

CITY OF SEATTLE

ORDINANCE 127357

COUNCIL BILL 121123

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Transportation Benefit District; authorizing material scope changes to City of Seattle Proposition 1 to expand uses of revenues for passenger transportation services.

WHEREAS, City of Seattle Ordinance 123397 established the Seattle Transportation Benefit District (STBD) for preserving and maintaining transportation infrastructure; implementing elements of the Seattle Transportation Strategic Plan and other planning documents; investing in bicycle, pedestrian, freight mobility, and transit enhancements; and providing people with choices to meet their mobility needs; and

WHEREAS, Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 36.73.160 requires the STBD to adopt a policy to address material changes to a project's cost, scope, and schedule; and

WHEREAS, in STBD Resolution 3, the Governing Board of the STBD approved a material change policy that addresses the procedures for approving changes to project cost, scope, and schedule; and

WHEREAS, in STBD Resolution 12, the Governing Board of the STBD submitted a ballot measure (STBD Proposition 1) to the qualified electors of the STBD to authorize up to a 0.1 percent sales and use tax, and an annual vehicle license fee of up to an additional \$60 per registered vehicle with a \$20 rebate for low-income individuals, for the purposes of funding King County Metro Transit service in Seattle; and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2014, STBD Proposition 1 was approved by a majority of qualified electors of the STBD; and

1 WHEREAS, by Ordinance 125070, The City of Seattle (City) assumed the rights, powers,
2 immunities, functions, and obligations of the STBD as authorized under RCW 36.74.030;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, on June 25, 2018, by Ordinance 125606, the Seattle City Council authorized
5 material scope changes to STBD Proposition 1, including provisions to provide transit
6 passes to Seattle Public School students and authorizing funding for capital
7 improvements that improve transit speed and reliability; and

8 WHEREAS, in Ordinance 126115, the City submitted a ballot measure (the Seattle Transit
9 Measure) to the qualified electors of the City of Seattle to authorize a sales and use tax
10 increase for the purposes of supporting transit service benefitting Seattle residents,
11 including frequent transit network maintenance and associated capital improvements;
12 low-income fare programs; and transportation needs related to COVID-19 recovery and
13 the West Seattle Bridge closure; and

14 WHEREAS, on November 3, 2020, City of Seattle Proposition 1 (the Seattle Transit Measure)
15 was approved by a majority of qualified electors, and its tax expires April 1, 2027; and

16 WHEREAS, on November 21, 2024, by Ordinance 127138, the Seattle City Council authorized
17 material scope changes to STBD Proposition 1, including provisions to support staffing
18 resources necessary for implementation of the Sound Transit 3 program and potential
19 third-party funding contributions to deliver the City of Seattle’s Preferred Alternative for
20 the West Seattle Link Extension and Ballard Link Extension projects; and

21 WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to expand the use of Seattle Transit Measure funding to
22 support other passenger transportation services; NOW, THEREFORE,

1 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:**

2 Section 1. Pursuant to the material change policy adopted by Seattle Transportation
3 Benefit District (STBD) Resolution 3, later subsumed by The City of Seattle, the scope of the
4 project authorized by the Seattle Transit Measure is expanded to allow its revenues to fund:

5 A. Passenger transportation services provided by transit agencies and private
6 transportation service operators.

1 Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code
2 Sections 1.04.020 and 1.04.070.

3 Passed by the City Council the 21st day of November, 2025,
4 and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this 21st day of
5 November, 2025.

6 

7 President _____ of the City Council

8 Approved / returned unsigned / vetoed this 24th day of November, 2025.

9 

10 Bruce A. Harrell, Mayor

11 Filed by me this 24th day of November, 2025.

12 

13 Scheereen Dedman, City Clerk

14 (Seal)