

# Metro Connects

# Today's Focus

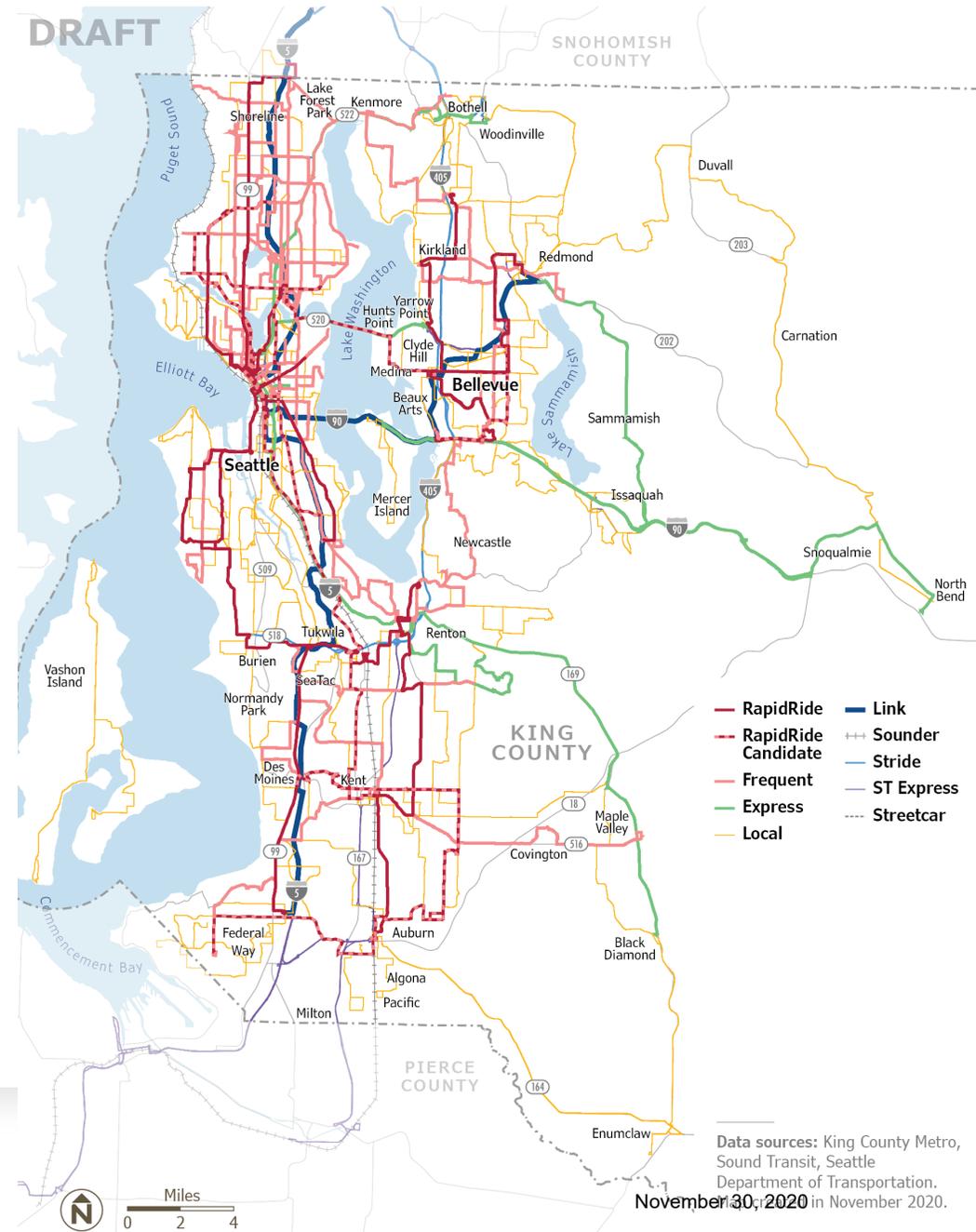
- Review draft Metro Connects network updates
  - High-level summary of changes
  - Changes to address equity gaps
- Review draft RapidRide updates
  - Gather input on Metro's recommendation for a programmatic approach to RapidRide
  - Review Interim and 2050 networks



