



**SHORELINE  
CITY COUNCIL**

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August 28, 2020

Community Transit  
Emmett Heath, Chief Executive Officer  
7100 Hardeson Road  
Everett, WA 98203-5834

Dear Mr. Heath:

The City of Shoreline is pleased to provide support for Community Transit's application for the *Swift* Blue Line expansion project in the 2021 Regional Mobility Grant program. The *Swift* Blue Line will continue south from its current extents at N 200th St in Shoreline to the upcoming Shoreline North/185th Link light rail station that will be constructed as a part of Sound Transit's Lynnwood Link Extension north from Northgate Station that is scheduled to open concurrently in 2024.

Light rail service to Shoreline will substantively change travel patterns for our community. With trains departing the new Link light rail station every 4-6 minutes during peak hours to regional centers across the Puget Sound, connecting people to and from the Link service will play a critical role in the evolution of our transportation network.

The *Swift* Blue Line delivers an all-day frequent bus service that provides efficient and fast north-south mobility along the Aurora Ave / SR-99/ Evergreen Way corridor connecting passengers from Shoreline all the way to Everett. As a part of its expansion and the growth of the larger 2024 *Swift* network, it will not only connect Shoreline residents and businesses to Link light rail, but also local and regional centers in Snohomish County, including Lynnwood, Canyon Park, and Paine Field.

Of interest to Shoreline, the *Swift* Blue Line expansion will provide a needed frequent and convenient east-west connection between the Aurora Village Transit Center and Shoreline North/185th Link light rail station, creating an easy alternative to driving to and from Link light rail for many in the area and further north along the *Swift* Blue Line corridor. This service is a part of our vision for the recently adopted 185th Street Multimodal Corridor Strategy (185th MCS), which we plan to expand with Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes in the future as development spurs higher density land uses, further increasing future demand for alternatives to driving in the area. We appreciate Community Transit's recent participation as a stakeholder in the shaping of

the 185th MCS vision that is future-focused and considers the needs of multiple transportation modes including motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit operators and riders.

Community Transit began operation of the *Swift* Blue Line in 2009 and the *Swift* Green Line in 2019. Together the two lines carried over 230,000 riders in October 2019, making the *Swift* Blue Line and Green Line the two highest ridership routes in Community Transit's system. The *Swift* Blue Line on its own carried about 75% of these riders and demand for the service is expected to grow by over 50% with an extension to Link light rail. The *Swift* Blue Line expansion is a vital part of the extension of Link light rail to Shoreline and beyond. The City of Shoreline has been closely coordinating with Community Transit on the outreach and route planning for the *Swift* Blue Line expansion in order to optimize the benefit to our community. We ask that this important project be prioritized for funding in the 2021 Regional Mobility Grant project selection.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Will Hall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Will Hall  
Mayor

CC: Debbie Tarry, City Manger  
City Council  
Nytasha Walters, Transportation Services Manager