# *Metro Proposed Transit Service Reductions*
# *Bellevue City Council Briefing*
# *January 13, 2014*

# Tonight's Joint Briefing

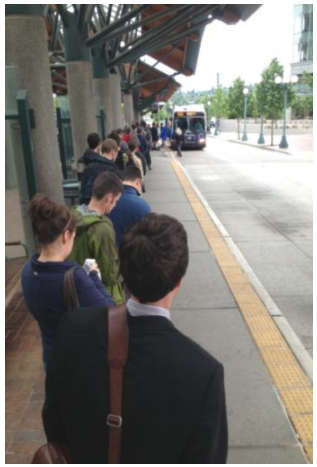
1. **King County staff briefing on proposed 17% reduction in transit services to close a $75 million budget gap and potential ballot measure to avert cuts.**

2. **Bellevue staff briefing on implications of reduction proposal.**

3. **City Council direction on letter to King County on its service reduction proposal.**

# Implications of Reduction Proposal in Bellevue

**King County's service reduction proposal affects 28 of the 33 Metro routes in Bellevue; together, these routes transport approximately 35,000 daily weekday rides.**

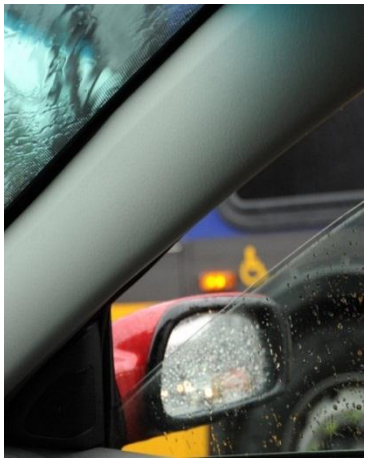


**Commuters**

**Students**

**People with Disabilities**

**Seniors**



**Roadway Users**

# Service Availability

"If I miss a bus in Seattle due to a class/meeting finishing late, I can expect another one in about 10 minutes. In Bellevue, I have to wait for 30 minutes (1 hour on weekends)."

*-Alexandra, Bellevue Resident*

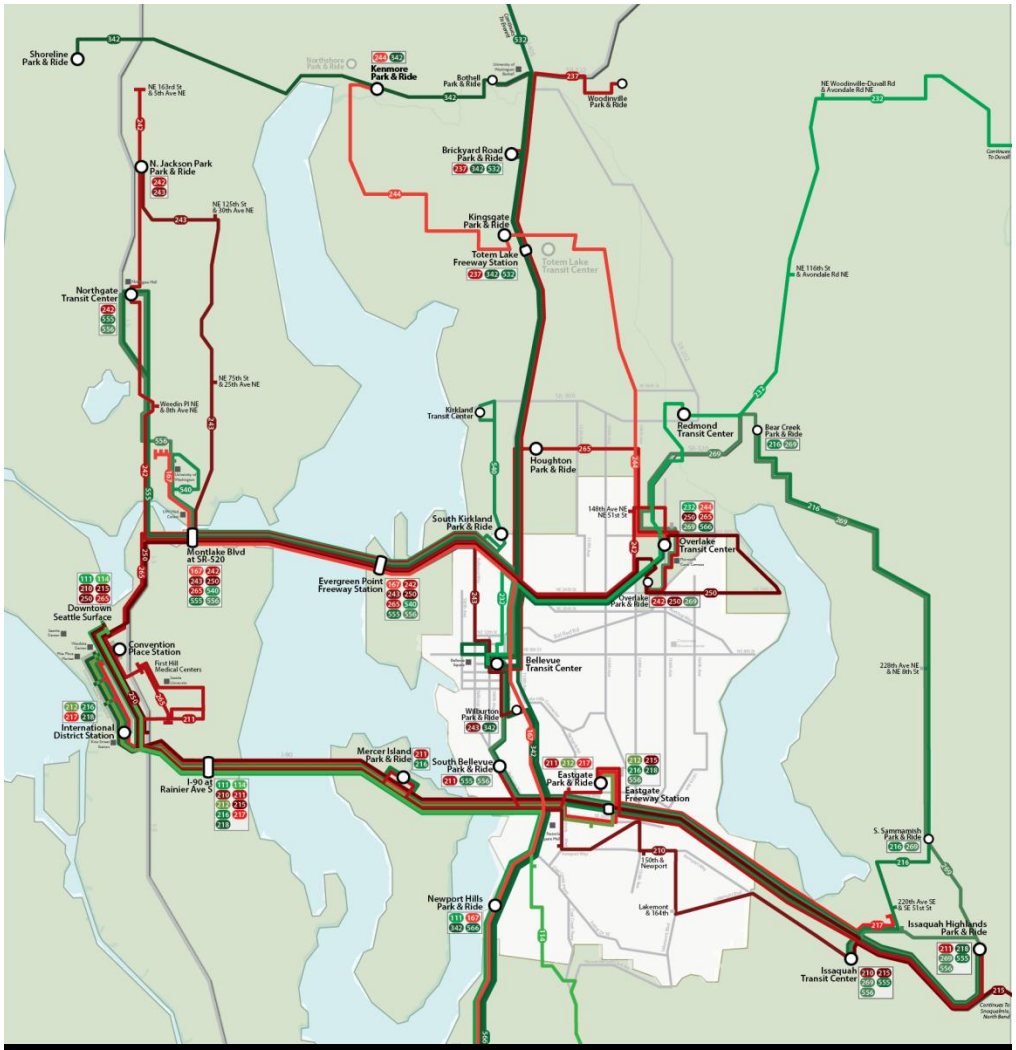
"Make bus routes more accessible during the late evening. Most Bellevue bus routes end at around 10pm or 11pm. This makes it difficult for people to go to social gatherings in the late evening. Also some people have graveyard shifts."

