

# ALL ABOARD

## SEATTLE TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT YEAR 1 PERFORMANCE REPORT



Seattle City Council Briefing  
Rachel VerBoort & Andrew Glass Hastings  
January 30, 2017

# Our mission, vision, and core values

**Mission:** deliver a high-quality transportation system for Seattle

**Vision:** connected people, places, and products

Committed to **5 core values** to create a city that is:

- Safe
- Interconnected
- Affordable
- Vibrant
- Innovative

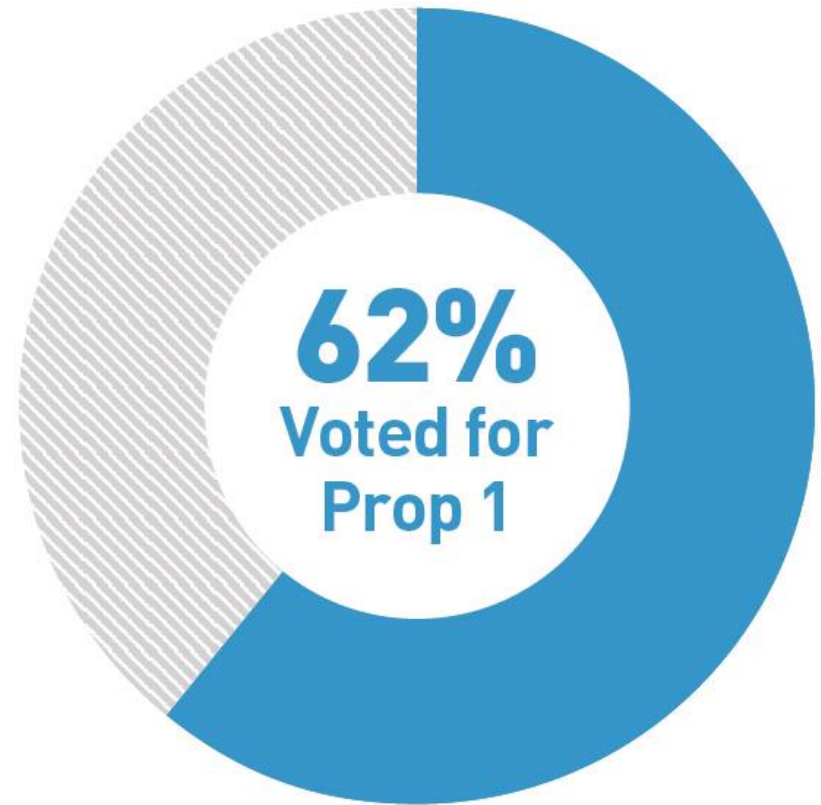
For **all**

# Presentation overview

- STBD Overview
- Transit Service Investments & Performance
  - Seattle Routes
  - RapidRide
  - Regional Partnerships
- Transportation Equity
  - Vehicle License Fee Rebate
  - ORCA LIFT
  - Youth ORCA
- Transit Advisory Board

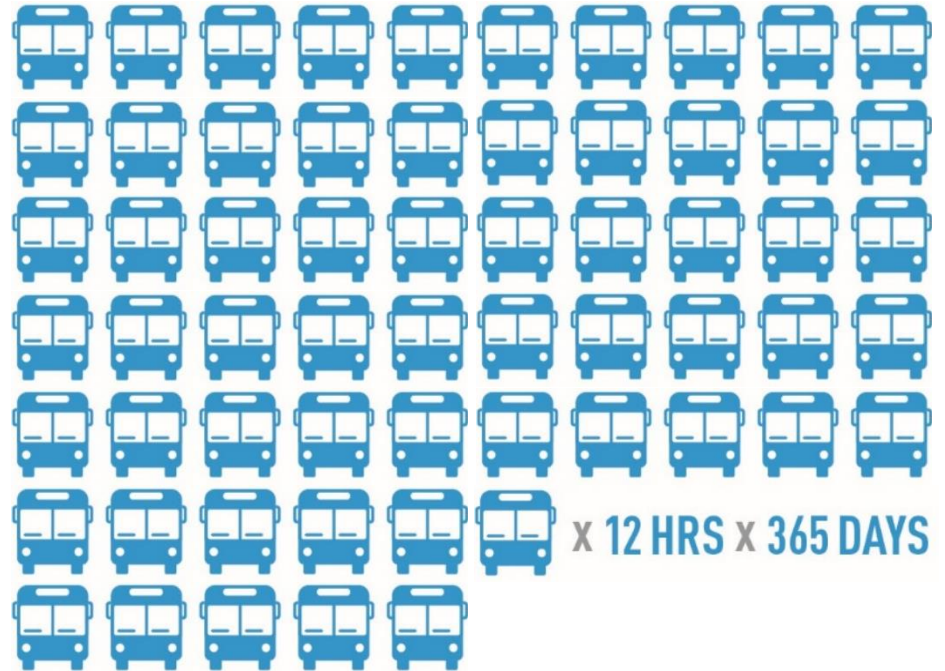
# Seattle Transportation Benefit District Proposition 1 – Approved

- November 2014 ballot measure
- Provides \$45 million annually for expansion of transit service and low-income transportation equity
- Funding through 2020