# Updated Metro Connects Maps: Draft Interim Network

- Updated route alignments and frequencies to account for known changes (e.g., RKAAMP, Capitol Hill/UW Link, NEMP)
- Addressed targeted equity gaps
- Updated RapidRide network

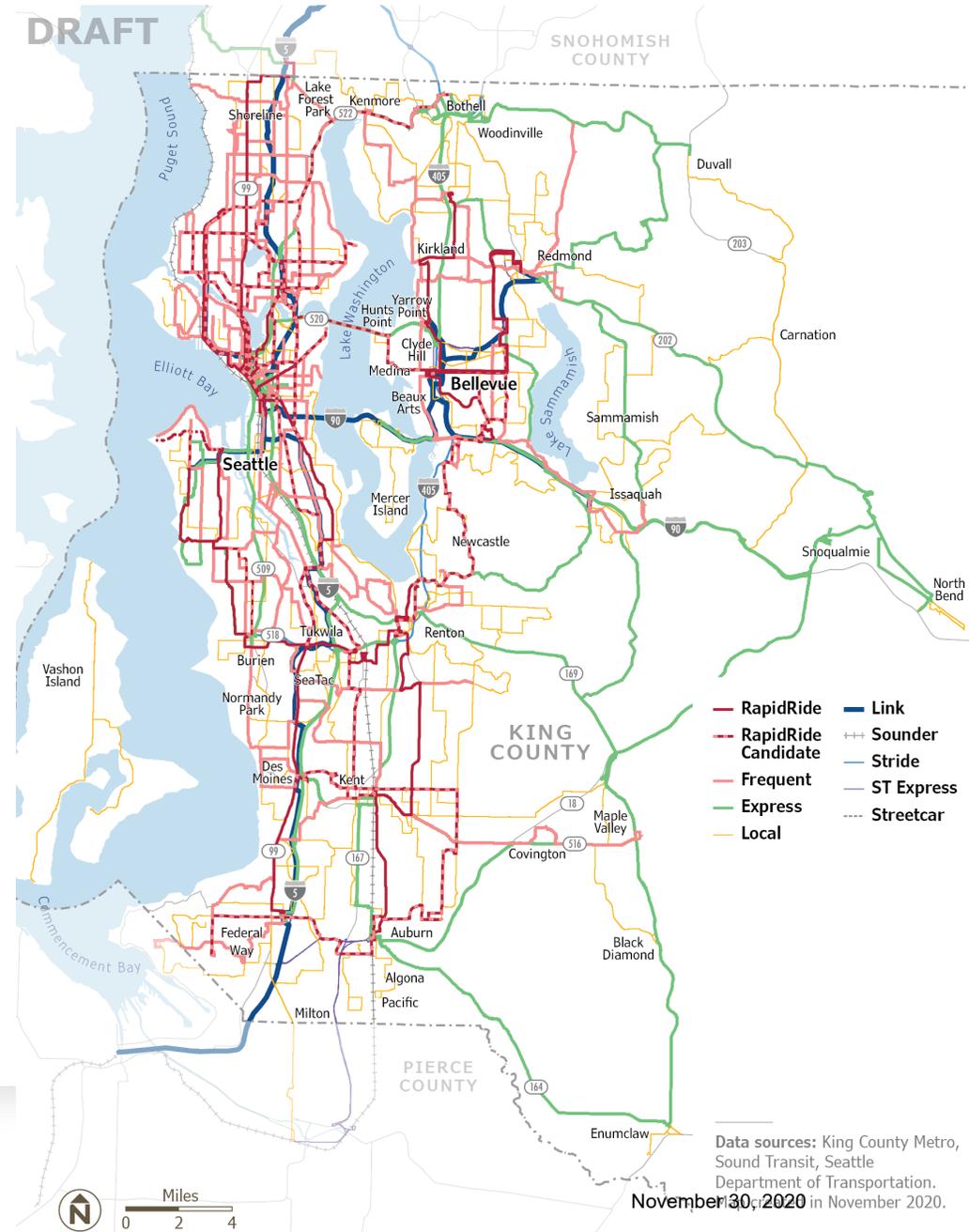
Fig. 1: METRO CONNECTS Interim Network [DRAFT]



