

**Board of Commissioners/Community Transportation
Advisory Group Special Meeting Agenda
May 11, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.**



**Physical Meeting Location:
Pierce Transit Training Center
3720 96th ST SW
Lakewood, WA 98499**

Virtual Meeting Participation Information:

Dial: 1-253-215-8782 / Meeting ID No. 86599561103

Webinar link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86599561103>

Preceding this meeting, the Board of Commissioners will hold their regular meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Welcoming Remarks from Chair Walker and Vice Chair Ayala

Ice Breaker

1. Transit Trivia

Presentation/Discussion

1. Potential Ballot Measure to Expand Pierce Transit Services within Pierce Transit's Service Area

Next Steps

Closing Remarks from Chair Walker and Vice Chair Ayala

Adjournment

Pierce Transit does not discriminate on the basis of disability in any of its programs, activities, or services. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a program, service, or activity of Pierce Transit should contact the Clerk's Office at 253.581.8066, or Clerks@piercetransit.org as soon as possible but no later than the Thursday preceding the Board meeting.

May 11, 2026

Expanding Local Transit



Today's Agenda

Introduction and Objectives

Mike Griffus – Chief Executive Officer

Funding Overview

Chris Schuler – Chief Financial Officer

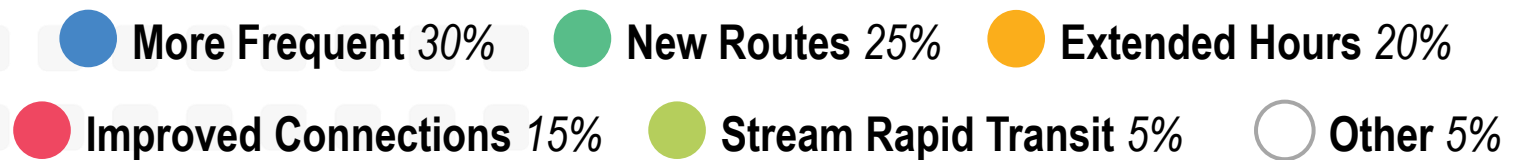
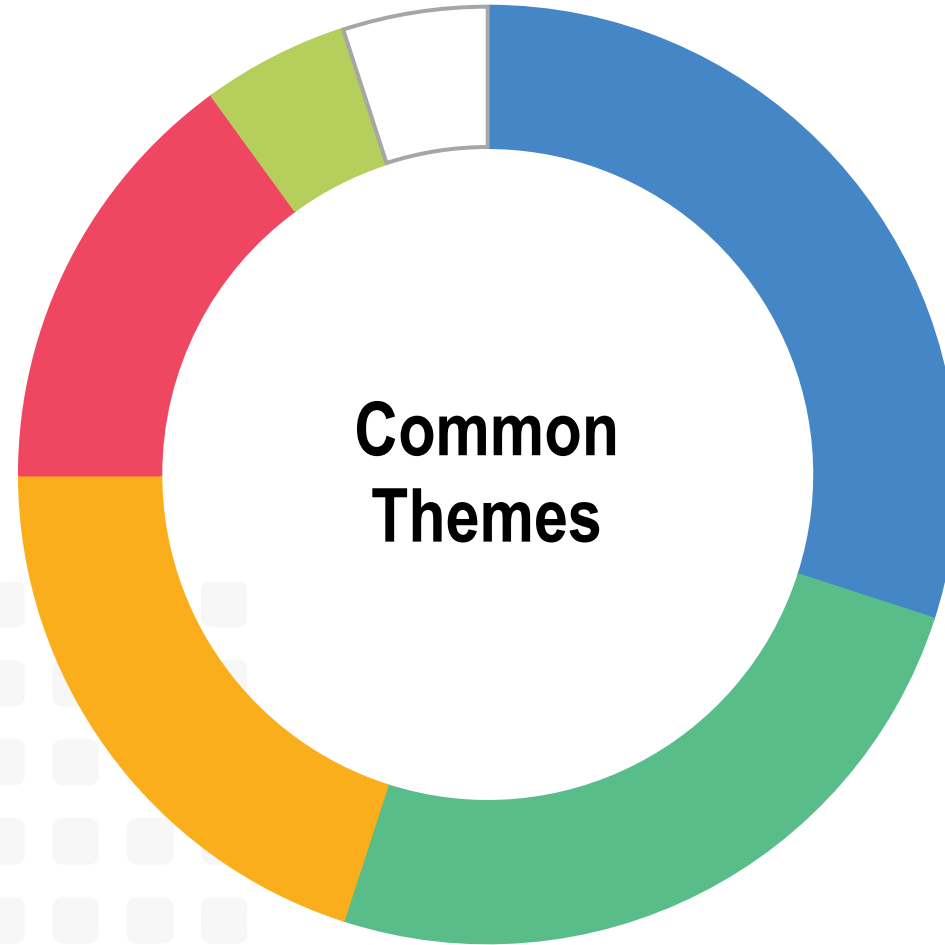
Service Expansion Plan *draft*

Tina Lee – Interim Chief Planning Officer

Questions and Discussion

Everyone

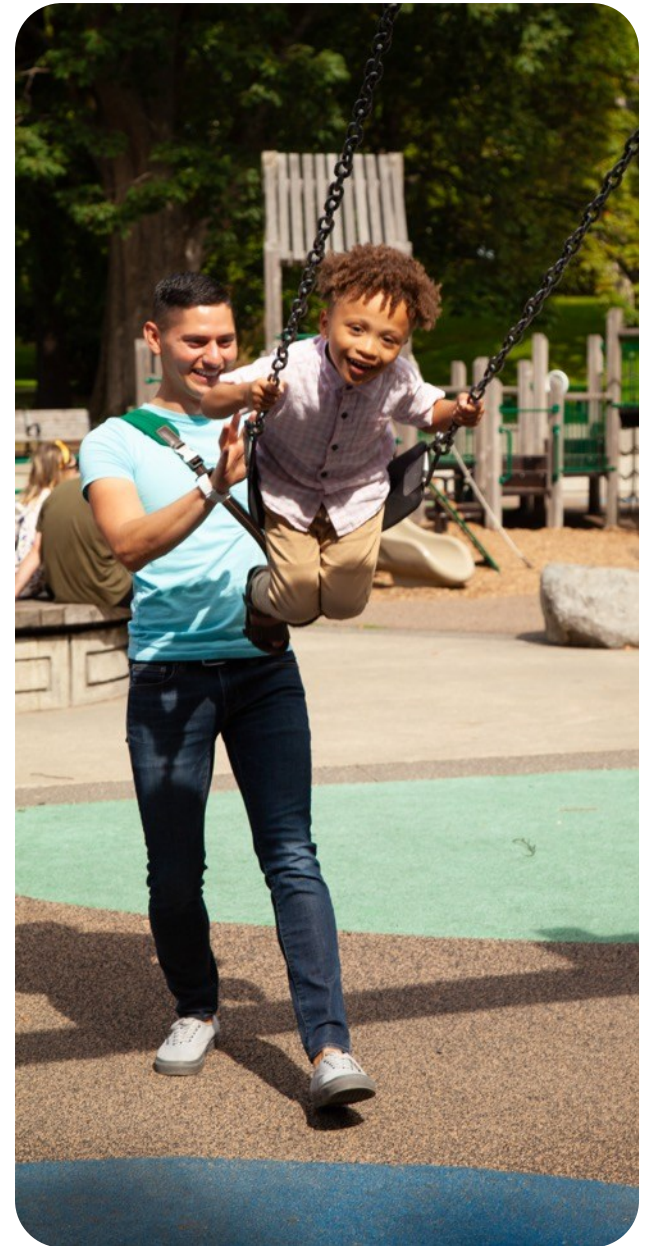
Community Feedback



Feedback Themes

The most regular feedback we received from the community was to help people get to

- work
- school
- fun



Growing Needs



Growth

Current projections indicate we'll grow by 275,668 people and see 117,800 new jobs come to our area by 2044.