*-Juan, Bellevue Resident*

"I know 1/2 mile is supposed to be within the walkshed, but it gets really tiring doing it every morning."

*-Mandy, Kirkland Resident*

**SERVICE FREQUENCY** **SERVICE SPAN** **SERVICE COVERAGE**




## Implications:

- More Overcrowding
- More Transfers
- Longer Commutes
- More People Driving

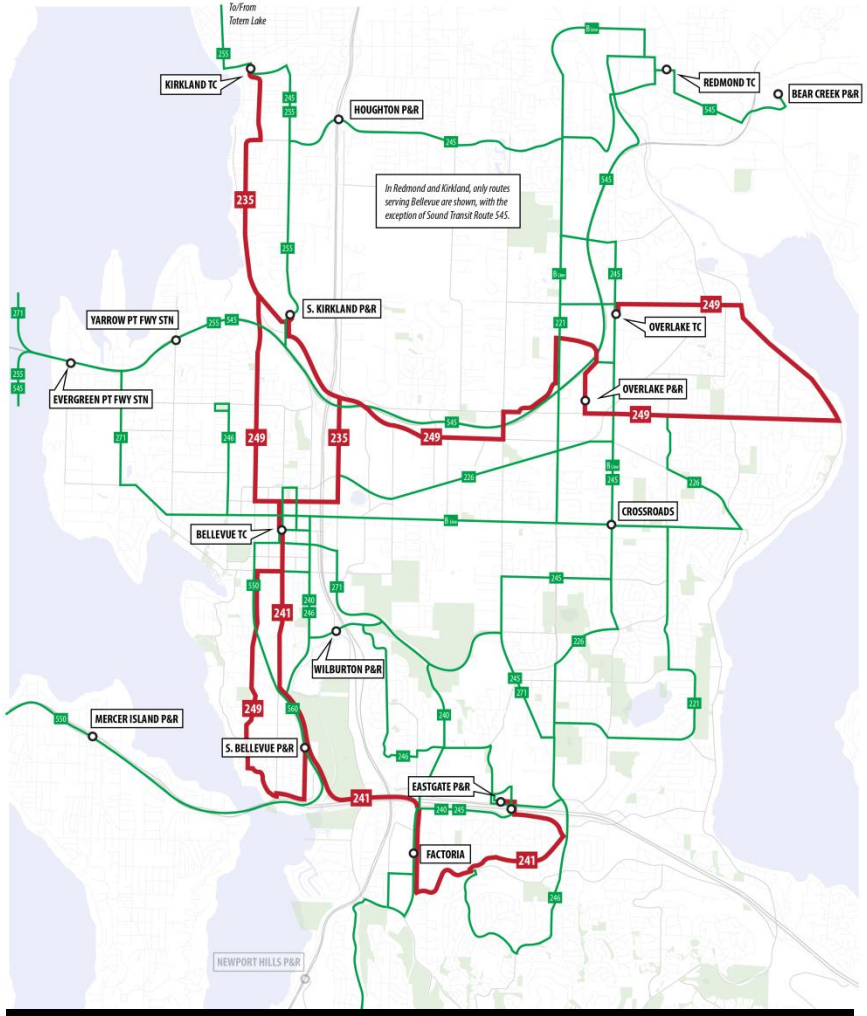
# 2014 METRO PROPOSAL

## Deleted Routes

| | |
|---|---|
| 167 | Renton to University District |
| 210 | Issaquah to Downtown Seattle |
| 211 | Eastgate to First Hill |
| 215 | North Bend to Downtown Seattle |
| 217 | Downtown Seattle to North Issaquah |
| 237 | Woodinville to Downtown Seattle |
| 242 | Ridgecrest to Overlake |
| 243 | Jackson Park to Bellevue |
| 244 | Kenmore to Overlake |
| 250 | Redmond to Downtown Seattle |
| 265 | Overlake to First Hill |

## Unaffected Routes

| | |
|---|---|
| 111 | Maplewood to Downtown Seattle |
| 114 | Renton Highlands to Downtown Seattle |
| 212 | Eastgate to Downtown Seattle |
| 216 | Bear Creek to Downtown Seattle |
| 218 | Issaquah Highlands to Downtown Seattle |
| 232 | Duvall to Bellevue |
| 269 | Overlake to Issaquah |
| 342 | Shoreline to Renton |
| 532 | Bellevue to Everett |
| 540 | Kirkland to U. District |
| 555 | Bellevue to Everett |
| 556 | Issaquah to Northgate |




