

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Ride Transit Month is a time to celebrate public transportation, transit riders, and recent transit expansions; to showcase the many benefits of riding transit; and to encourage thousands of additional people to try transit; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle is partnering with King County Metro, Sound Transit and other transit agencies, as well as with major employers and advocacy organizations including Commute Seattle, Disability Rights Washington, Transportation Choices Coalition and others to inform Seattleites of the variety of transit options and fare payment tools available; and

WHEREAS, transit is a significant means of reducing CO2 emissions, such that, if all people driving alone shifted to transit, there would be 130,000 fewer metric tons of CO2 emissions per year; and

WHEREAS, the City's Comprehensive Plans have consistently pointed to public transportation as the principal means for improving mobility as the City of Seattle has continued to grow in both population and employment through the 21st Century; and

WHEREAS, creating transit-oriented communities has been shown to improve health, to boost community spirit, to improve traffic safety, to reduce pollution, and to alleviate congestion on city streets; and

WHEREAS, beginning with voter approval of the Bridging the Gap Levy in 2006, and more so with overwhelming approval of Transportation Benefit District measures in 2014 and 2020, Seattle voters have shown their willingness to pay for added Metro transit service in Seattle and subsidies for lower income riders and students; and

WHEREAS, City of Seattle residents have shown enthusiastic support for expanding regional high-capacity transit with overwhelming support for Sound Transit measures in 1996, 2008 and 2016, further exhibited through higher and higher rates of ridership with the opening of each expansion; and

WHEREAS, public transportation is critical to expanding equitable and affordable access to greater opportunities including better paying jobs, educational opportunities; healthcare treatments; social and cultural opportunities; and

WHEREAS, a just and sustainable recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic requires transit and we are proud that Seattle residents, workers, and students are leading the way in returning to transit as pandemic restrictions are gradually lifted; and

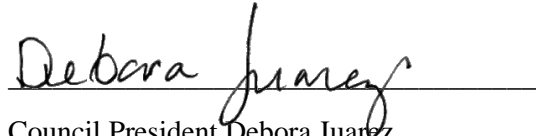
WHEREAS, Commute Seattle, Disability Rights Washington, Transportation Choices Coalition, City of Seattle employees and departments, and local schools, hospitals, companies, and civic groups throughout Seattle will be promoting transit ridership as a cleaner, healthier, more equitable, affordable and sustainable means of travel through the month of June 2022;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and the Seattle City Council proclaim the month of June 2022 is:

Ride Transit Month



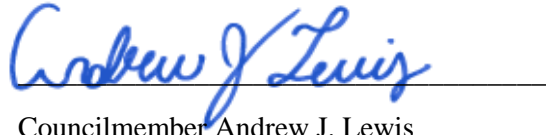
Mayor Bruce Harrell



Council President Debora Juarez



Councilmember Lisa Herbold



Councilmember Andrew J. Lewis



Councilmember Tammy J. Morales



Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda



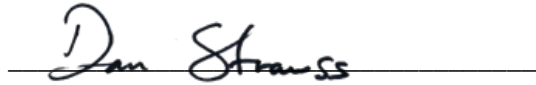
Councilmember Sara Nelson



Councilmember Alex Pedersen



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Councilmember Dan Strauss