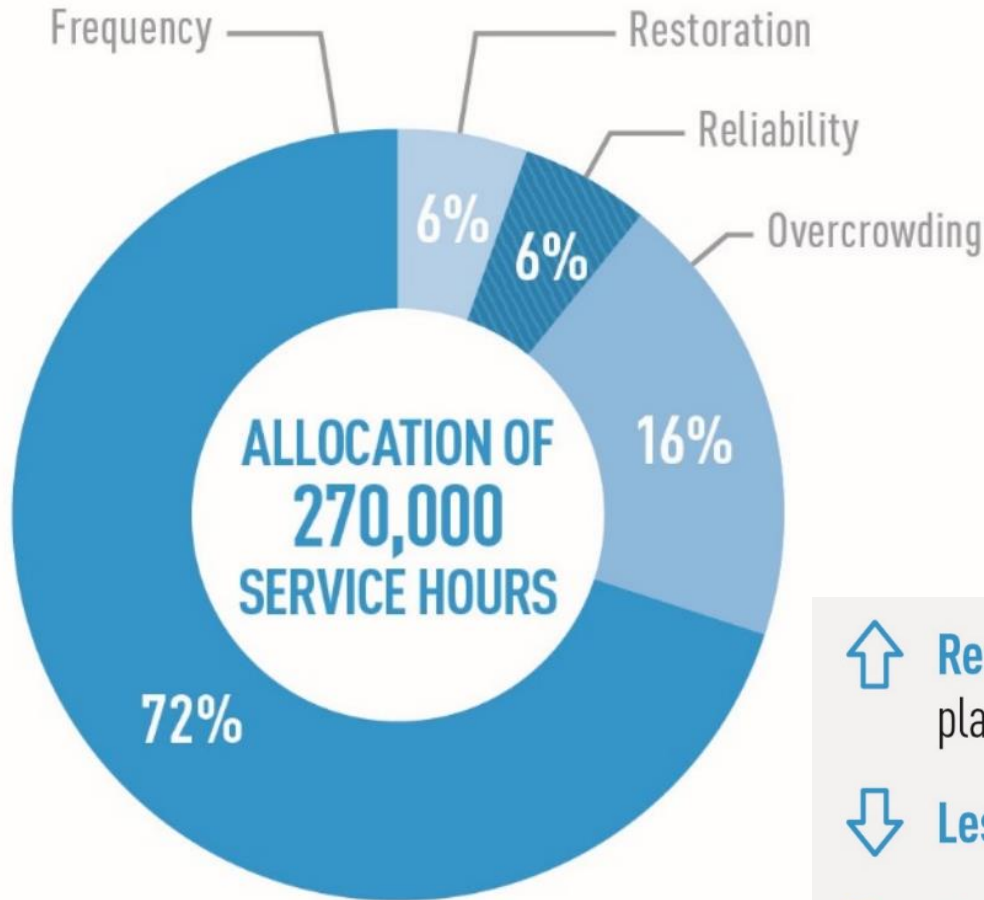


# STBD Investments Overview

- 270,000 annual service hours added
  - Equivalent to 61 buses running 12 hours per day, 365 days a year
- Service added on 85% of Seattle routes
  - 56 of 66 routes



# Investments in Seattle Routes



**Restored Routes:** 5 of 9 routes saved from planned elimination



**Less Overcrowding:** 37 routes have more bus trips



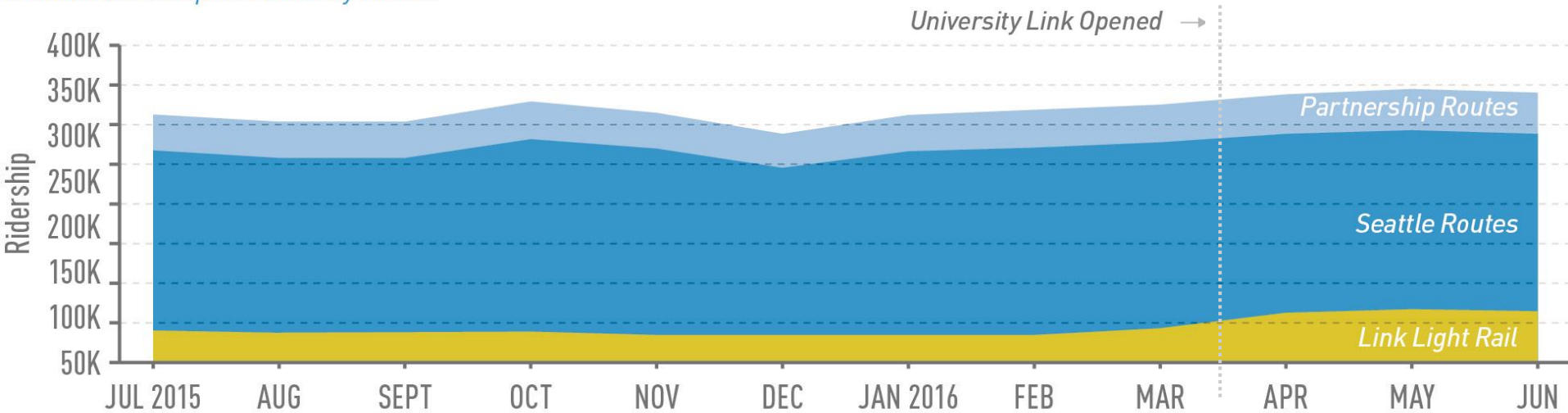
**More Reliable:** 54 routes are now more reliable