# Updated Metro Connects Maps: Draft 2050 Network

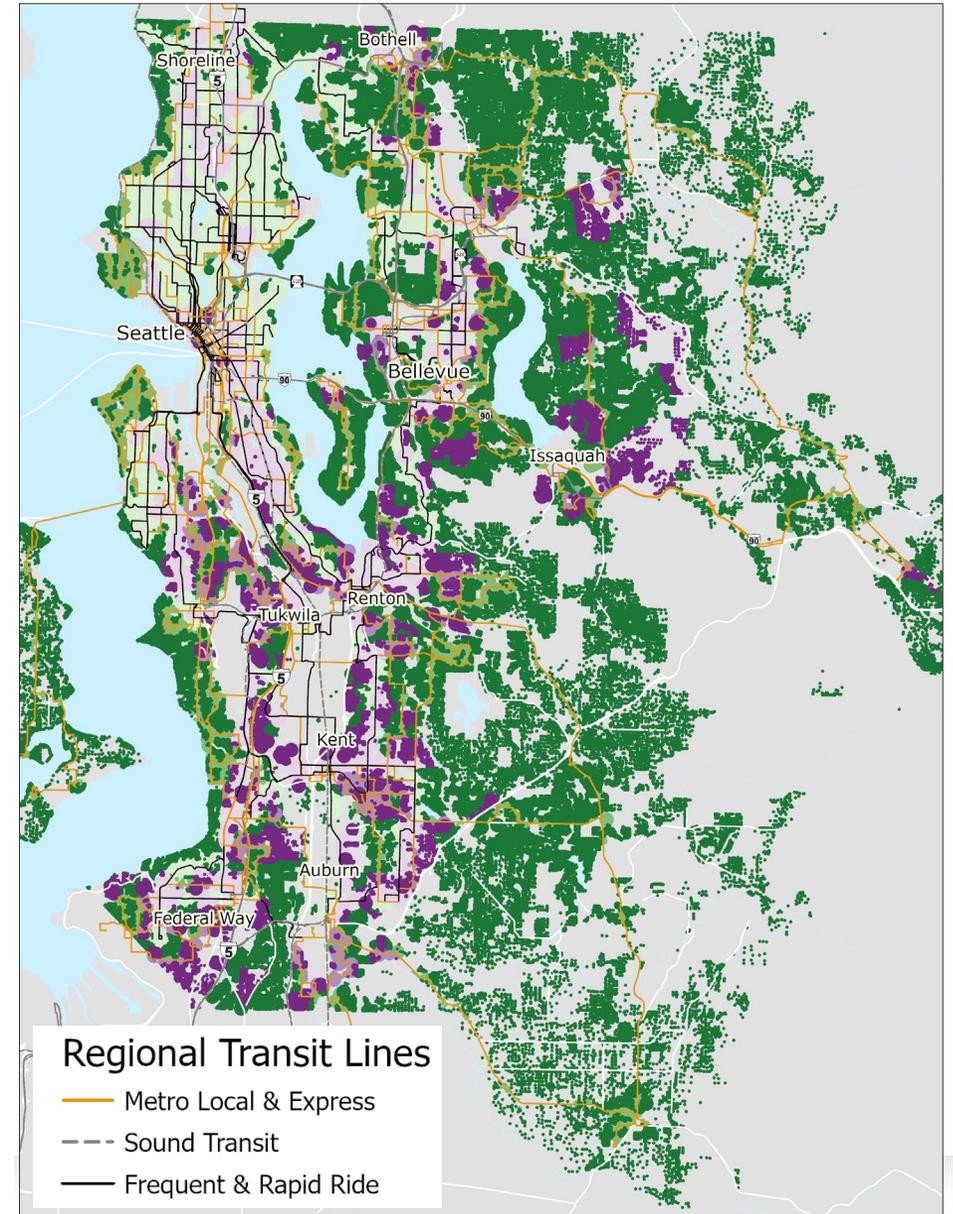
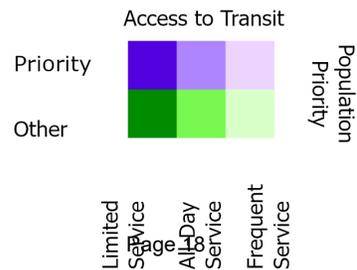
- Incorporated known changes made to the Interim network
- Increased frequencies on select routes to account for growth from 2040 to 2050
  - e.g. 36% have 15-min off-peak headways compared to 24% in 2040 network
- Updated proposed RapidRide network