Congestion

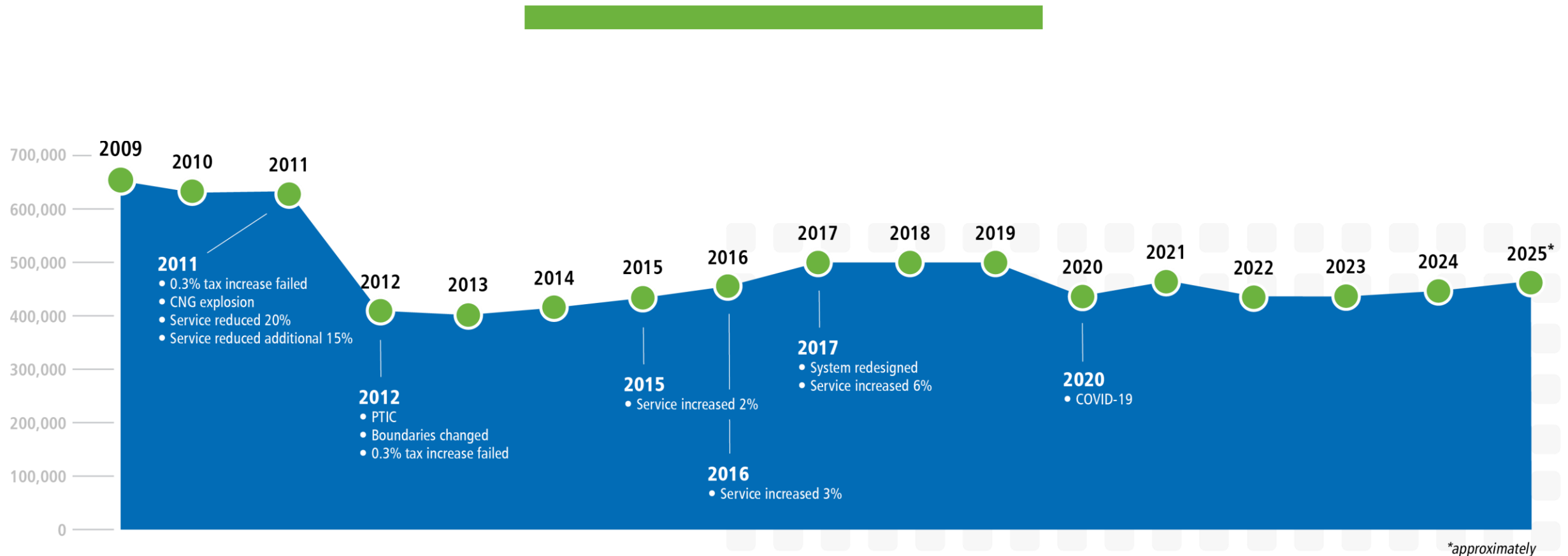
Without more transit, most of these new residents will rely on cars—adding to congestion on our already busy roads.



Economy

Without more transit, access to jobs, schools, doctors, housing, and groceries is reduced and our economy suffers.

Service Hours Over Time



Current Sales Tax

0.6%

Sales Tax Rate

our rate since 2002

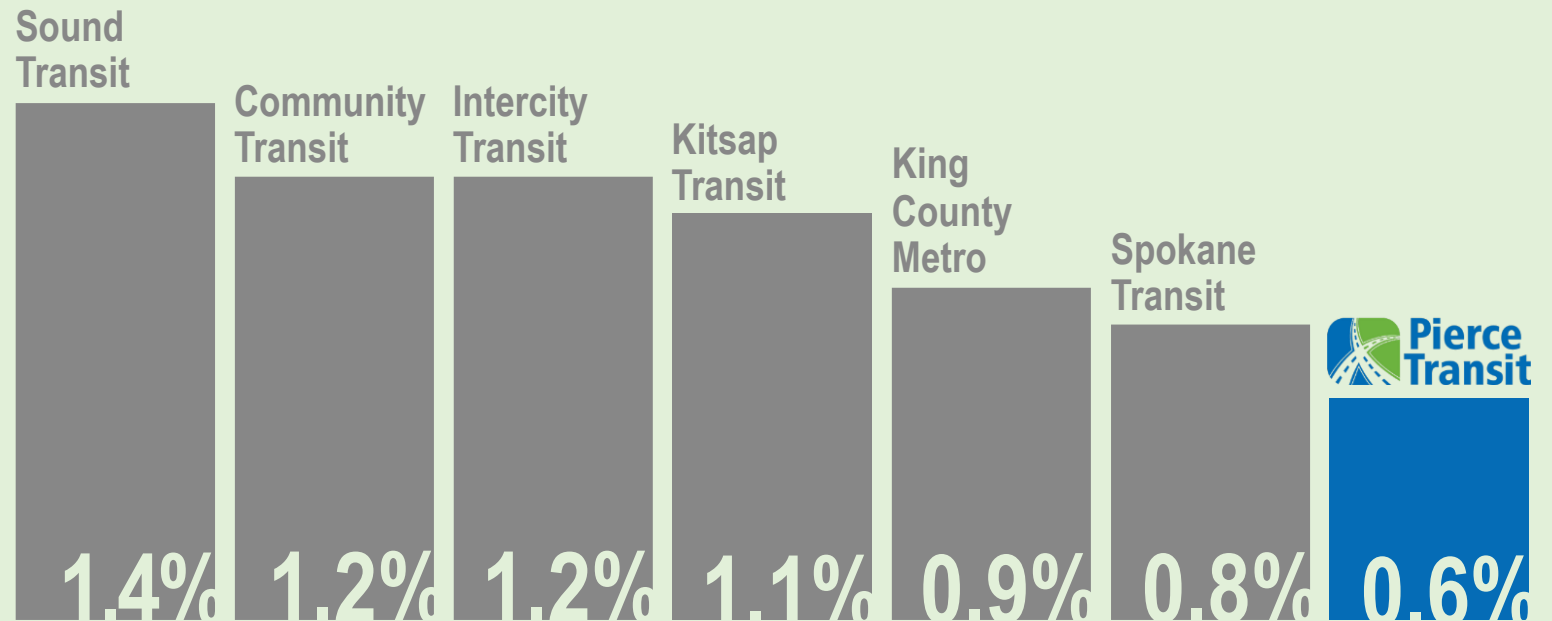
6¢

Of Every \$10 Spent

*on qualifying purchases in the PTBA**

*Public Transportation Benefit Area

Sales Tax Compared to Peer Transit Agencies in Washington



Current Funding

The Cost of Inflation: 2002 vs 2026

2002 was the last time Pierce Transit had a sales tax increase



Gallon of Gasoline

\$1.50

in 2002

VS

~\$5.00

in 2026



WA Minimum Wage (hourly)