**Implications:**

- Longer Waiting Times
- More Difficult Connections
- Reduced Reliability
- Loss of an FTN Connection (BTC–KTC)
- More routes 'too infrequent to be useful'

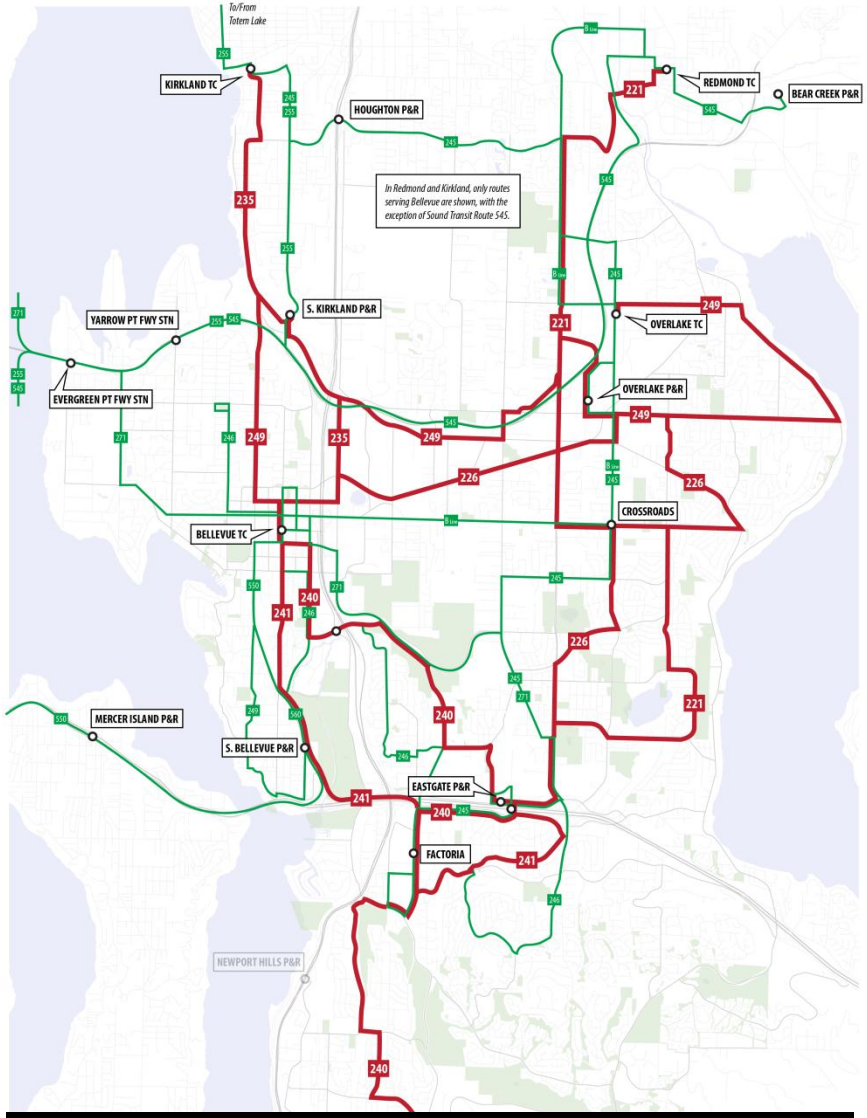
# 2014 METRO PROPOSAL

## Routes with Reduced Weekday Frequency

| | |
|---|---|
| 235 | Kirkland - Bellevue |
| 241 | Bellevue - Factoria - Eastgate |
| 249 | Overlake - S. Kirkland - Bellevue - S. Bellevue |

## Unaffected Routes

| | |
|---|---|
| B Line | Redmond - Overlake - Crossroads - Bellevue |
| 221 | Redmond - Crossroads - Eastgate |
| 226 | Eastgate - Bel-Red - Bellevue |
| 240 | Bellevue - Eastgate - Factoria - Renton |
| 245 | Kirkland - Crossroads - Eastgate - Factoria |
| 246 | Eastgate - Somerset - Factoria - NW Bellevue |
| 255 | Totem Lake - Kirkland - Seattle |
| 271 | Eastgate - Bellevue - U. District |
| 545 | Redmond - Seattle |
| 550 | Bellevue - Seattle |




**Implications:**

- Reduced Mobility at Night
- Reduced Access for Swing Shift Workers
- Reduced 24/7 Urban Vitality

# 2014 METRO PROPOSAL

## Routes with Reduced Span (Hours of Operation)

| | |
|---|---|
| 221 | Redmond - Crossroads - Eastgate |
| 226 | Eastgate - Bel-Red - Bellevue |
| 235 | Kirkland - Bellevue |
| 240 | Bellevue - Eastgate - Factoria - Renton |
| 241 | Bellevue - Factoria - Eastgate |
| 249 | Overlake - S. Kirkland - Bellevue - S. Bellevue |

