

# **RapidRide I Line Bus Rapid Transit**

## **Seattle, Washington**

### **Small Starts Project Development**

### **Information Prepared May 2019**

King County Metro (Metro), proposes to implement bus rapid transit (BRT) in a 17.9-mile corridor between the cities of Renton, Kent, and Auburn. The project includes approximately 76 stations, 25 vehicles, potentially up to eight miles of transit priority lanes or transit exclusive lanes, level boarding stations, off-board fare payment, branded transit vehicles, and transit signal priority. The estimated capital cost of the Project is \$117 - \$140 million, with the CIG amount to be determined.

Metro believes the project will provide more frequent, convenient, and higher quality transit service than exists today. The Project corridor is served today primarily by two of Metro's most productive suburban routes; however, both routes experience delays and reliability problems due to roadway congestion.

South King County has some of the highest proportions of low-income and minority populations in the County. As the region continues to grow, increasing housing prices are continuing to push low-income populations to south King County, and Metro's service in the area needs significant improvement to serve not only the existing needs but also the anticipated growth.

Metro expects to select a locally preferred alternative (LPA) in May 2020, complete the environmental review process with receipt of a Documented Categorical Exclusion in May 2020, and have it adopted into the region's fiscally constrained long-range transportation plan in September 2020. Metro hopes to receive a Small Starts Grant Agreement in June 2021, and start revenue service in 2023.