



Memorandum

Date: 4/20/2021
Meeting of: City Council

File No. AM No. 21-062
Type: Staff Report

TO: Members of the City Council
FROM: Mayor Angela Birney
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Planning and Community Development	Carol Helland	425-556-2107
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Planning and Community Development	Beverly Mesa-Zendt	Deputy Director
Planning and Community Development	Don Cairns, PE	Transportation Planning and Engineering Manager
Planning and Community Development	Tam Kutzmark	Senior Planner

TITLE:

East Link Transit Restructure

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

Staff will brief Council on Sound Transit/Metro's co-led process to reorganize bus transit leading up to the opening of Link Light Rail in 2023. The goal of the process is to set up light rail for success by engaging communities in decisions about mobility options, service improvements, and connections to high capacity transit.

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☒ **Receive Information** ☐ **Provide Direction** ☐ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
Redmond Comprehensive Plan
Transportation Master Plan (including Transit System Plan)
Community Strategic Plan
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**
Sound Transit 2 added regional express bus and commuter rail service including Link light rail service to Overlake

Village and Redmond Technology Station (scheduled to open in 2023).

Sound Transit 3 further expanded the regional public transit system including Link light rail service to SE Redmond/Marymoor Village and Downtown Redmond (scheduled to open in 2024).

OUTCOMES:

Light rail will be the backbone of Redmond's transit network when it opens in 2023 to Overlake and 2024 to Southeast Redmond and Downtown Redmond. It will provide a frequent and reliable mobility choice that connects Redmond to the region. The success of light rail service fundamentally depends on the Metro/ST's restructure of bus service to connect the City's neighborhoods, employment centers, community hubs, transportation facilities, and local destinations to light rail stations.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**

High-level milestones in the Metro/ST co-led process include:

- Spring 2021 - Needs assessment
- Summer-Fall 2021 - Service concepts
- Winter 2021-2022 - Service proposal
- Summer 2022 - Transmittal to KC Council/ST Board
- June 2023 - Scheduled station openings

- **Outreach Methods and Results:**

Metro/ST methods include:

- Mobility Board (riders/transit users)
- Partner Review Board (community-based organizations)
- Community surveys
- Stakeholder interviews

The City will raise community awareness of the process, promote feedback opportunities (surveys, etc.), and help involve Redmond stakeholders.

- **Feedback Summary:**

Metro/ST will provide summaries of public input after each phase. The City will share this information via City communications tools.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

N/A

Approved in current biennial budget:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

Budget Offer Number:

N/A

Budget Priority:

N/A

Other budget impacts or additional costs:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

N/A

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
4/13/2021	Committee of the Whole - Planning and Public Works	Receive Information

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	None proposed at this time	N/A

Time Constraints:

City will coordinate with Metro/ST schedule and milestones.

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

An effective reorganization of transit service supports both the City's significant investment in Link light rail and the City's ability to achieve its transportation vision.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - Presentation Slides