Buses for the New SR 522/NE 145th Bus Rapid Transit Service

May 13, 2020
Project description

Purchase 6 high capacity battery-electric buses to support the establishment of new bus rapid transit service between Shoreline and Bothell.
Project background

A community-driven effort

• First proposed by community coalition ‘522 Transit Now!’ and local elected officials and staff

• Community advocacy ensured the project was included on the Sound Transit 3 (ST3) ballot for voter consideration
SR 522 / NE 145th BRT Project Overview

- 9,000 daily riders
- 8 miles, 6 cities
- Transit speed and reliability improvements
- 14 Stations
- 3 new parking facilities/access improvements
Fast, frequent, reliable service

Bus Rapid Transit infrastructure designed for fast, frequent and reliable service

- 10-minute peak and off-peak frequency
- Up to 19 hours of service Monday through Saturday
- Up to 17 hours on Sunday
Purpose and need

522 Corridor Congestion

- **Traffic**
  - ↑ 18% on average (since 2010)
- **Bus Crowding & Ridership**
  - ↑ 34% Weekday all routes (since 2010)
  - ↑ 60% KCM Route 37 (2015-2017)
  - ST Express Route 522, exceeds seated capacity frequently
- **Link Light Rail Service (2024)**
  - Will grow demand for connections
Connecting Regional and Local Centers

- Provides a fast, reliable connection to regional growth centers.
- Operates along a segment of the Metropolitan Transportation System.
Demographics

• Over 86,000 people live within a one-mile radius of the project.

• Many stations areas have minority populations higher regional average.

• Almost a 1/3 of households earn $50K or less annually.
Transportation benefits

• Reduces transit travel time by 12-17 minutes daily

• Up to 9,000 riders each weekday

• Benefits a range of travel modes
  ✓ Access to Link light rail
  ✓ Access to I-405 BRT at Transfer Hub in Bothell.
  ✓ ST policy to maximize pedestrian and bicycle access at all stations
Environmental and health benefits

- Reduce up to 29.7 million VMT annually
- Includes bike/pedestrian improvements at stations
- ST’s Access Allowance program funds improvements to create safe, direct walking and bicycling routes to stations
- Battery-electric buses will be part of this service
Economic benefits

• Directly benefits local centers and activity areas including UW Bothell/Cascadia College.

• By 2040, the project will serve over 15,000 new jobs in the corridor.

• Increases access to opportunity with connections to Link light rail in Shoreline.
Project supports TOD along the corridor:

Shoreline

- **3 Stations**
  - Locations based on regional and neighborhood connections and up-zone proximity.

- **Planning Highlights**
  - Two studies completed – 145th St. Station Subarea Plan and 145th St. Multimodal Corridor Study.
**Project supports TOD along the corridor:**

**Lake Forest Park**
- **3 Stations**
  - Locations based on town center and neighborhood connections and connection to KCM Service.

- **Planning Highlights**
  - Town Center Vision includes redevelopment of the existing mall.
Project supports TOD along the corridor:

Kenmore

• 4 Stations
  • Locations based on town center and neighborhood connections and connection to KCM Service.

• Planning Highlights
  • Multiple sites
  • 3 design workshops
  • 3 TOD conceptual scenarios
Bothell

- **5 stations**
  - Based on TOD proximity and connections to CT & KCM service.

- **Planning Highlights**
  - City looking to maximize potential for co-locating housing and transit
### Project schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Milestones</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initiate Bus Procurement</td>
<td>2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFP Issues</td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract Award</td>
<td>2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Bus Delivered</td>
<td>2023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Buses Delivered</td>
<td>2024</td>
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<tr>
<td>Revenue Service</td>
<td>2024/2025</td>
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FTA Request

• $7M to procure 6 unfunded BRT battery-electric buses
  ▪ $31.9M - Bus Fleet Procurement Costs for Project
  ▪ $568.8M - 522/NE 145th BRT Total Project Cost
• Bus procurement is NEPA CE
• Local match available to obligate funds upon STIP approval
Thank you.

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