**More Frequent:** 38 routes run more frequently

# Transit Ridership in Seattle

Transit Ridership Increase by Month

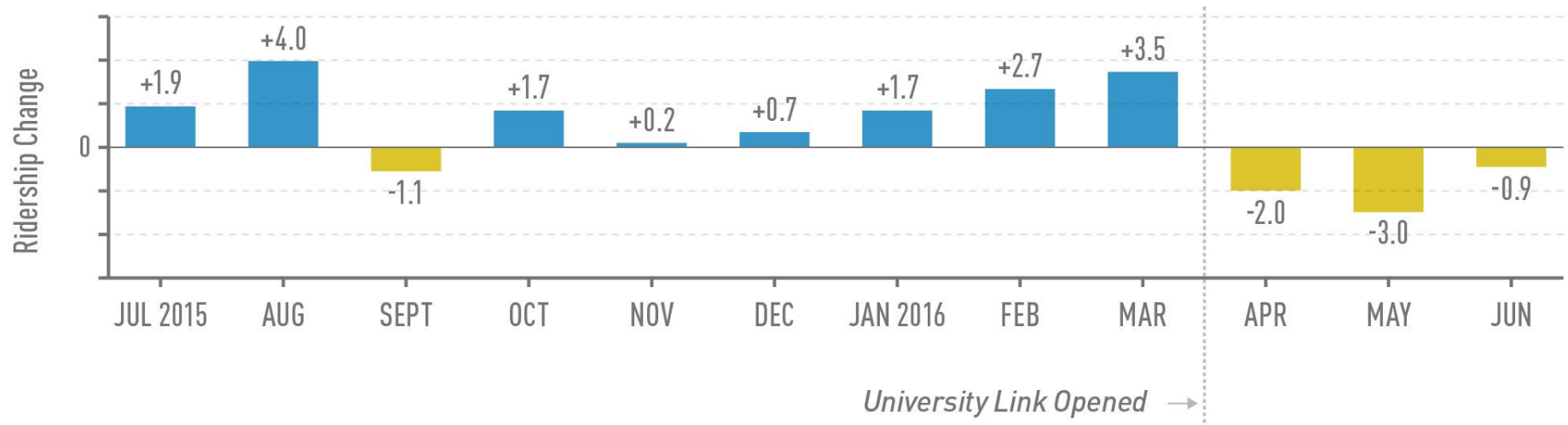


- In June 2016, ridership up 9% over June 2015 on Seattle and Regional Partnership routes and Link Light Rail
  - Carried over 288,000 weekday riders

