



Route 44



Route 44 Transit-Plus Multimodal Corridor

Making bus trips faster, more reliable, and improving safety

Background

Route 44 is one of the highest-ridership routes in Seattle, serving more than 9,300 daily riders. It is a 10.7-mile east-west trolley bus route in North Seattle that serves the Ballard, Wallingford, and University District neighborhoods, including the University of Washington and University of Washington Medical Center. The route provides important connections to several current and future major north-south transit routes.

Route 44 connects with 2 RapidRide routes; the E Line at Aurora Ave and N 46th St and the D Line at 15th Ave NW and NW Market St. These are the top 2 King County Metro routes by ridership. Route 44 also connects riders to light rail via the University of Washington Station, and will serve the future U-District light rail station.

Route 44 buses are scheduled to arrive at least every 10 minutes; however, bus trips are frequently impacted by traffic congestion on the route, resulting in a slow and unreliable experience for riders. This project will identify and implement improvements that provide faster, more reliable transit service for the Route 44.

Project overview

Seattle Department of Transportation and King County Metro are partnering to explore improvement concepts for King County Metro Route 44, which runs from the Chittenden Locks to the University of Washington light rail station. The project will work to enhance safety consistent with commitments made for the voter-approved Levy to Move Seattle.

A variety of improvements along the Route 44 corridor will be considered, including:

- Dedicated bus lanes and queue jumps
- Signal upgrades or optimization
- Channelization changes or turn restrictions
- Safety, pedestrian access, and intersection improvements

Schedule

We're in the early planning phase, reviewing the corridor needs, and identifying community priorities to determine what improvements are most beneficial and feasible. Those improvements will then move forward to final design and construction, with work scheduled to be complete in 2023.

Get involved

We're committed to keeping you informed throughout the project.

Learn more about the study and sign up for the project listserv at www.seattle.gov/transportation/Route44

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