

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, King County Metro is a nationally recognized regional transit system responsible for the operation and maintenance of buses, streetcars, light rail, the King County Water Taxi, vanpools, on-demand, and Access paratransit services; and

WHEREAS, King County Metro employs over 6,100 people who operate, support, clean, maintain, repair, and provide safety to a system that moves over 300,000 passengers across buses, boats, trains and streetcars daily; and

WHEREAS, the divisions that make up King County Metro are Bus Operations, Capital, Employee Services, Finance and Administration, Marine, Mobility, Rail, Safety, Security and Quality Assurance, Transit Facilities, Vehicle Maintenance, and General Manager's Office, which includes Equity, Inclusion and Belonging, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Metro Transit Police, Internal Communications and Employee Engagement, Strategic Communications and Marketing, and Partnerships & Engagement; and

WHEREAS, King County Metro is proud of being a mobility system where riders can use transit to access life-changing opportunities—a dream job, an education, medical treatment, a family event, or a new home; and

WHEREAS, in 2026, King County Metro will have new battery-electric buses with operator safety partitions (OSPs) that will better protect our drivers while they serve the public every day; and

WHEREAS, for the second year in a row, the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) announced that among the nation's large transit agencies—those with 50 million or more annual trips—King County Metro ranked second in the percentage ridership increase over the past year; and

WHEREAS, March 18 is Transit Operator Appreciation Day, a national celebration developed by Seattle transit advocates that recognizes King County Metro's "rolling and floating ambassadors," the operators, for the job they do in safely transporting their passengers; and

WHEREAS, extending this recognition for all employees of King County Metro, who continue to keep the region moving, providing safe, clean, reliable, and courteous service to each other and the public;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Metropolitan King County Council and the King County Executive, proclaim the week of March 22-28, 2026, as

TRANSIT APPRECIATION WEEK

in King County, as we celebrate, recognize and thank all the people responsible for a world-class mobility system that continues to build fast, frequent, reliable all-day services that are both prioritized and co-created for those with the greatest need of public transit.

DATED this SEVENTEENTH day of MARCH, 2026.



Girmay Zahilay, County Executive



Rod Dembowski, District One



Jorge L. Barón, Council Vice-Chair, District Four



Claudia Balducci, District Six



Teresa Mosqueda, District Eight



Sarah Perry, Council Chair, District Three



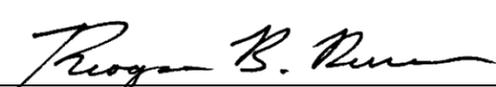
Rhonda Lewis, District Two



Steffanie Fain, District Five



Pete von Reichbauer, District Seven



Reagan Dunn, Council Vice-Chair, District Nine