# Seattle Route Performance

## Ridership

Seattle Routes Year-Over-Year Change

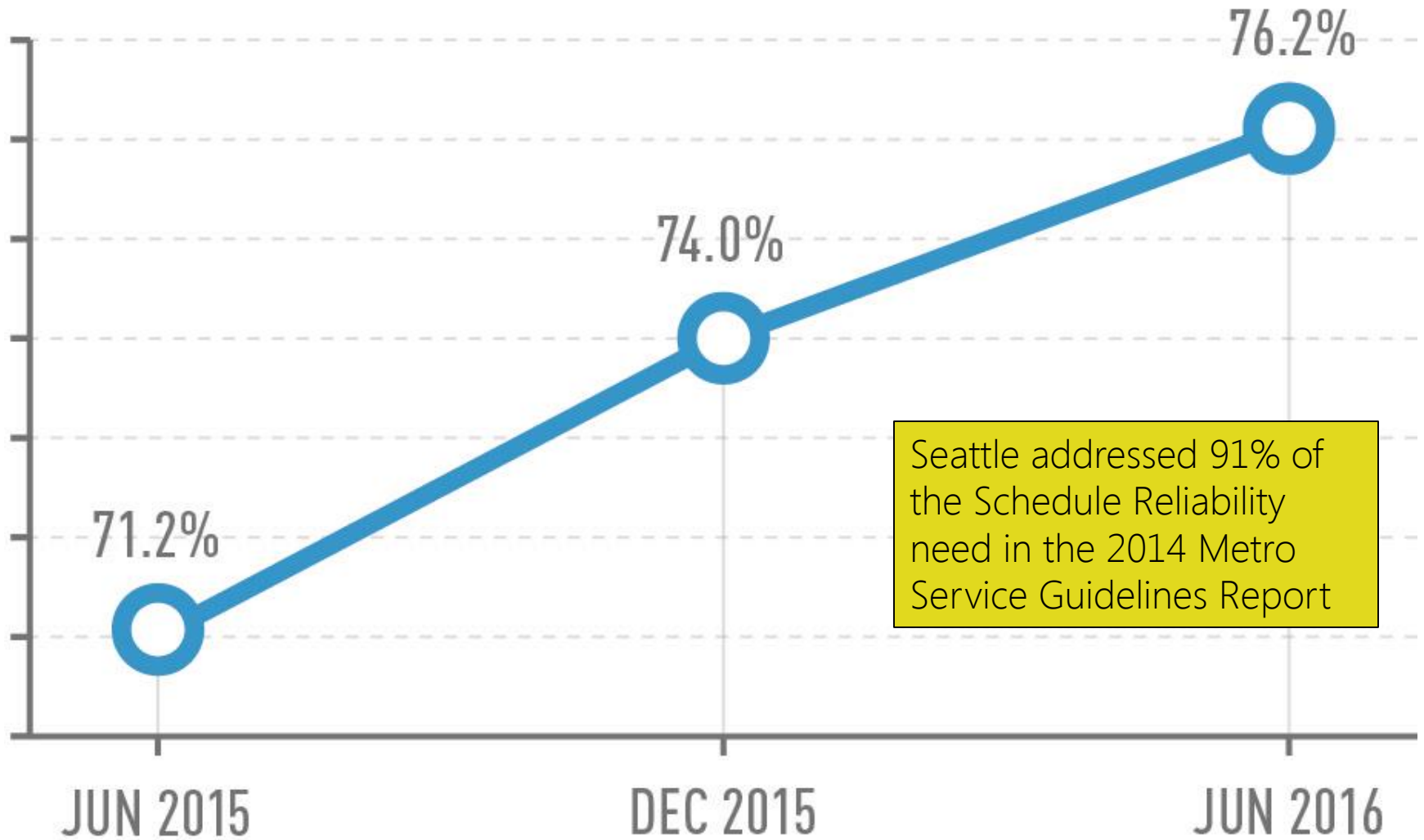


- Ridership down 1% from June 2015-2016
  - Link ridership patterns settling

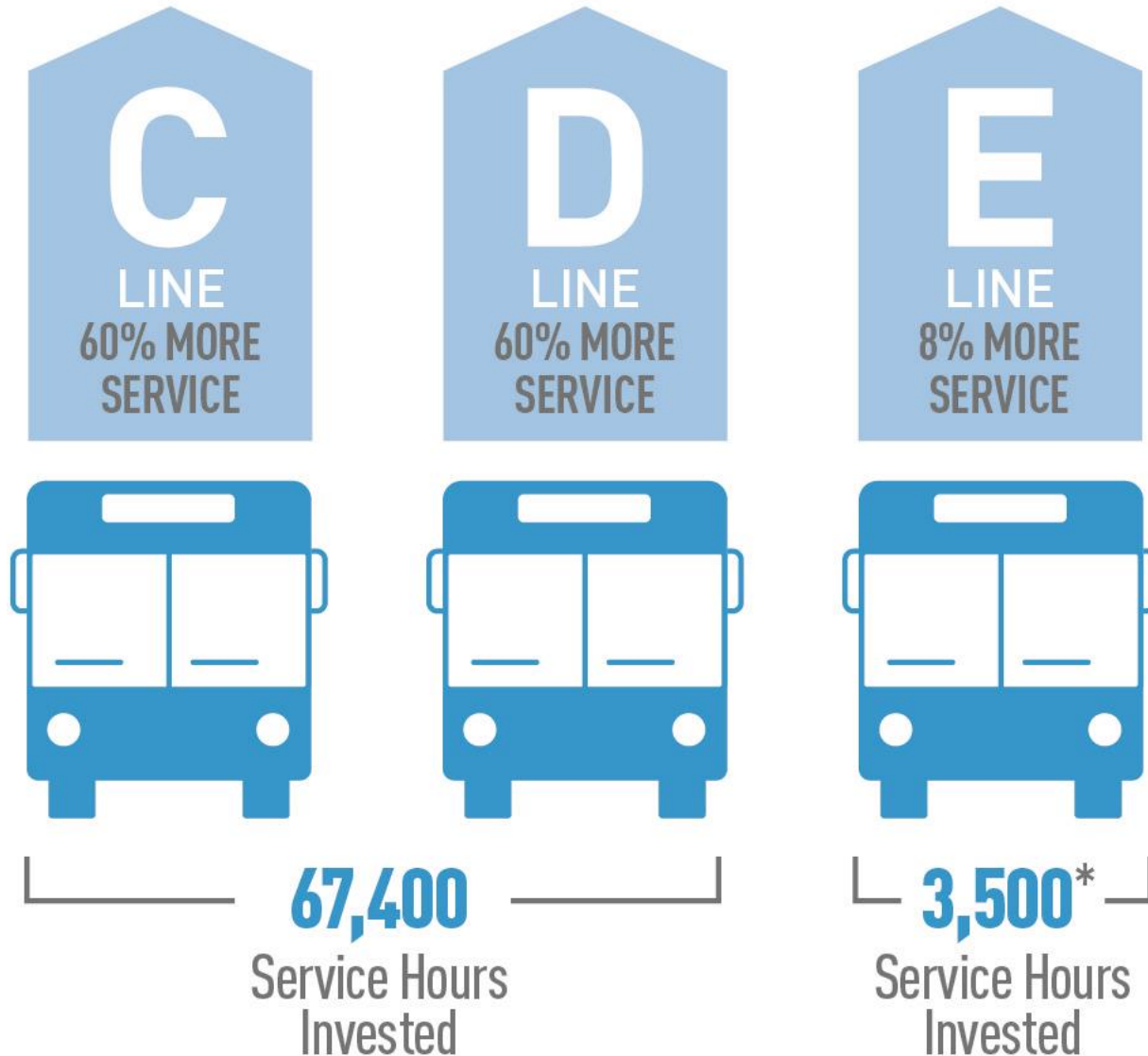


# Seattle Route Performance

## On-Time Performance

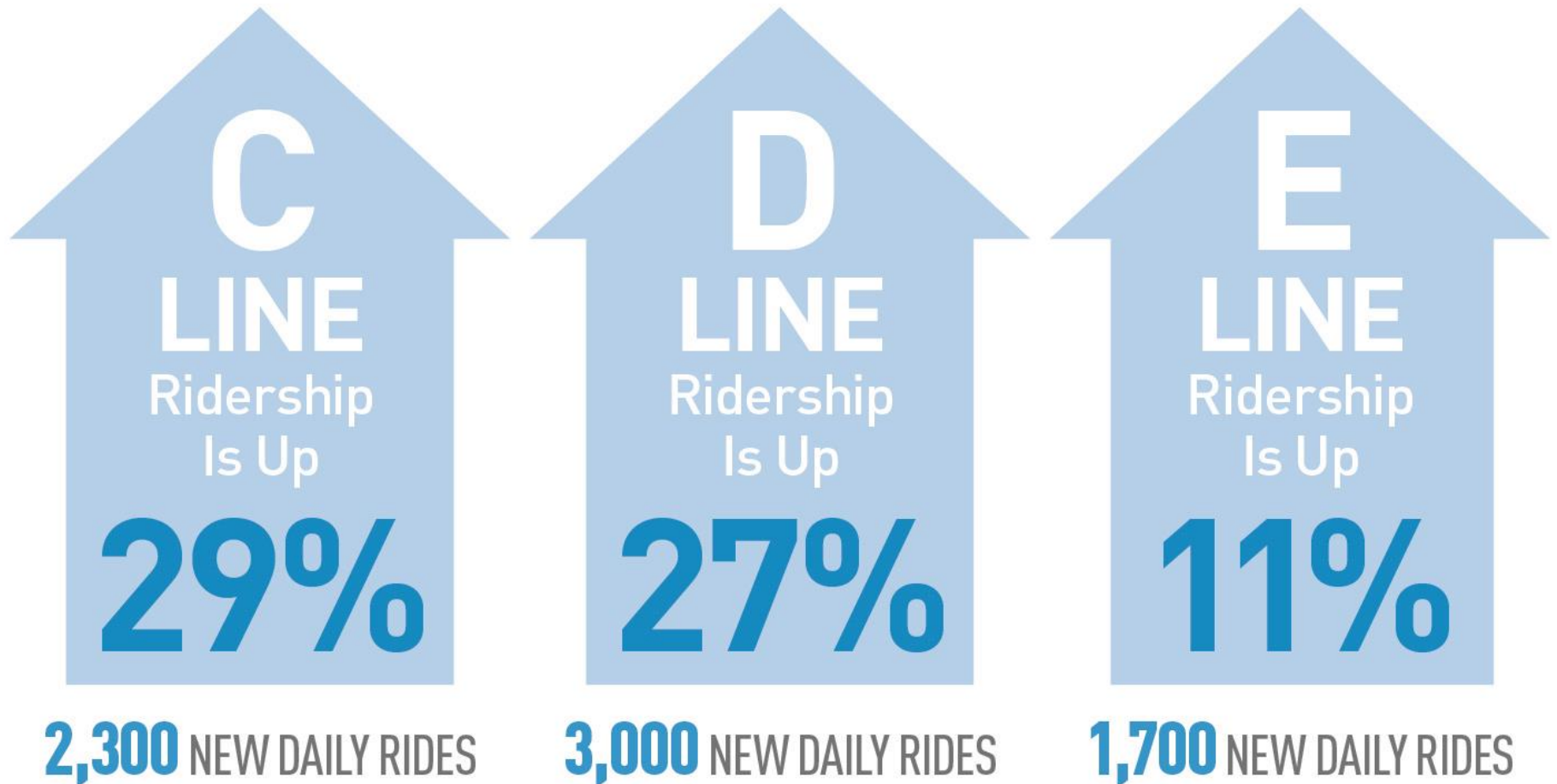


