Making Transit Our Own:
Seattle’s Approach to Transit

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City of Seattle
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Seattle: Fastest Growing City

Back on top: Seattle is fastest-growing big city

For the first time since 2013, Seattle had the fastest one-year growth rate among the nation’s 50 most-populous cities. Seattle added more than 20,000 people between 2015 and 2016.

* Estimate as of July 1, 2016
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

MARK NOWLIN / THE SEATTLE TIMES
Transit in Seattle

How Commuters Got Downtown in 2017

- 48% TRANSIT
- 10% RIDE SHARE
- 8% WALK
- 3% BIKE
- 6% OTHER
- 25% DRIVE-ALONE

Commuters surveyed arrived to work 6-9am
TRANSIT: Includes bus, rail, and walk-on ferry passengers.
RIDESHARE: Includes carpool and vanpool.
OTHER: Includes telecommute, compressed work week, and other as noted by survey participants.

commute seattle
Voter Support for Transportation

2014

2015

2016

The Levy to
MOVE SEATTLE

VOTERS APPROVE
SOUND TRANSIT 3
Strong Seattle Vision for Transit

• Began with Transit Master Plan
  • Prioritized City investment in transit service and capital

• Move Seattle Vision
  • A safe, interconnected, vibrant, affordable and innovative city for all
  • Transit is part of the solution

• Embrace transit system as if it is our own
  • SDOT In-House Transit Expertise
Investing in More Transit Service

- Seattle Transportation Benefit District provides $50 million for:
  - More frequent and reliable service
  - Low-income access to transportation
- Ridership increased over 5% on light rail and Seattle routes since June 2016
More Access to Frequent Transit

Percent of Households within a 10-minute walk of 10-minute or better Transit Service

- **2015**: 25%
- **2016**: 51%
- **2017**: 64%

- **2020 Goal**: 53%
- **2025 Goal**: 72%
RapidRide Ridership Increasing

- **C Line**: June 2015, Avg. Weekday: 8,300, June 2017, Avg. Weekday: 11,600, +40% increase.

*Note: June 2015, Avg. Weekday vs. June 2017, Avg. Weekday.*
Small Changes Matter

• Keeping Buses Moving
  • Dedicated Bus Signals
  • Bus Only Lanes

• Rider Access and Safety Improvements
  • Real Time Information Signs
  • Expanded rider waiting areas
  • Upgrades to shelters and lighting
More Improvements Coming

• **RapidRide Expansion Program:** Move Seattle levy funded expansion of bus rapid transit in Seattle (7 lines by 2024)

• **Seattle Streetcar:** Expanded to connect key downtown neighborhoods

• **New Technologies:** How transit interacts with changes in mobility

• **Equity:** Affordable transportation options for all communities
How Seattle makes Transit work

1. **Investment in Transit**
   - More Buses = More Riders

2. **Land Use**
   - Growth Management is working
   - Housing and Affordability

3. **Public/Private Partnership**
   - Employers subsidize transit fares