Mayor
Tom French

17425 Ballinger Way NE
Lake Forest Park, WA 98155-5556
Phone: 206-368-5440
Fax: 206-364-6521
Email: cityhall@cityofLFP.gov
www.cityofLFP.gov



Councilmembers
Tracy Furutani
Larry Goldman
Paula Goode
Matt Muilenburg
Semra Riddle
Josh Rosenau
Ellyn Saunders

November 9, 2026

King County Council
516 Third Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: King County Metro Route 372

Dear County Councilmembers and County Executive Girmay Zahilay:

We, the undersigned, are elected bodies, individual elected officials, and community activists writing to support proposed Ordinance 2026-0218, which would restore service for Metro Route 372 and thus provide a critical transit option for the residents of our communities. We already wrote a letter to this body earlier this summer, and will aim to summarize the relevant points here.

We are avid transit supporters and want to see Metro design a system that complements Sound Transit and serves the community. Our concern is that, taken together, Metro's and Sound Transit's changes have left riders with worse service. There is no longer any all-day direct bus service between Lake City and Lake Forest Park/Kenmore/Bothell (Northshore communities).

We have heard from constituents that the new routing has made it harder to reach the UW Seattle campus, especially the central campus near Stevens Way. What was a direct bus became a bus to a Link station, followed by a Link trip to University District Station, followed by a substantial walk or another bus to central campus. To put it bluntly, asking people to switch from a one-seat trip to a three-seat trip has led to more people driving and higher greenhouse gas emissions, which none of us want. There are similar challenges for residents trying to access grocery stores and pharmacies, of which there have been numerous recent closures along the corridor. We are glad that Metro is studying the ridership along the SR522 corridor. Anecdotally, we have observed that a significant portion of route 72 riders get off at the Lake City Way / 145th Street stop rather than continuing to ride to Shoreline South Station. If this is supported by the data, it would indicate that the new route 72 is not fully meeting ridership needs.

We request that route 372 be restored, as the amendment states, between UW, Lake City, and the Northshore communities. We are mindful that Metro has limited resources, and we would be supportive of ways to ensure that routes 72 and 372 are not overly duplicative with each other. For example, by maintaining the very frequent service on the trunk between UW-Seattle and 145th Street (combined 72 + 372), while having less frequent branches along 145th Street (72) and SR522 (372). This would maintain Metro's level of service while also restoring connectivity and vibrancy for these cities and neighborhoods.

Thank you for your consideration of this proposal and for your continued work to connect our communities.

Sincerely,

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Lake Forest Park

Mayor Thomas French

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Kenmore

Mayor Nigel Herbig