# Investments in RapidRide



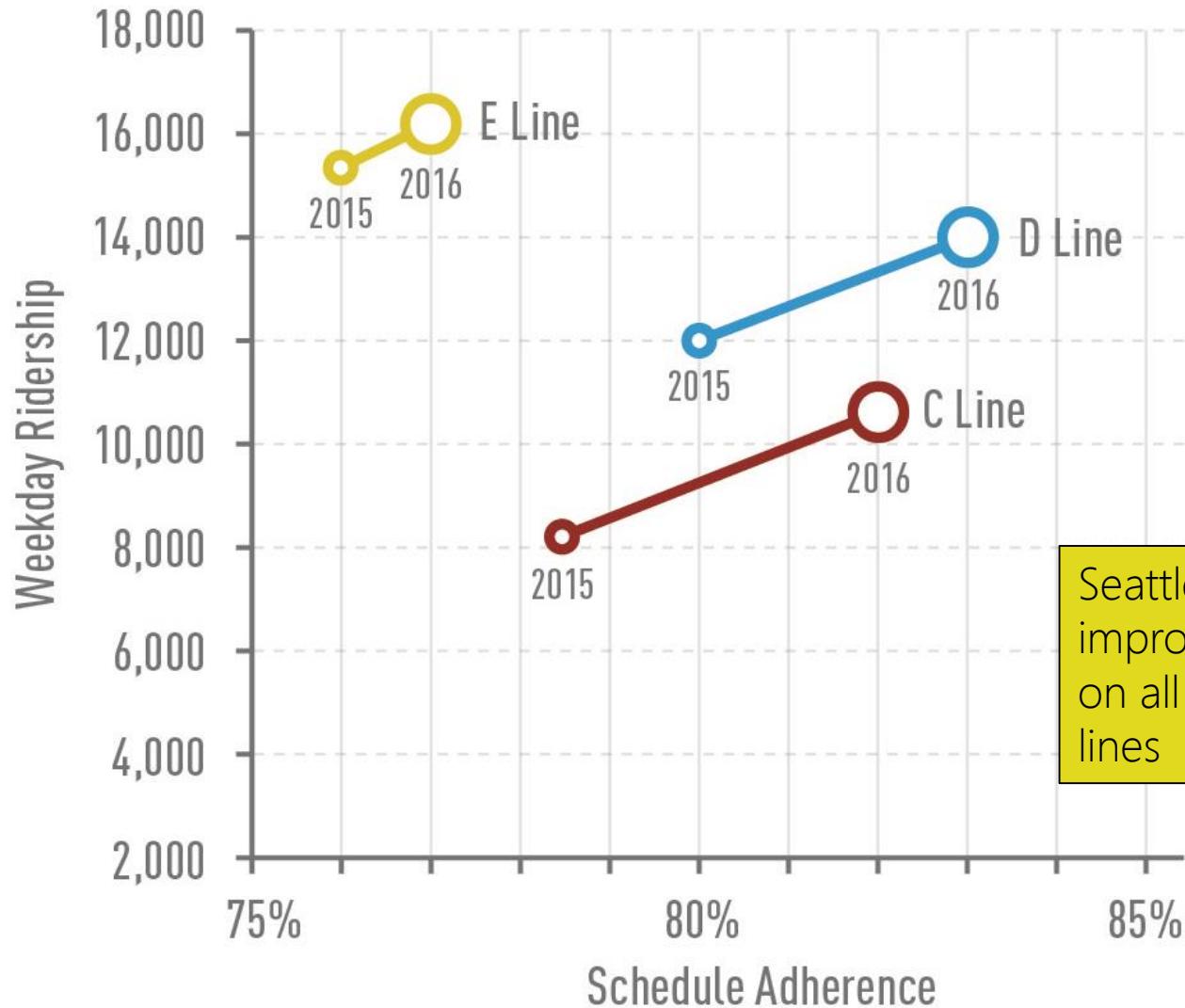
# RapidRide Performance

## Ridership



# RapidRide Performance

## Schedule Adherence



Seattle investments improved performance on all Seattle RapidRide lines

# Investments in Regional Partnership Routes

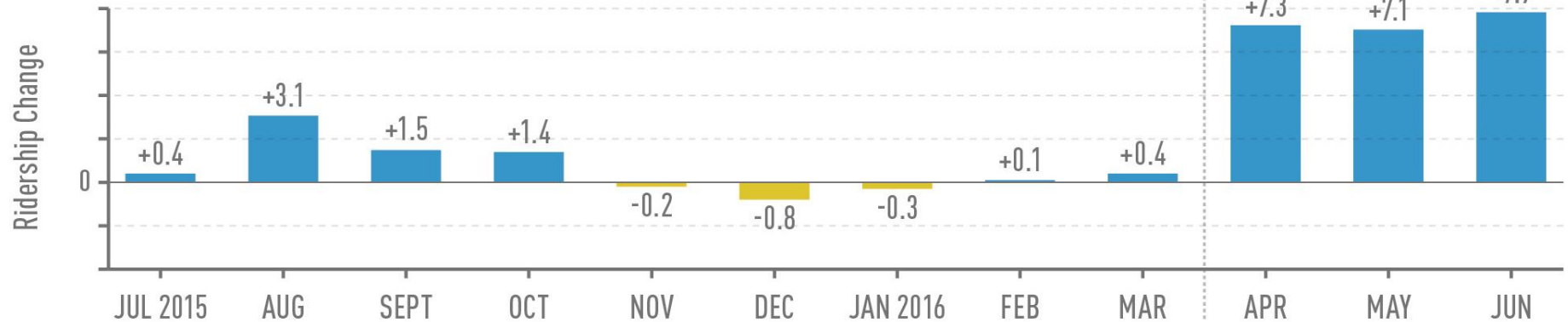
- City of Mercer Island
  - Route 630 – Alternative Services
  - Mitigates loss of routes into downtown Seattle in Fall 2014
- King County Metro Transit
  - 11 routes in September 2015 and March 2016
    - Crowding, Reliability, and Frequency
    - Burien to downtown Seattle
    - Aurora Village to downtown Seattle
    - Renton to downtown Seattle

