



January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012

### **Pass Metro's Proposed June and September 2012 Service Changes in Full**

The Seattle Youth Commission commends metro on its proposed June 2012 and September 2012 service changes, and asks that the King County Council approve the changes in their entirety. We also ask that metro begin to restructure service in the way that it has restructured Northwest and West Seattle service in the rest of the city as soon as possible.

We understand that a small number of residents may not like Metro's new emphasis on productivity and ridership, but for the majority of transit riders, including students, these changes will be extremely beneficial.

Our high school students are heavily reliant on the transit system. A significant number of high school students spend an hour or more each day to and from school on the bus. In make cases, low frequency results in tardiness. To avoid this, students are forced to arrive at school well before start time. Metro's proposed changes help mitigate these problems.

Giving students better bus service to and from school will allow students to attend more after school activities, give students more time for homework and studying, allow students to wake up later to get to school, giving students additional rest, a vital element to academic success. The proposed service changes will not only improve Seattle's transportation system, but also improve our education system.

We have listed specific improvements beneficial to high school students. All these routes/corridors are used heavily by high school students.

- Nathan Hale High School students will benefit from increased frequency on the 372 and reliability investments on the 72.
- Ballard High School students will benefit from reliability investments on the 15 in the June service change, increased frequency and service from RapidRide in the September service change, increased frequency on the 44, better service to and from Northgate due to service changes and increased frequency on the 18, and better service to and from Fremont with service changes and increased frequency on the 18.
- Roosevelt High School students will benefit from reliability investments on the 48, 71, and 72.

- Chief Sealth High School students will benefit from increased service on the 120 and better connections to Georgetown, South Park, and Beacon Hill with service changes and increased frequency on route 60 and the creation of a new route 40.
- West Seattle High School students will benefit from much needed direct service to and from Delridge on the modified and more frequent route 128, and better service to and from the Rainer Valley on the new route 50.
- Ingraham High School students will benefit from reliability investments on the route 358.
- Franklin and Rainer Beach High Schools students will benefit from reliability investments on route 7, and increased service on route 9.
- Cleveland High School students will benefit from better service to West Seattle, Downtown, and Capitol Hill from service revisions and increased frequency on route 60, and reliability investments on the route 106.
- Garfield High School students will benefit from modifications to route 3 which will provide more consistently frequent and simpler service throughout the day, and allow them to board buses to downtown from one stop, rather than guess which bus to downtown is coming first and walk accordingly to that bus's stop. Students will also benefit from reliability investments on routes 8 and 48.
- Nova High School students will benefit from increased frequency on route 11, and reliability investments on routes 8, 43, and 48.
- The Center School students will benefit from increased frequency on route 1, restructuring of routes 2 and 3, which will provide more consistently frequent and reliable service all day, reliability investments on route 8, and the addition of the RapidRide D line.
- Running Start students at Seattle Central Community College will benefit from increased frequency on routes 9, 11, and 60, and reliability investments on routes 8, 43, and 49.
- Running Start students at South Seattle Community College will benefit from the same much needed connection between Delridge and West Seattle that West Seattle high school students need through restructuring of the 128. They will also benefit from increased frequency on route 128, and increased reliability on route 128.
- Running Start Students at North Seattle Community College will benefit from better service to Ballard through the more frequent route 18, increased frequency on routes 16 and 41, and reliability investments on routes 16, 66, and 68.

Metro's proposed service changes will be a boon to Seattle High School Students, and allow more students to learn more effectively. They should be approved in full.