Fig. 3: METRO CONNECTS 2050 Network [DRAFT]



# Equity Gap Improvements

- Map illustrates where access to transit service is limited for priority and other populations
- Though Metro could not address all gaps, made targeted changes based on stakeholder feedback
  - Focus on gaps near areas with higher ridership during COVID-19
  - Address clusters of gaps, where one improvement could solve multiple issues
- Routes changes to address equity gaps in areas including Skyway, SeaTac, and Kent East Hill
  - Increased assumed frequencies on three routes to meet new frequent standard
  - Added one route from the 2040 network to the Interim network to provide new connection



# Proposed Updated RapidRide Networks

- **Historically, Metro has not delivered new RapidRide lines as fast as Metro Connects assume**
- **Proposed network is smaller (16-23 total lines by 2050), with a range of lines linked to delivery pace**
  - Proposed interim network assumes 1 route every 2-3 years
  - Proposed 2050 network assumes 1 route every 2-2.5 years

Total new and modified RapidRide lines in addition to G, H, I, J by

Date	2025	Interim Network	2040/2050	Total Lines 2040/2050
Current Metro Connects	9	-	16	26
Updated Metro Connects	0	3-5*	9-13*	16-23

*\*Though R and K are unfunded, Metro assumes they will be the next two lines. This means 1-3 possible new and modified, unidentified lines in the interim network and 7-11 in the 2050 network*

# Recommendation: Flexible/Programmatic Approach for Selecting RapidRide Lines

## What is a programmatic approach to RapidRide?

- Identifies a pool of candidate lines for future RapidRide service rather than specific set of routes
- Selects specific routes closer to design/implementation based on updated analysis, more detailed planning, and stakeholder engagement

## Why does Metro recommend this approach?

- Ensures decisions are made based on the best available information, recognizing the choices are not clear-cut, while anchoring to a delivery pace that is achievable given historical practices
- Provides flexibility, including the opportunity to more fully engage partners and communities where needed and to conduct additional analysis
- Responds to significant uncertainty related to future travel patterns, demographic changes, and funding

# For Discussion: How Would This Process Work?

## Develop Prioritization Plan

- Update planning and analysis
  - Update evaluation with more recent, future data
  - Conduct additional corridor studies where needed
- Engage stakeholders in process
  - RTC, Equity Cabinet, and others
  - Partner jurisdiction staff via corridor studies

## Timeline

- Selection process tied to the County's biennial budget and CIP development
- Construction and delivery finished 6-9 years after funding