\$6.90

in 2002

VS

\$17.13

in 2026



Transit Bus (new)

\$312K

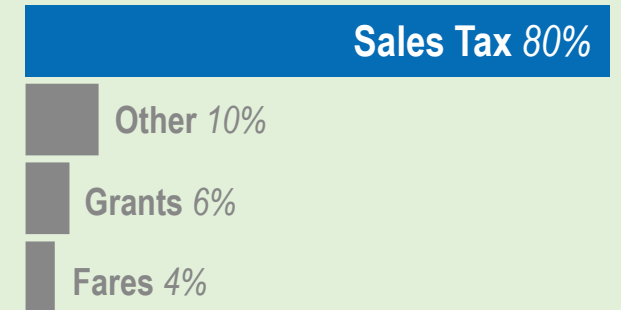
in 2002

VS

\$860K

in 2026

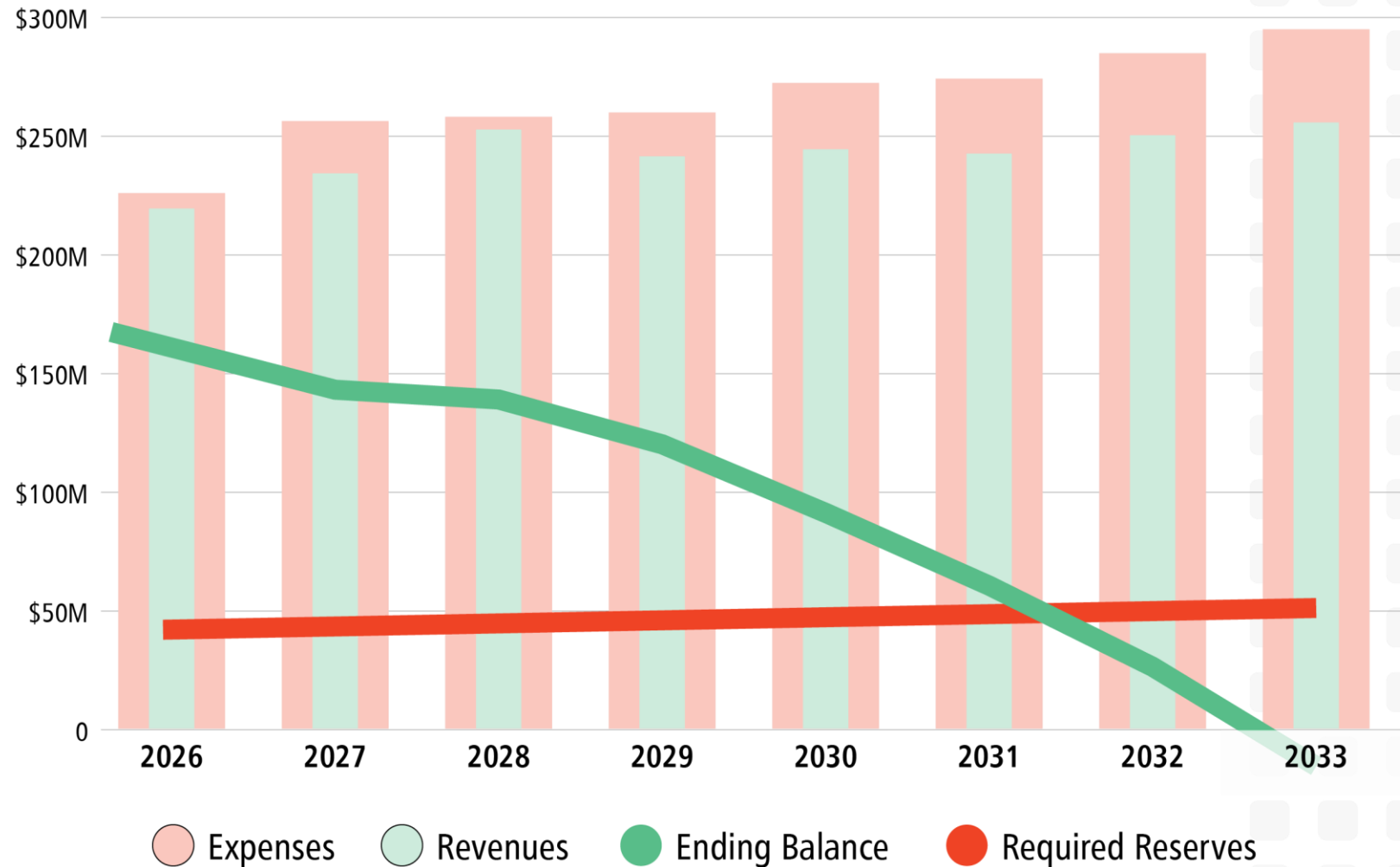
Sales Tax is Our Primary Source of Funding



We DON'T Collect:

- ✗ Car Tabs
- ✗ Payroll Tax
- ✗ Vehicle Fees
- ✗ Property Tax

Reserves Fall Short in 2032





**MORE
PEOPLE.**

**MORE
PLACES.**

**MORE
OFTEN.**



Proposed Sales Tax Increase

0.9%

Proposed Sales Tax

3¢ per \$10 spent

Proposed Increase

40%

Service Increase



**You DON'T Pay
Sales Tax On:**



Rent or Mortgage



Groceries



Most Healthcare



**You DO Pay
Sales Tax On:**



Dining



Clothing



Electronics

**What does a 0.3%
sales tax increase
look like?**



\$10 Sandwich = 0.03¢



\$20 Sweater = 0.06¢

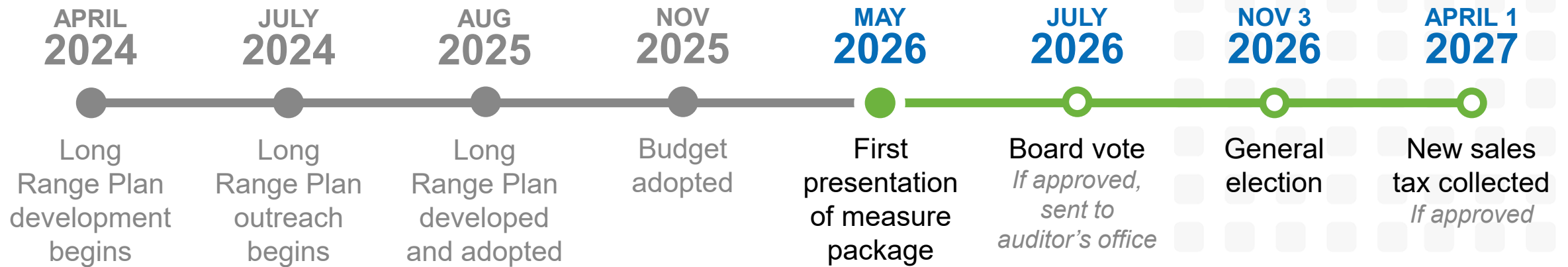


\$80 Headphones = 0.24¢



\$225 Furniture = 0.68¢

Steps to Expand Local Transit



Developed for the community, with the community.