## Unaffected Routes

| | |
|---|---|
| B | Redmond - Overlake - Crossroads - Bellevue |
| 245 | Kirkland - Crossroads - Eastgate - Factoria |
| 246 | Eastgate - Somerset - Factoria - NW Bellevue |
| 255 | Totem Lake - Kirkland - Seattle |
| 271 | Eastgate - Bellevue - U. District |
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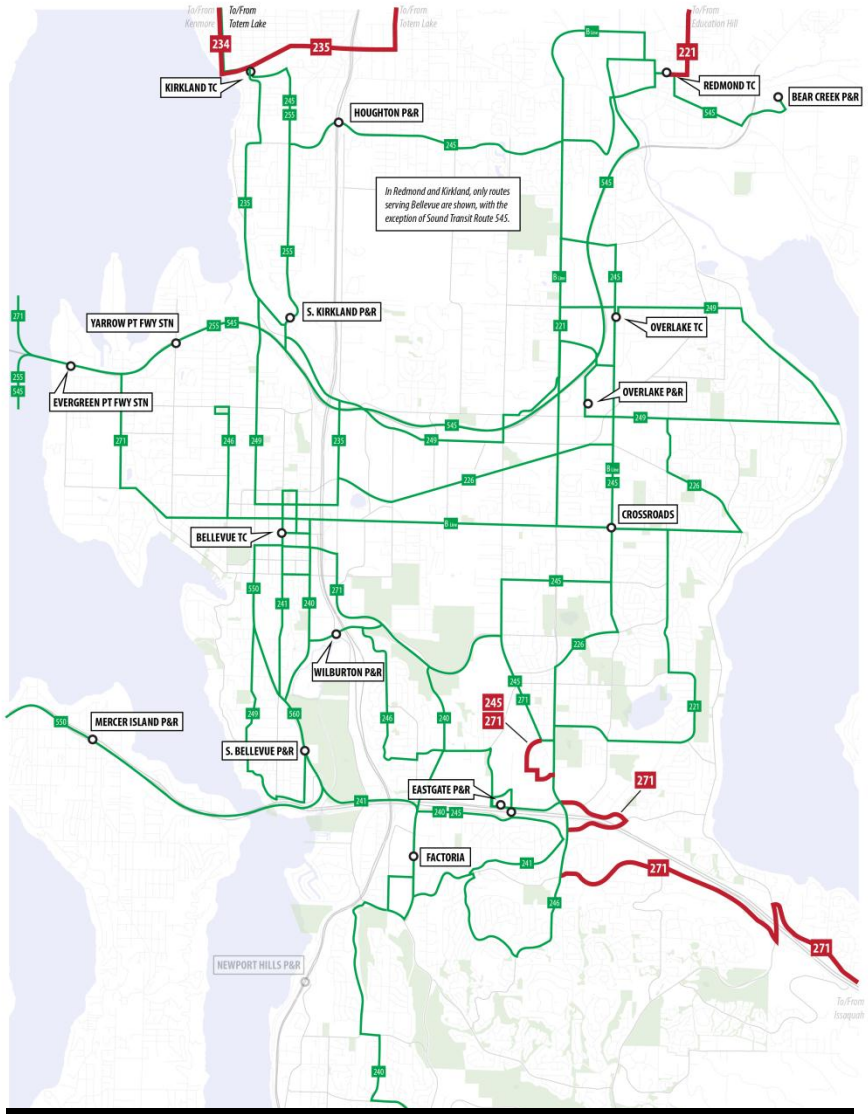


**Implications:**

- Reduced Access to Bellevue College
- Reduced Access to Eastgate/I-90 Offices
- More Transfers to Kirkland and Redmond

# 2014 METRO PROPOSAL

## Routes with Deleted Coverage

- 221 Redmond - Crossroads - Eastgate
- 235 Kirkland - Bellevue
- 245 Kirkland - Crossroads - Eastgate - Factoria
- 271 Eastgate - Bellevue - U. District

