2.1%

Long Beach 470,130* -0.3%

Fort Worth 854,113* 2.4%

Miami 453,579* 2.9%

Five slowest-growing cities

Milwaukee 595,047* -0.7%

Chicago 2,704,958* -0.3%

Baltimore 614,664* -1.1%

Detroit 672,795* -0.5%

* Estimate as of July 1, 2016

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES
Transit in Seattle

How Commuters Get Downtown

- **47%** TRANSIT
- **9%** RIDESHARE
- **6%** WALK
- **5%** OTHER
- **3%** BIKE
- **30%** DRIVE ALONE

Transit includes bus, rail, and ferry. Rideshare includes carpool and vanpool. Other includes telecommute, compressed work week, and other as noted by survey participants.
Voter Support for Transportation

2014

2015

2016

The Levy to

MOVE SEATTLE

Voters Approve

SOUND TRANSIT 3
SDOT Approach

• Embrace transit system as if it is our own

• Think beyond the bus: streetcar, bikeshare, car share, and mobility options

• Mobility drives success of the city

• 2015: Transit and Mobility Division created
King County Metro Coordination

• 2.1 million people in King County over 39 jurisdictions

• Operate Metro service, Seattle Streetcar and Sound Transit buses and light rail

• Key areas of coordination:
  • City of Seattle Transit Service Investments
  • RapidRide Expansion Program
  • Seattle Streetcar system
  • Transit Spot Improvement Program
Seattle Transportation Benefit District

• Funded through 0.1% Sales Tax and $80 Vehicle License Fee

• $45 million for:
  • Service on Seattle and Regional Partnership Routes
  • Transportation Equity Program

• Coordinate service investments and messaging with Metro
Benefits of City Investment

- More Seattle households with access to frequent transit service (10 minutes or better)
- 17% increase on routes with 10-minute service since 2015
RapidRide in Seattle

- Partnership with Metro
- Upgrades 7 lines
  Creates over a 60-mile network
- Offers 10-minute or better service
- 10-15% Travel Time Savings
Meeting commitments together

• Partnership Agreement
  • Defines agency roles
  • Best value to the community
  • Share investment for better experience for customers and users
Seattle Streetcar System

• Expanding streetcar system in 2020; construction in 2017
• Connecting South Lake Union, Downtown and First Hill neighborhoods
• Partner with Metro on operations and fare collection
Transit Spot Improvement Program

• Partnership with King County since 2008
• Operational Improvements
  • Queue Jumps
  • Bus Only Lanes
• Access and Safety Improvements
  • Bus Stop Shelters and Seating
  • Real Time Information Signs
Continuous Improvement Together

• Match service and capital improvements
• Ensure operational efficiency and rider safety and comfort
• Share the costs
• City delivers projects
Elements of Success

- Growth
- Political Support
- Leverage service investments
- Meeting commitments together
- Continuous improvement