Pacific Avenue/SR 7 Corridor Bus Rapid Transit

Tacoma, Washington Small Starts Project Development Information Prepared August 2018

Pierce Transit proposes to construct a 14.4-mile Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line along Pacific Avenue/SR 7 south from the Commerce Street Transfer Center in Downtown Tacoma to 204th Street East in Spanaway, entirely within Pierce County. The proposed project would connect Downtown Tacoma to key destinations such as the Broadway Center for the Performing Arts/Pantages Center, Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center, and University of Washington, Tacoma Campus. The project will include 32 new stations and one transit layover facility. Pierce Transit anticipates a project cost of \$150.0 million and plans to seek \$59.9 million (40 percent) from the Small Starts program.

The project would serve Pierce Transit's busiest fixed-route bus corridor, which has declining transit travel speeds and service reliability due to growing traffic congestion. The corridor has experienced rapid recent population and employment growth that is expected to continue through 2040. Pierce Transit believes the project would increase transit ridership, promote transportation equity, improve multi-modal access and connectivity, support a regional vision for the community through land use and transportation plans, and enhance safety and security for transit patrons.

Pierce Transit selected the locally preferred alternative (LPA) in July 2018, and plans to adopt it into the fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan and complete the environmental review process with receipt of a Categorical Exclusion in the first quarter of 2019. Pierce Transit hopes to receive a Small Starts Grant Agreement in 2020, and start revenue service in 2022.