## Unaffected Routes

- B Redmond - Overlake - Crossroads - Bellevue
- 226 Eastgate - Bel-Red - Bellevue
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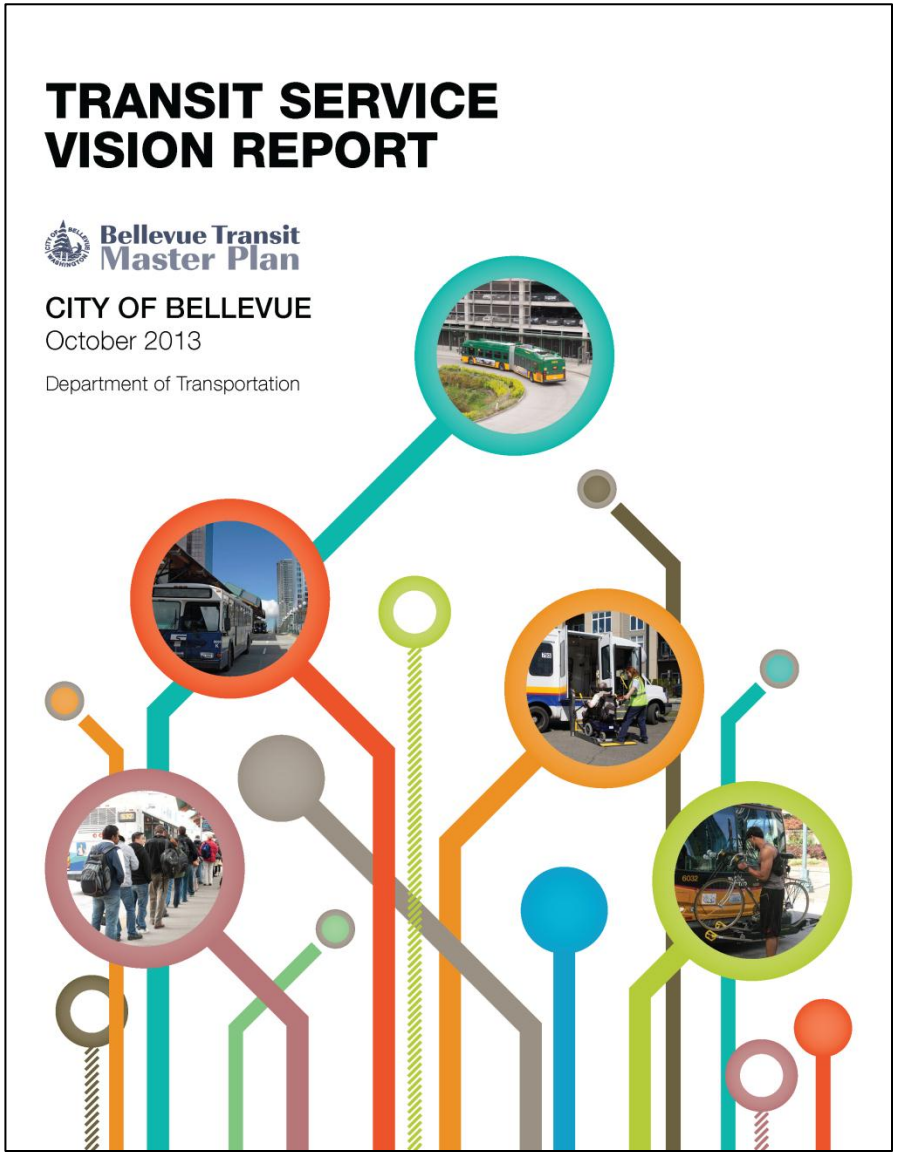
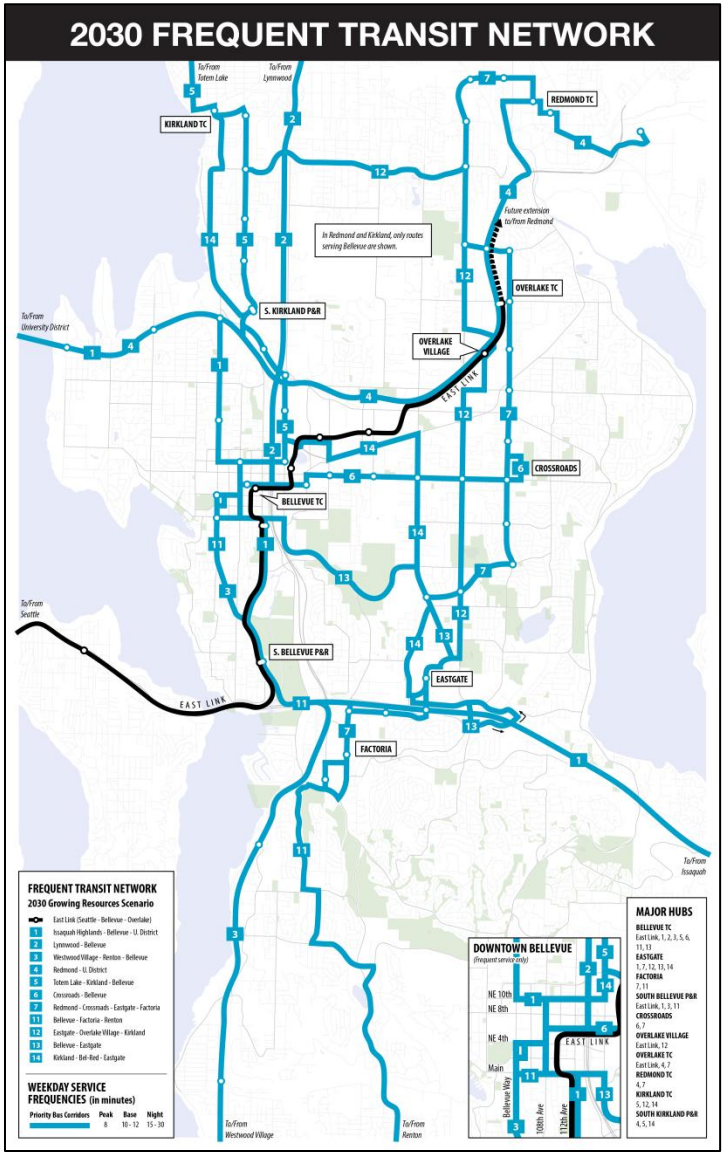
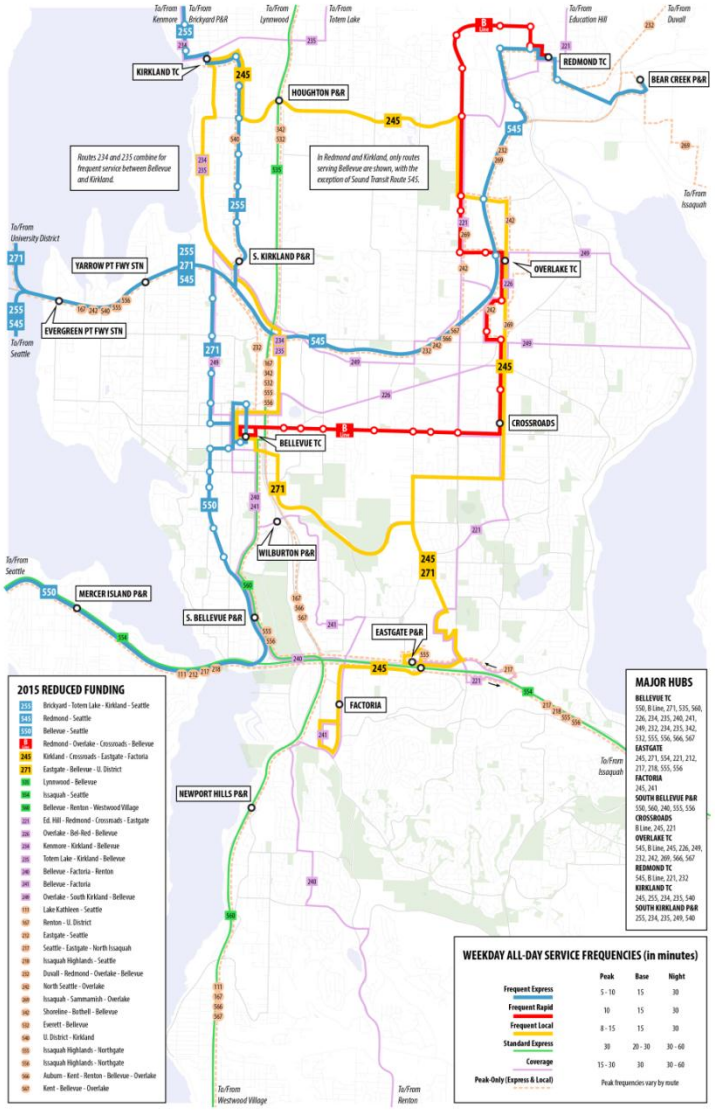
# Bellevue Transit Master Plan