14
months of outreach
July '24 – August '25

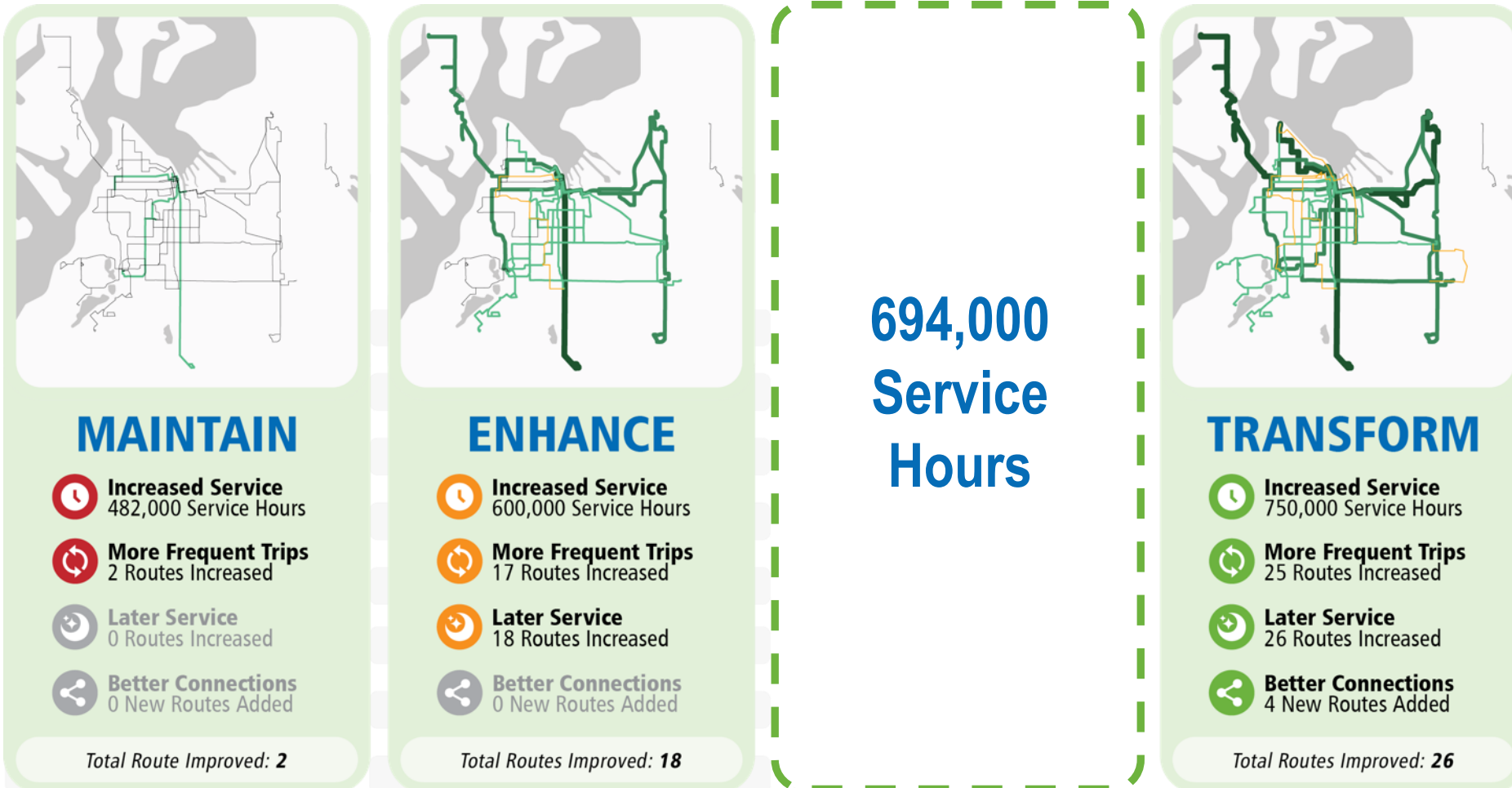


79
community events
and meetings



700
survey responses
received

Long Range Plan



Plan Improvements



**New Bus
Routes**



**New Stream
Rapid Transit Lines**



**More
Frequent**



**Later
Service**



**Better
Connections**



**Expanded
Paratransit**



New Routes

Route 15

Ruston

*exploring best
options for service
to this area*

Route 40

Port of Tacoma and East Tacoma

Route 51

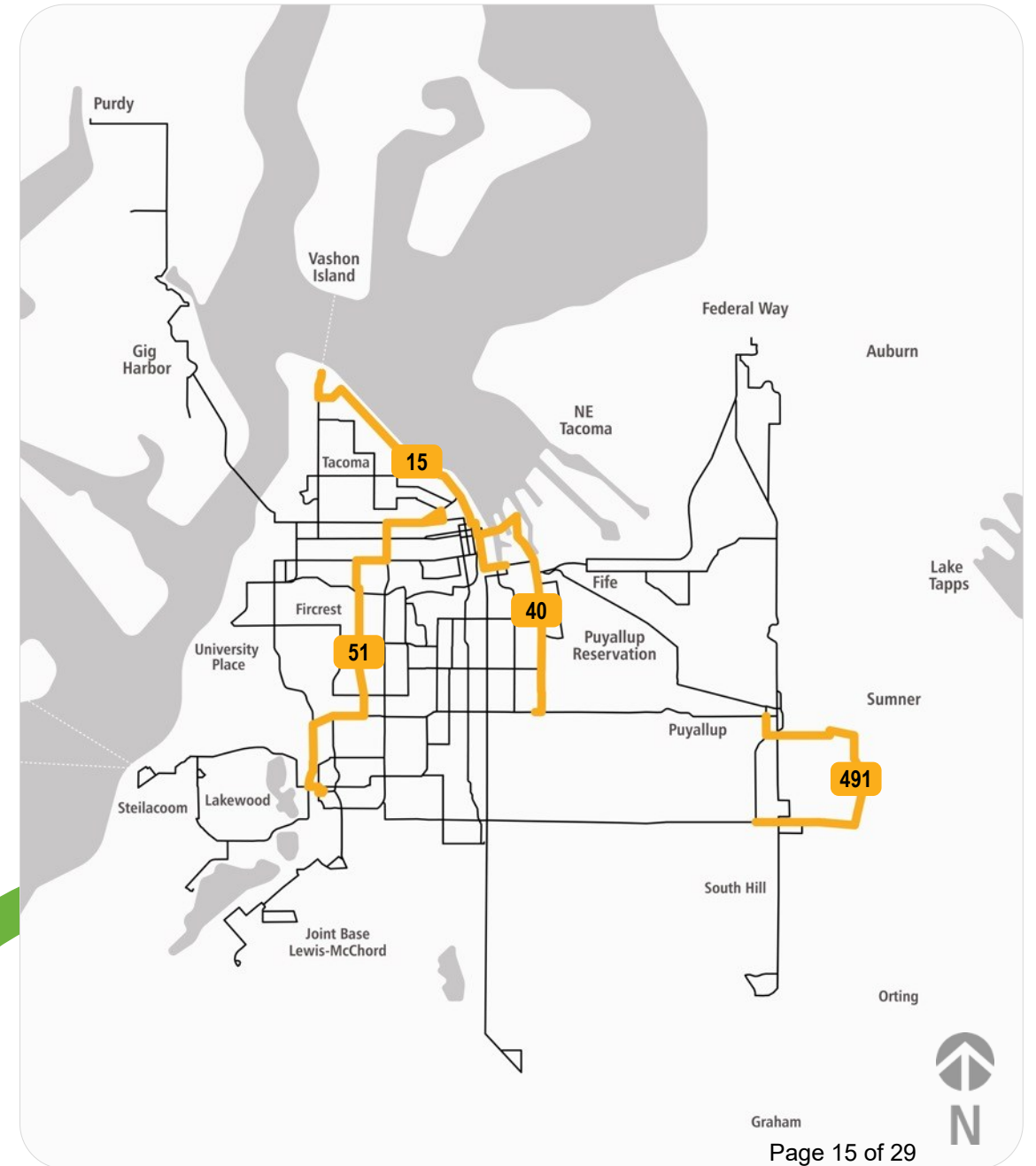
Tacoma

Route 491

Puyallup

*weekday
service*

The Result: more places and more possibilities



