



King County  
**METRO**

*Moving forward together*

# RAIL



## July 01, 2021

### Mariners Baseball

Friday, 7/02 @ 1910p

Saturday, 7/03 1910p

Sunday, 7/04 @ 1310p

Tuesday, 7/06 @ 1910p

Wednesday, 7/07 @ 1910p

Thursday, 7/08 @ 1310p

### Making Life Easier

*For help with personal issues*

1-888-874-7290,

Available 24 hours / 7days

KCMakingLifeEasier.com

Username: King County

### Commendations

Rail Operations Superintendent  
Jeff Wachtel submitted:

A special thanks all Rail personnel for the efforts at keeping Rail moving throughout this past week's extreme temperatures. Specific mention goes to the LCC team, Track & Power, Rail Supervisors, Rail Operators, and Facilities personnel.

### **Equity and Social Justice:**

Justice will not be served until those that are unaffected are as outraged as those who are.

*Benjamin Franklin*

### **KCM and ST Partnership Principles**

#### **Defining Equity and Priority Populations**

One Team: We are accountable to one another and the community we jointly serve.

### Results of Employee Engagement Survey

Rail has received the results of this year's employee engagement survey. Although it's clear that we endured many setbacks, we adapted/adjusted and kept moving forward to meet the challenges that confronted us. We also see the toll these challenges have taken on our team. We know that a key theme from the survey is the need to refocus our efforts on well-being and belonging of our team. This will help every employee to thrive and feel welcome, engaged, and valued.

### Siemens S70 Series LRV Cab Seating

After consulting with the Siemens S70 Series LRV group, it was determined that additional operator seat space was needed to adequately accommodate taller operators. Siemens has moved the base of the operator seat three-inches rearwards which allows improved movement in/out of the seat and increased space between an operator's knees and the dashboard. This modification shall be applied to all Siemens cars.

### Light Rail Operator Shortages

Rail is experiencing a substantial light rail operator shortage. Many operators have stepped-up to help fill our operating schedules by working extra hours and on RDOs. Soon, we'll have additional operators available to help fill the work. We thank all for the patience afforded to Rail as we work to bring on qualified new employees. Also, rail has hired another group of light rail operator candidates.

### COVID -19 PAL Expires and SL Verification Resumes

Effective Saturday, June 26, COVID Paid Administrative Leave (PAL) is no longer available. All sick leave medical verification requirements that were suspended will resume effective Thursday, July 1. For more information on sick leave procedures, review The Book, Section 6 (Absence Management), in particular Section 6.05 (Sick Leave Medical Verification Requirements). At this time, employees in high-risk groups as defined by the CDC will continue to be considered under the Governor's proclamation for high-risk employees (Proclamation 20-46.3).

### SsAM – Guest Portal Icon

An icon has been placed within the screen of all King County Computers in the dispatch ready room that offers a direct link to the SsAM Reporting Site. Employees should enter their name and PeopleSoft to create/submit report.

### ST Lifting Link Rail Onboard Load Limits Effective Saturday, July 3rd

This change is in response to significant changes in state and CDC Covid-19 guidelines, as well as significant changes in King County, and WA Covid-19 health conditions. We will continue to support employee and customer health protections including:

- Continuing to require mask usage so long as that is consistent with FTA, CDC and King County Public Health guidance. Current federal requirements state that masks will still be required on trains, buses, at transit hubs and pass sales offices until at least Sept 13.
- Continue to provide and stock mask dispensers where they currently exist so long as masks are required.
- Continue to support employee vaccination including providing directions to help employees understand vaccination phases, schedule appointments, and take leave if needed due to the vaccination process.
- Continue daily disinfecting and other enhanced cleaning protocols.

Lifting of load limits is also occurring for other Metro services on July 3rd, and is consistent with changes occurring at peer agencies locally and nationally.

Amanda Nightingale  
Rail Operations Section Manager