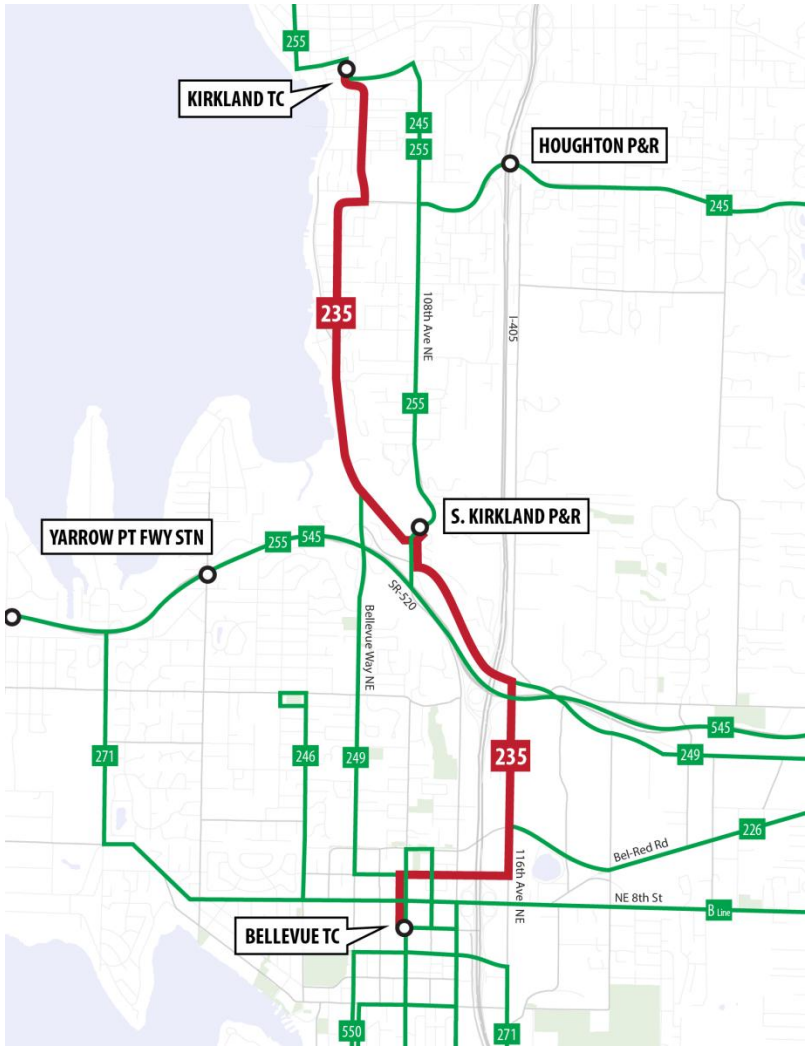
# 2015 Reduced Funding Scenario




## Transit Master Plan Principles:

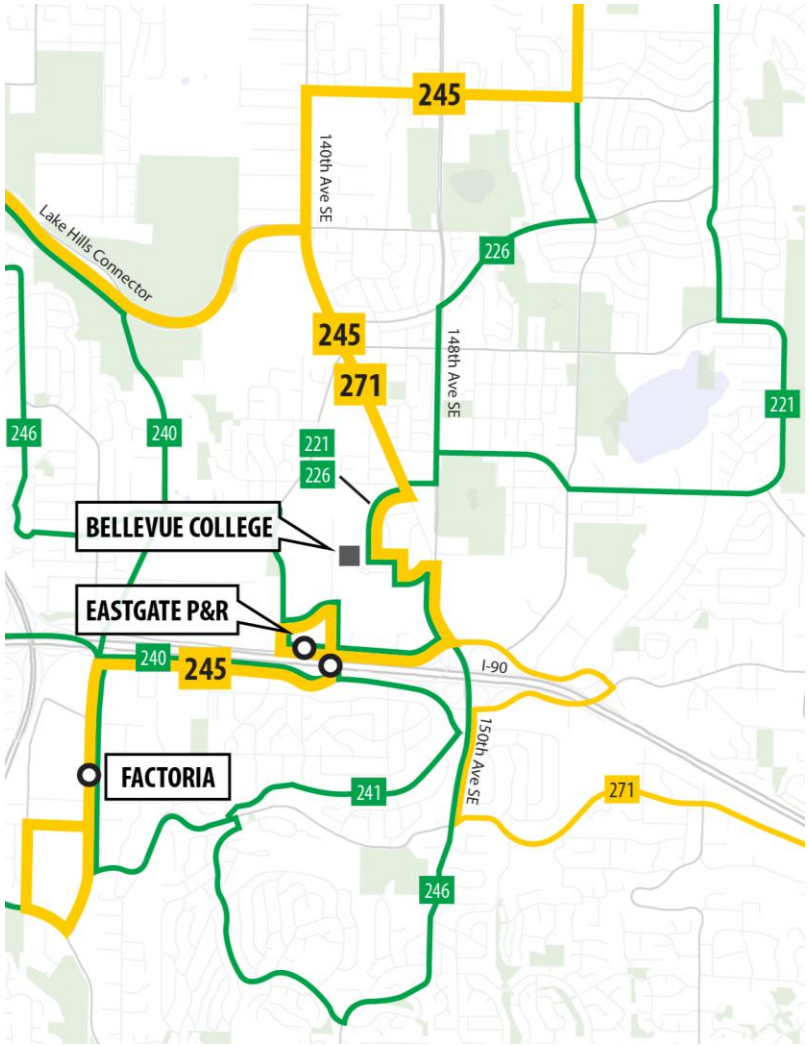
- Protect all-day service frequency in high demand Frequent Transit Network corridors linking major activity centers.
- Make two types of cuts to the existing system:
  - Delete commuter routes operating empty in counter-flow direction.
  - Delete poor performing routes.

# Service Frequency: Bellevue–Kirkland (Rt 235)




- **Metro's 2013 Service Guidelines Report identifies Corridor #53 (Route 234/235) as warranting "very frequent service."**
- **Metro's proposed restructuring of routes 234 & 235 degrades the Bellevue – Kirkland connection (FTN corridor) to 30 minute frequency during off-peak hours.**
- **This off-peak service reduction is most impactful to Bellevue's Medical Institution District on 116th Avenue NE.**
- **"It is critical that the frequency and span of service on Bellevue's most productive corridors be maintained." – *Children's Hospital***

# Service Coverage: Bellevue College




- **Metro's 2013 Service Guidelines Report identifies Corridor #14 (Route 271) and Corridor #54 (Route 245) as warranting "very frequent service."**
- **Metro's proposed restructuring of route 245 & 271 off campus on to 148th Ave SE would add a 1/2 mile walk from the 148th Ave bus stop to the campus.**
- **Nearly 1/3 of BC students ride transit as their primary mode of transportation. Routes 245 and 271 serve 55% of BC's student transit riders.**
- **The stop that would be cut supports 1,500+ rides per day.**