Graham



New Stream Lines

Stream is rapid transit, meaning buses will arrive every 15 minutes on weekdays, 20 minutes evenings and weekends

Route 1

Stream Community Line

Routes 2 and 3

upgraded to Stream



Local Service

A premiere, local Weekday service that connects Tacoma and Spanaway



Frequent

Buses arrive every 15 mins on weekdays and 20 mins on weekends



Fewer Stops

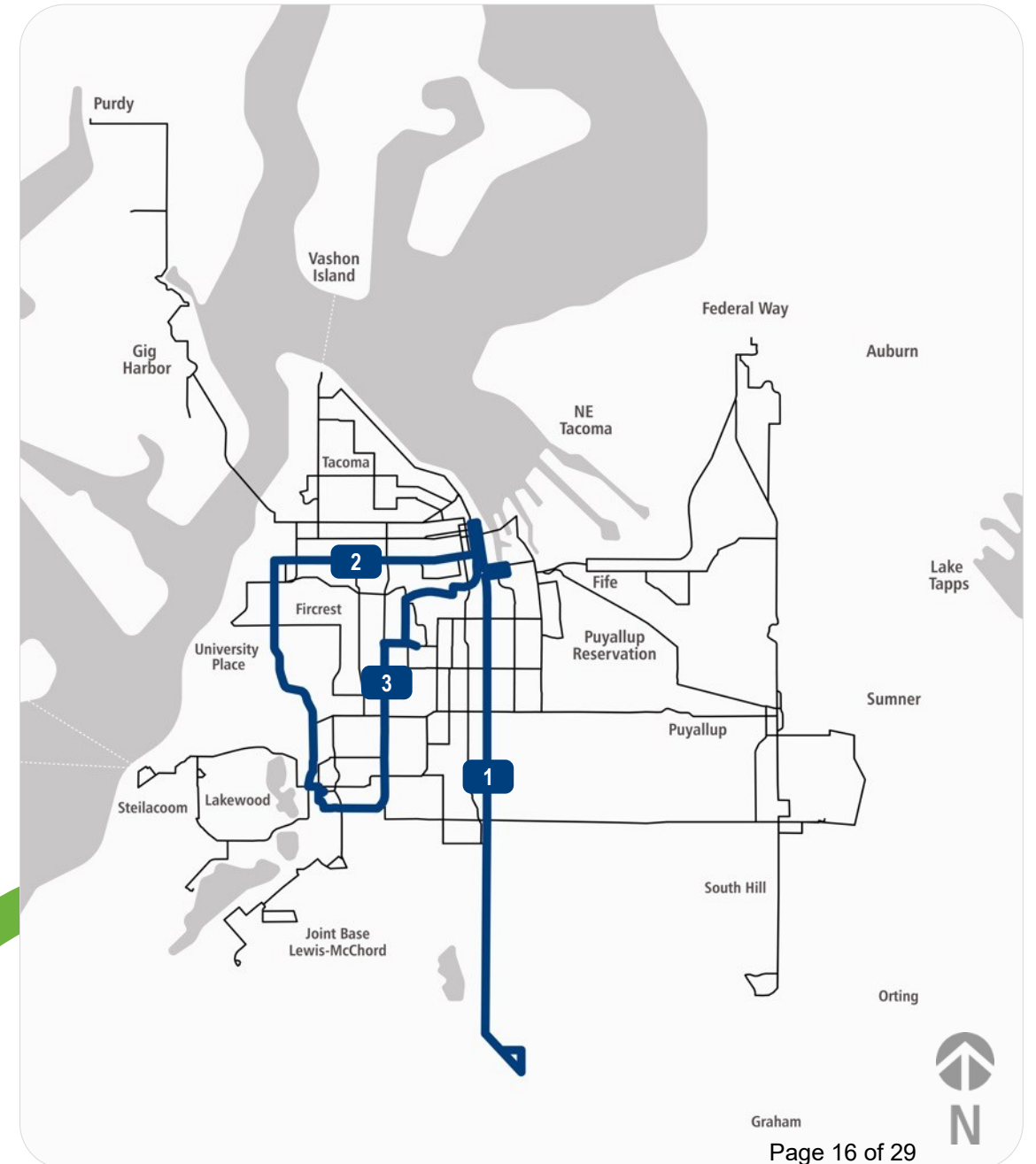
Only serves major bus stops so you can get where you're going sooner



Same Price

Fare is the same as Pierce Transit local service (free for 18 and younger)