# Regional Partnership Performance

## Ridership

Partnership Routes Year-Over-Year Change

University Link Opened →



- In March 2016, Seattle added 22 trips on nine routes, resulting in a 7% increase in ridership
- Over 70% of Seattle's investments in Regional Partnership routes were implemented in March 2016

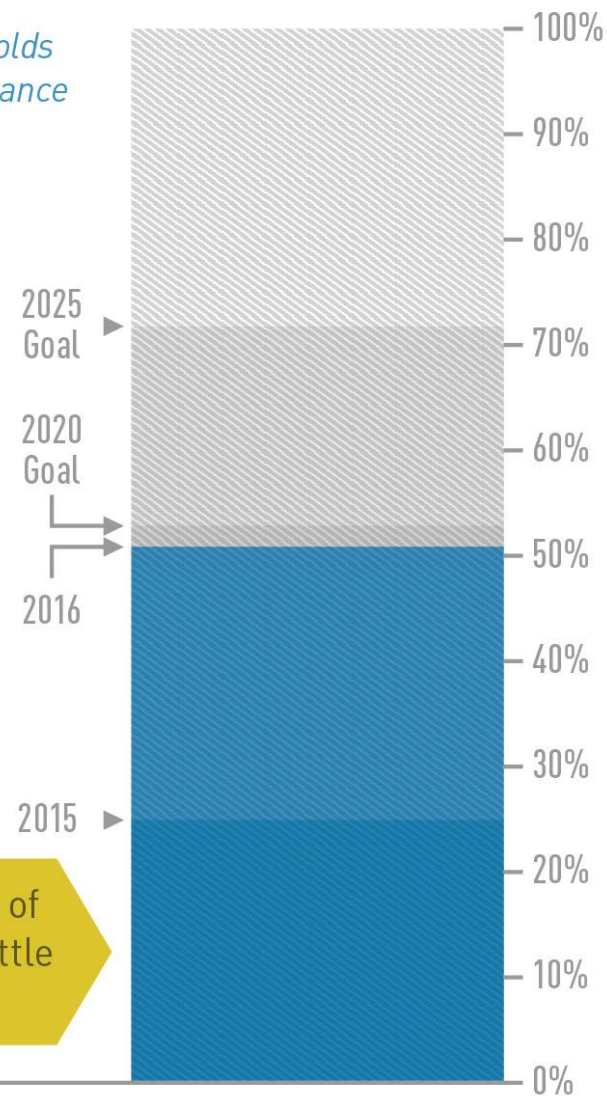
# Future Program Goals

## Progress Toward the Move Seattle Transit Promise

*Percent of households  
within walking distance  
to 10-minute or  
better service*



Currently more than 2/3 of the way to our Move Seattle 2025 goal of 72%.



# Service Credits (Supplantation)

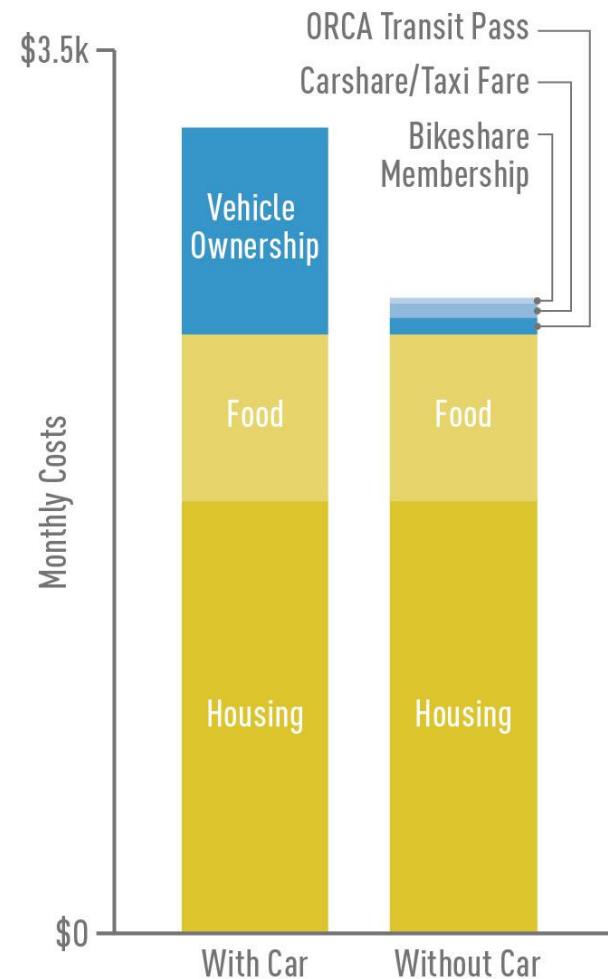
- As Metro invests, Seattle receives a service credit based on Service Guidelines Report
- Metro is adding 300,000 annual hours in 2017-18
  - Metro will 'take over' some of Seattle's existing investments
  - Seattle will receive service credits each service change to reinvest in Seattle routes
- September 2017 Investments
  - Night Owl improvements