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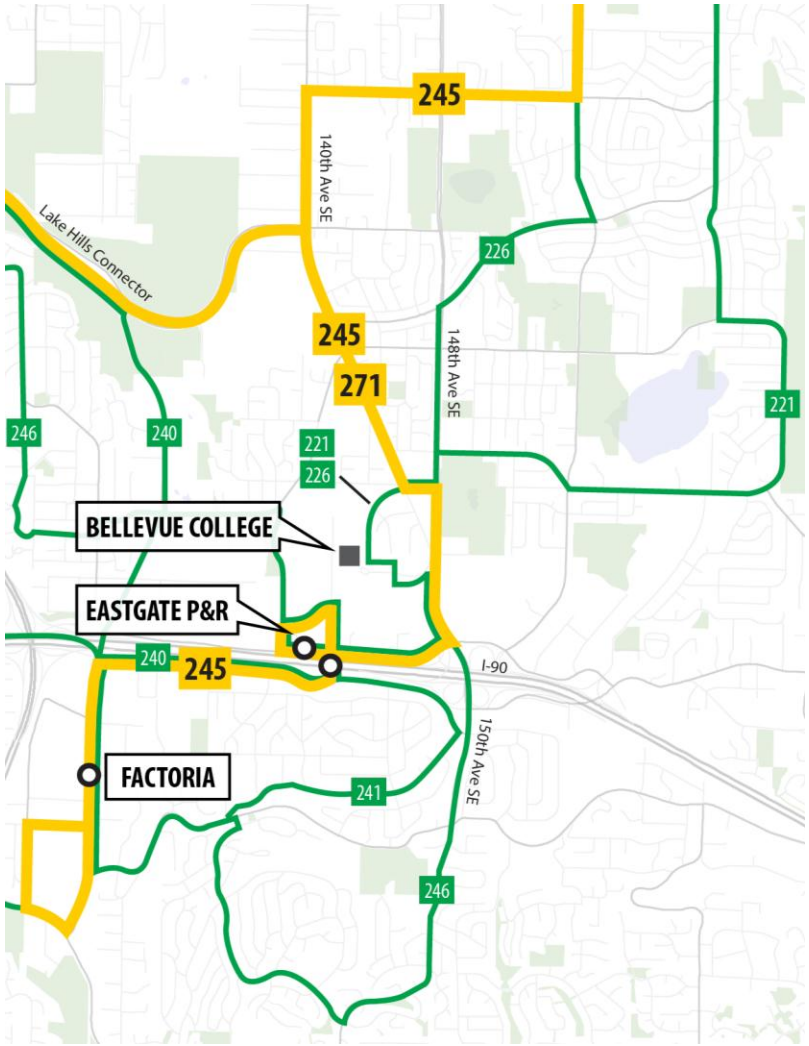


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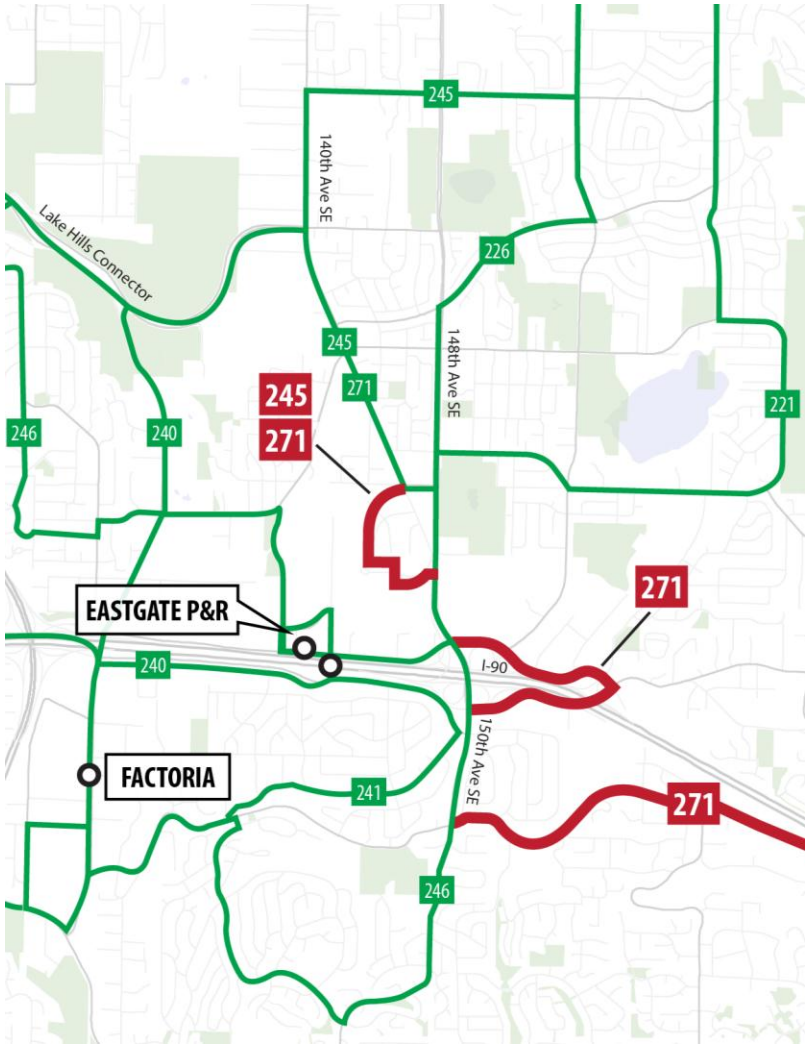


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# Community Input on Reduction Proposal

# Tonight's Discussion/Action

**Letter to King County on Service Reduction Proposal:**

Staff seeks Council direction to send a letter to King County reaffirming Bellevue's commitment to its Transit Master Plan's principles and Frequent Transit Network.

**Alternatives:**

1. Mayor signs letter to King County on behalf of City Council.
2. Director of Transportation signs letter to King County.
3. Do not send letter to King County at this time.
4. Provide alternative direction to staff.

# Next Steps

1. **Bellevue staff presentations to the City Council on January 27 and at an additional briefing in February on the County's proposed ballot measure.**

2. **The King County Council would have to approve a new tax proposal in mid-February for it to go before voters in April 2014.**