The Result: less waiting and more reliable trips





More Frequent

Numbers and map reflect weekday frequency

7 Routes

every 15-20 minutes



currently only 2 routes

22 Routes

every 30 minutes



currently only 4 routes

2 Routes

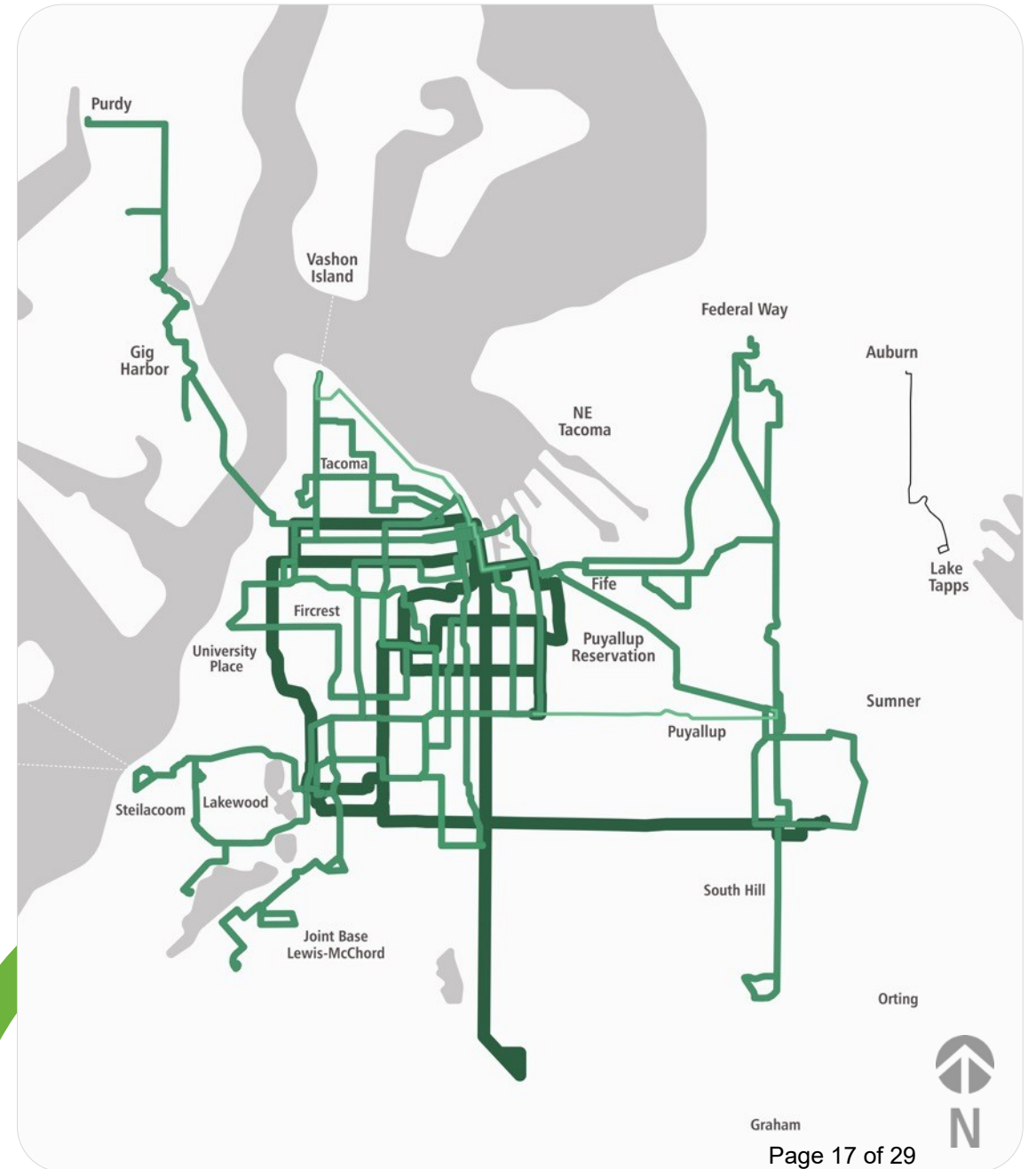
every 60 minutes



currently 8 routes

other 6 routes receive more frequent service or are adapted

The Result: less waiting and more reliable trips



Graham



Later Service

Map reflects weekday hours

23 Routes

will run longer hours

5 - 6 a.m.

when most routes start

Most Routes



10 p.m.

or later on
Weekdays



10 p.m.

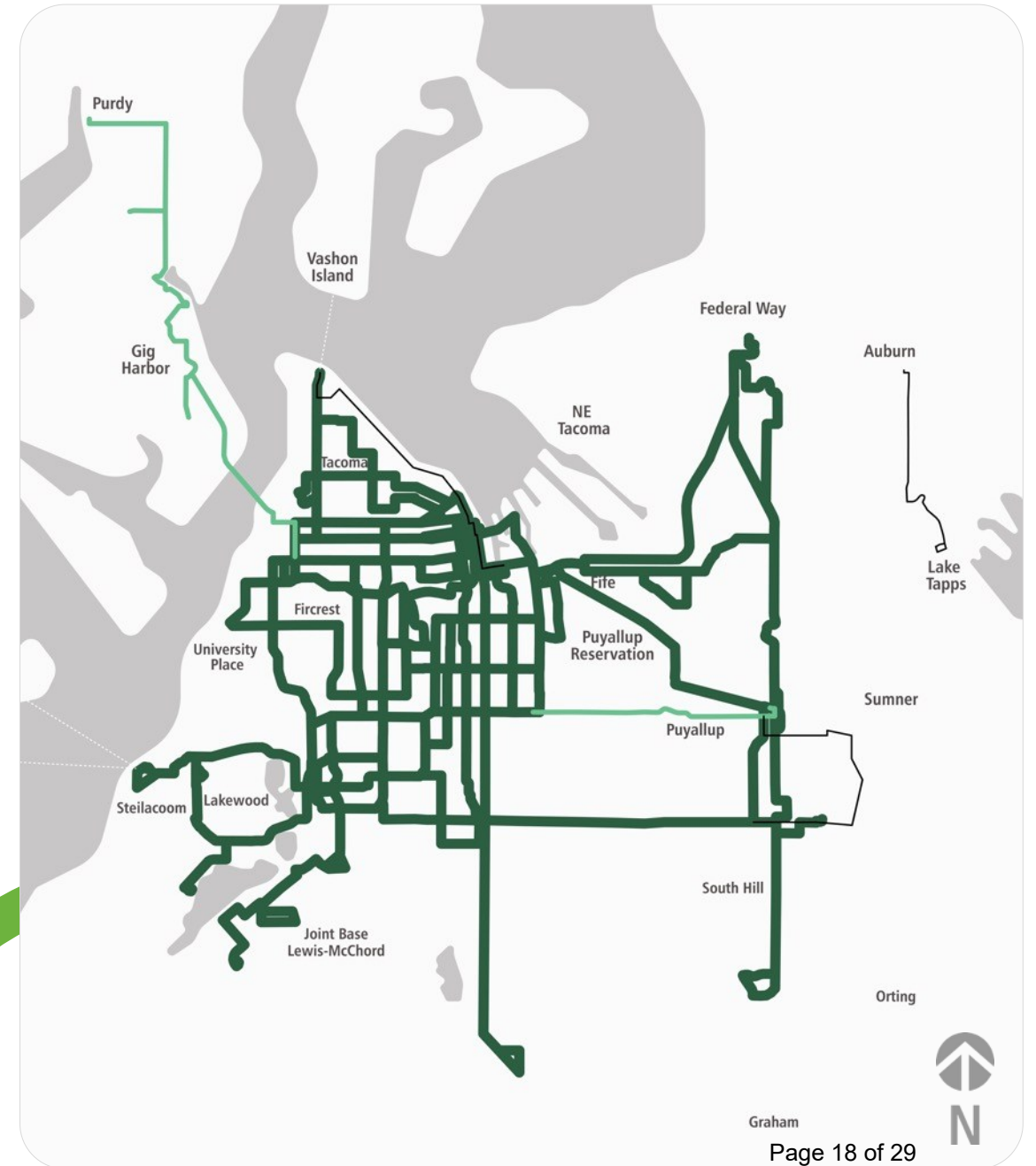
or later on
Saturdays



8 p.m.