# Transportation Equity Programs

*Income Spent on Housing and Transportation*

- Average Seattle household spends 17% of its budget on transportation
- STBD Programs help lower the cost of transit
  - Vehicle License Fee Rebate
  - ORCA LIFT
  - Youth ORCA



# Vehicle License Fee Rebate

## Performance & Future Goals

- \$20 Rebate to income-eligible vehicle owners
- Partnership with HSD and Washington State Department of Licensing (DOL)
- **2017 Goal: Issue 5,000 rebates**
- Researching for ways to reduce time and administrative cost
  - DOL saved Seattle \$60,000 in postage by mailing renewal notices



**4,909** VLF REBATES  
ISSUED

VLF rebates are available for income qualified applicants.

# ORCA LIFT

- In 2015, Metro launched the ORCA LIFT reduced fare program
  - Provides reduced fares on Seattle, King County, Sound Transit, and Kitsap County modes
- Eligibility: at or below 200% of federal poverty level
- Card active for 2 years



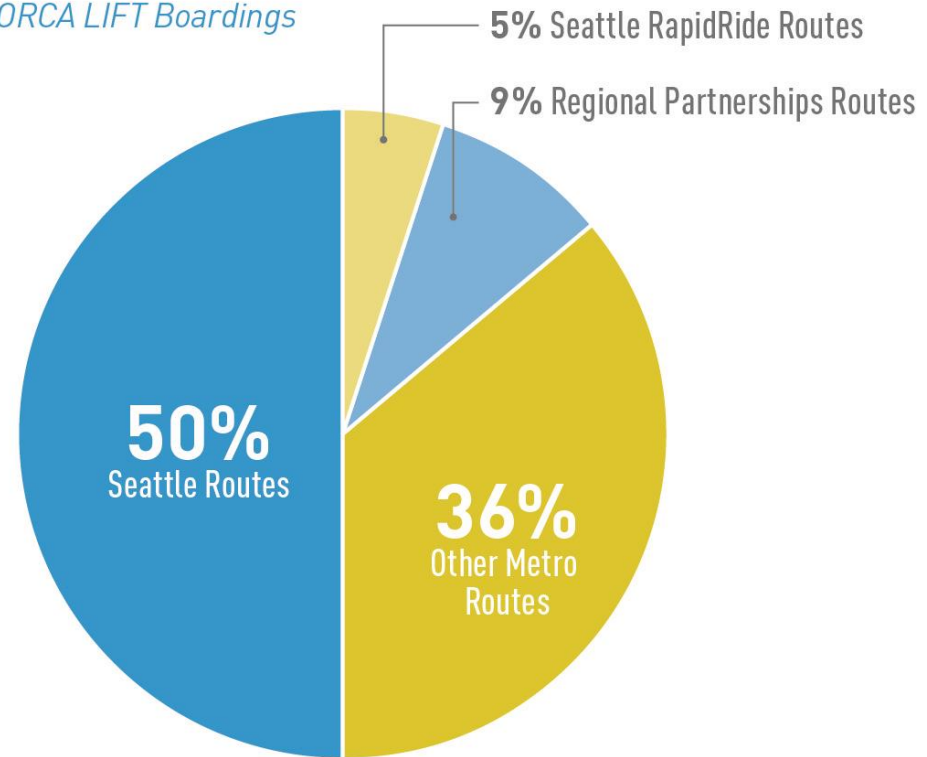
**18,596** ORCA LIFT  
CARDS

64% of 31,180 countywide ORCA LIFT cards were issued to Seattle residents for more than 400,000 trips. Launched the Youth ORCA Program.

# ORCA LIFT

- 18,596 Seattle residents enrolled in ORCA LIFT
  - 59.6% of countywide enrollment
  - Through June 2016
- New partnership with Department of Neighborhoods
  - Utilize Public Outreach and Engagement Liaisons (POELs)
  - Clinics to facilitate sign-ups
- Further development of Transportation Equity Program

*King County Metro  
ORCA LIFT Boardings*



# Youth ORCA

## Performance & Future Goals



- In 2015, initiated by Rainier Beach HS students concerned with transit access
  - Launched in cooperation with Seattle Public Schools (SPS) in Feb 2016
- Provides a free ORCA card with a preloaded transit pass
- **2016–2017 Goal: Provide 3,000 high school students with Youth ORCA cards throughout the school year.**
  - About 2,100 Youth ORCA Cards distributed September 2016 – January 2017
  - Program participants have saved \$230,000 on 152,000 trips

# Transit Advisory Board

- Established a public oversight board to increase accountability
- In early 2015, STBD created the Transit Advisory Board (TAB)
- TAB provided feedback on:
  - September 2016 crowding investments
  - Year 1 Performance Report
  - Night Owl Investments

# Questions?

Rachel.VerBoort@seattle.gov | (206) 684-5019  
[www.seattle.gov/transit.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/transit.htm)

[www.seattle.gov/transportation](http://www.seattle.gov/transportation)