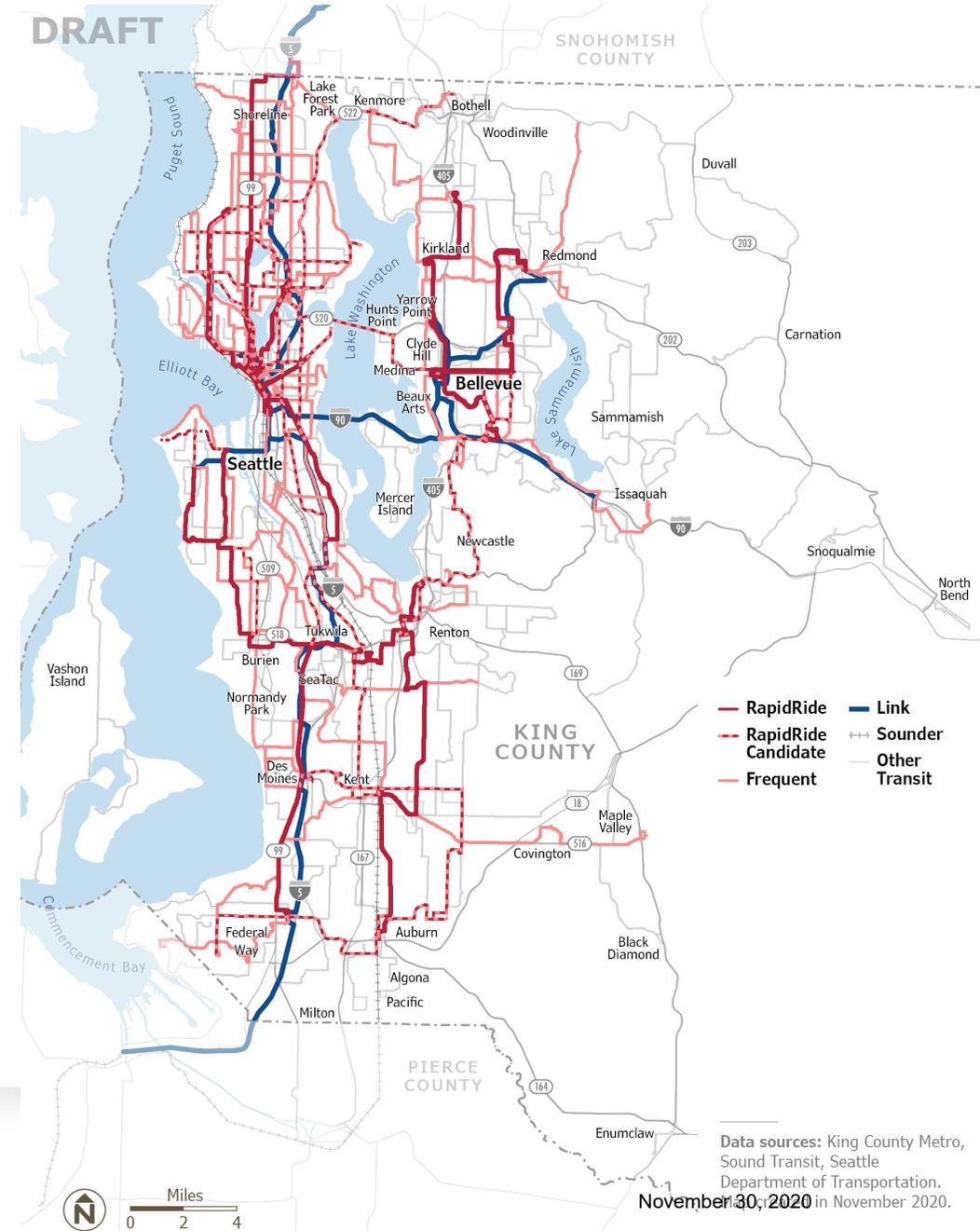


**High-level guidance will live in Metro Connects and Strategic Plan**

# Updated Draft RapidRide 2050 Network

- **22 candidate projects for 9-13 future projects**
  - Those not implemented in Interim are assumed to be candidates for 2050
  - RapidRide routes that surpassed minimum performance unchanged
  - 4 routes below threshold reclassified as frequent service
- **Long-term vision for RapidRide**
  - Identifies corridors appropriate for RapidRide
  - Reflect changes related to ST3 (Link and Stride expansion)

Fig. 4: METRO CONNECTS 2050 RapidRide Network [DRAFT]





## Discussion: Metro Connects Changes

- 1. Is the proposed process for making decisions for RapidRide inclusive of your communities' needs? Are there changes you would suggest?**
- 2. Any other comments or questions?**