or later on
Sundays

The Result: more options for diverse schedules



Graham



Better Connections

2

41

42

400

402

500

501

Local bus routes modified to improve connections to regional light rail in Tacoma, Fife, and Federal Way

5

Routes 52 and 55 combined for simpler, more efficient service

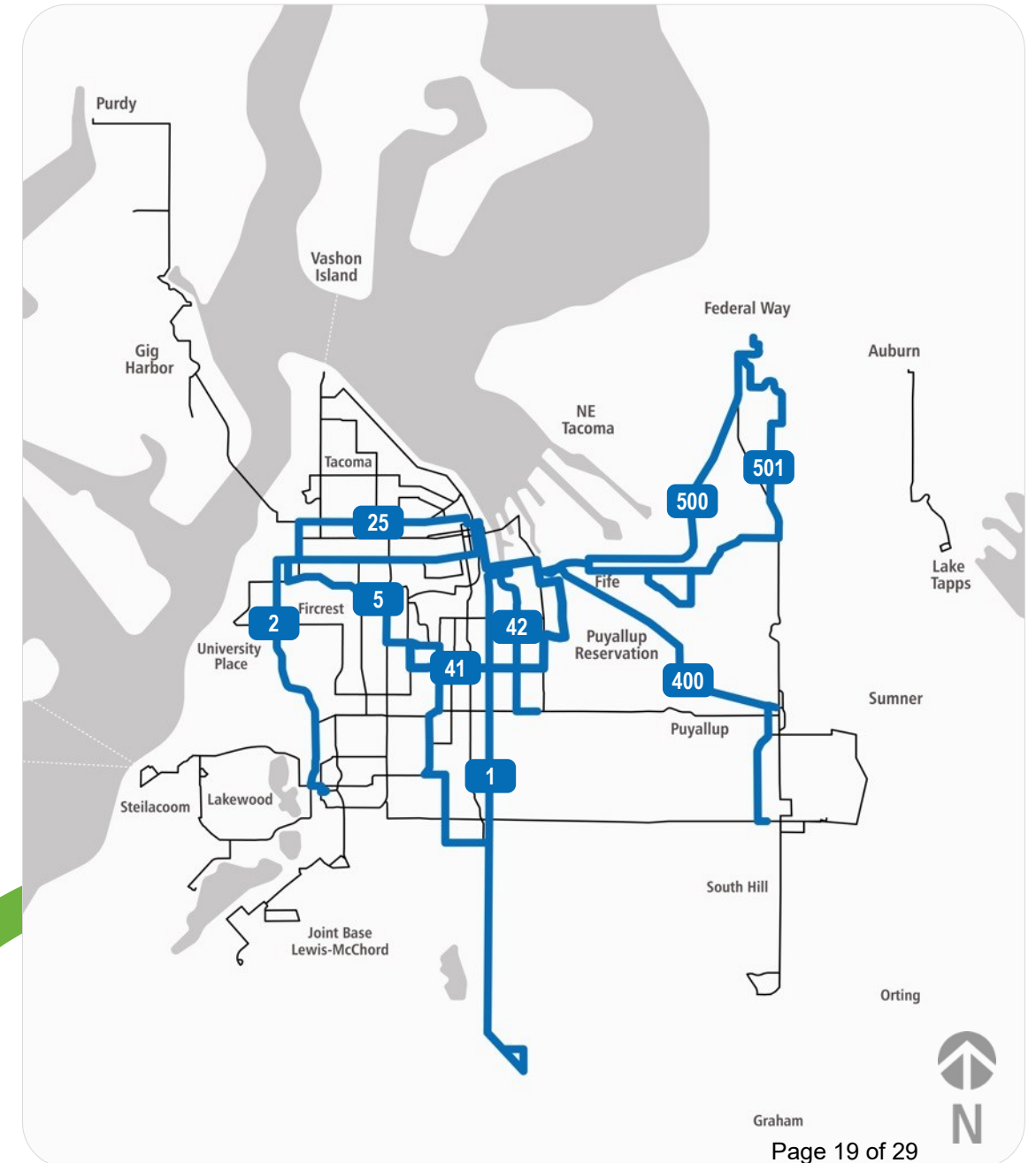


Route 1 upgraded to high-capacity Stream serving Spanaway Transit Center to Commerce Street

25

New route added along 6th Avenue every 15 minutes to replace Route 1 between TCC and Commerce St Station

The Result: easier transfers and more direct trips





Expanded Paratransit

SHUTTLE Service Also Increases



New
Places



More
People



Later
Service

Did You Know?

SHUTTLE paratransit service is available within $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile of all local bus routes...



$\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile



...and most service vehicles are equipped for accessibility.



