

## SEPA DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (SDOT) ADOPTION OF EXISTING DOCUMENT FOR THE RAPIDRIDE J LINE PROJECT

**Description of proposal:** The City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) proposes to construct a new RapidRide J Line bus rapid transit corridor with transit service improvements, including transit lanes, bus signals and station upgrades. The project would also improve pedestrian and bicycle connections, access to stations, and safety for both nonmotorized and motorized travelers. The purpose of the project is to improve transit travel times, reliability, and capacity to increase high-frequency, all-day transit service and enhance transit connections between Downtown Seattle and Belltown, South Lake Union, Eastlake, and the University District. The proposal is described as the U District Option in the environmental documents being adopted. The project is a partnership between SDOT and King County Metro to deliver reliable, convenient, high-quality transit to Seattle's growing population. The construction period would be approximately 3 years and would be phased in work zones to minimize impacts.

Project Proponent and Lead Agency: City of Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

Seattle Municipal Tower 700 Fifth Ave, Suite 3800 P.O. Box 34966 Seattle, WA 98124

**Location of proposal**: The project would use existing bus service infrastructure along 3rd Ave and proposes improvements along Virginia St, Stewart St, Fairview Ave N, Eastlake Ave E, 11th Ave NE, Roosevelt Way NE, NE 43rd St, and NE 45th St with a terminus at Sound Transit's U District Link Light Rail Station.

**Environmental documents being adopted:** The Federal Transit Administration RapidRide Roosevelt Project Environmental Assessment (EA) was issued on January 8, 2020, the Supplemental EA was issued on October 19, 2021, and the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was issued on May 2, 2022. The EA, Supplemental EA and FONSI are being adopted to support a DNS to satisfy SEPA regulations (Seattle Municipal Code 25.05).

SDOT has identified and adopted these documents as being appropriate for this proposal after independent review. The documents meet our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision maker.

Public Review and Comment: The EA, Supplemental EA, FONSI, and supporting documents are available to be read during normal business hours at the City of Seattle Central Library, 1000 4h Ave, Seattle. Electronic copies are available on the project website at: <a href="https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/transit-program/transit-plus-multimodal-corridor-program/rapidride-roosevelt">https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/transit-program/transit-plus-multimodal-corridor-program/rapidride-roosevelt</a>. Interested agencies, organizations, and members of the public can submit comments through the comment form on the project website or by letter to Darrell Bulmer, Public Information Coordinator, SDOT, PO Box 34996, Seattle, WA 98124. Comments on the SEPA DNS must be provided in writing and submitted or postmarked by 5:00 pm on May 16, 2022.



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SDOT has determined that the project does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the EA, Supplemental EA, FONSI, and technical appendices. This DNS is issued under Washington Administrative Code 197-11-340(2) and Seattle Municipal Code 25.05.340; the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the issue date below.

Issue Date: May 2, 2022		
SEPA Responsible Official: Jill Macik, Environmental Manager		
Signature	<u>April 26, 2022</u> Date	
Agency contact: Darrell Bulmer, Public Information Coordinator		<b>Telephone</b> : (206) 257-2202

Any interested person may appeal this DNS by submitting a written Notice of Appeal and a filing fee to the Office of the Hearing Examiner. Appeals of the DNS must be received by the Hearing Examiner at the address shown below or pursuant to the Office of Hearing Examiner Operating Rules During COVID-19 document available at the website shown below. Appeals must be filed no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 23, 2022. Appellants should be prepared to make specific factual objections. See SMC 25.05.680 for SEPA appeal procedures.

**Hearing Examiner**, Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Avenue, Suite 4000, PO Box 94729, Seattle, WA 98124; 206-684-0521; <a href="https://www.seattle.gov/examiner">www.seattle.gov/examiner</a>

## Office of Hearing Examiner Operating Rules During COVID-19:

 $\underline{\text{https://www.seattle.gov/Documents/Departments/HearingExaminer/CODV19\%20HXE\%20Factsheets/Emergency\%20Order\%203-16-2020.pdf}$