Bus

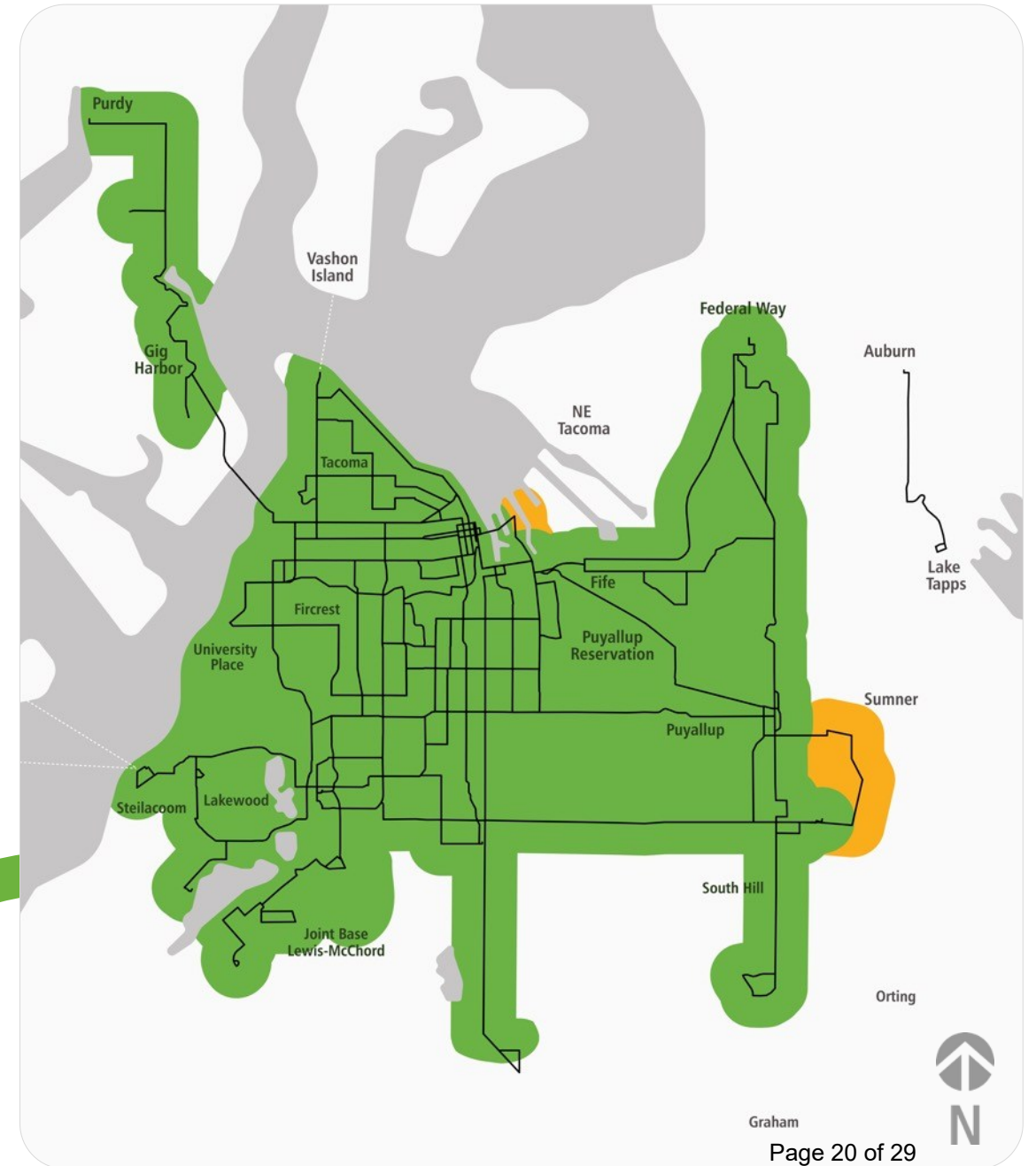


SHUTTLE



Runner

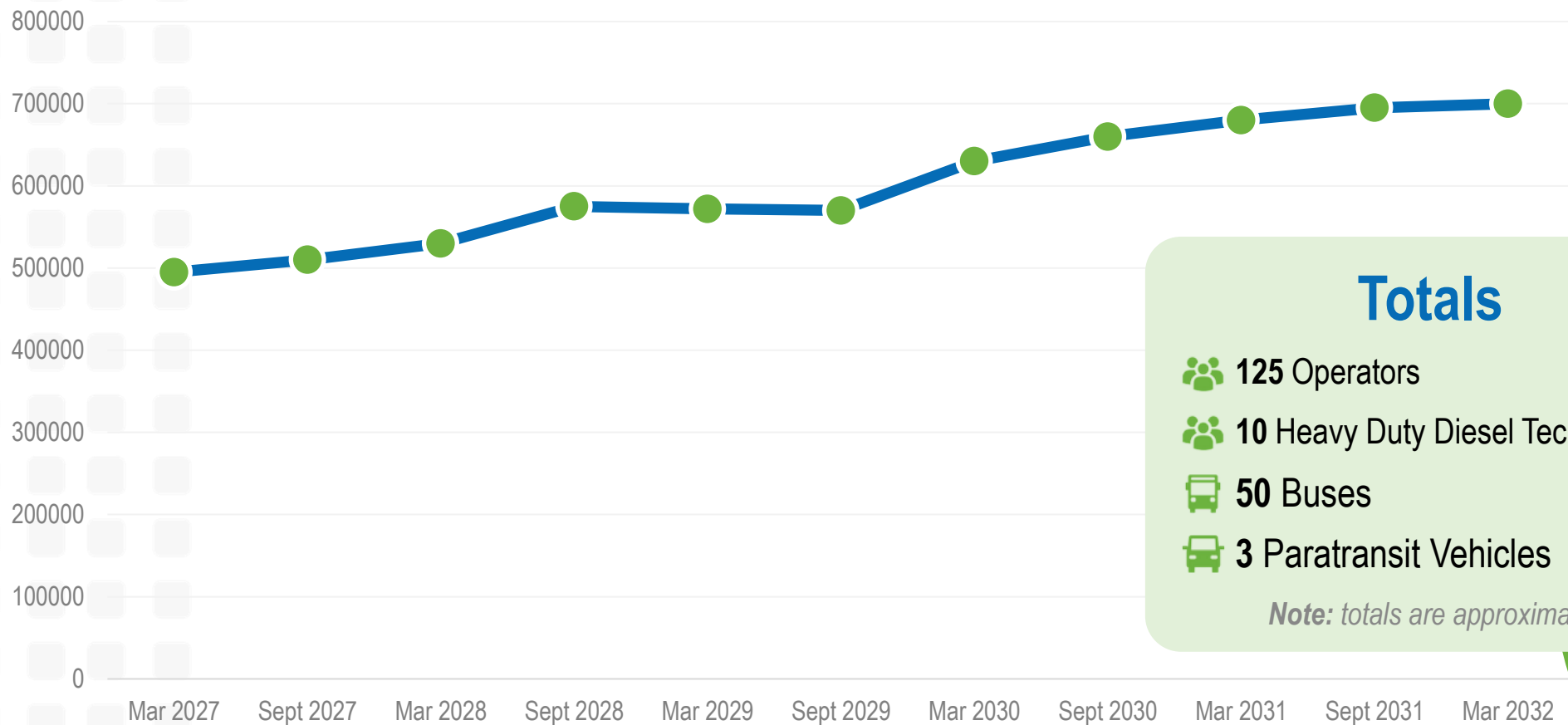
The Result: more people and more inclusive



Graham

Implementation Timeline

ANNUAL SERVICE HOURS



Totals

-  **125 Operators**
-  **10 Heavy Duty Diesel Technicians**
-  **50 Buses**
-  **3 Paratransit Vehicles**

Note: totals are approximate

Community Impact

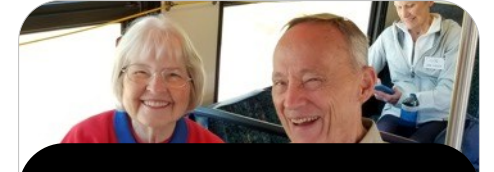
Local transit impacts all of us – whether you rely on it or someone you rely on does. Strengthening it strengthens our community, for riders and non-riders, alike.



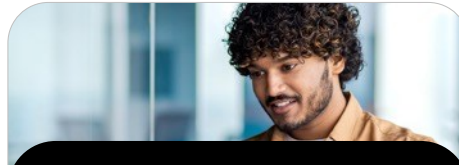
High-Need Areas



Diverse Schedules



Seniors



Local Businesses



Local Residents



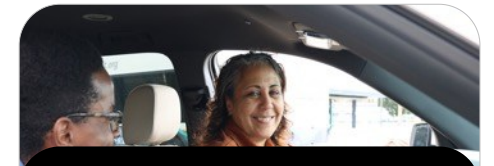
Students



Special Needs



Non-Profits



Commuters

Next Steps to Shape The Plan



Attend a Community Review Session

Scan or go to
PierceTransit.org/more-transit
for event details

In-Person

- **Location:** Tacoma Library – Main Branch
- **Room:** Carnegie – Cascade Board Room
- **Date:** June 3
- **Time:** 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Online

- **Location:** Zoom
- **Option 1:** June 5, Noon – 1 p.m.
- **Option 2:** June 11, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Other

- City Council Presentations

Questions and Discussion

What questions do you have?

Questions and Discussion

Does this package reflect
community priorities?

Questions and Discussion

Are we addressing the right problems with this approach?

Questions and Discussion

What else do you want to share with us or want to know before July?

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