

# Frequent Express (FX) System Plan Introduction

6/5/2024

East Multnomah County Transportation Committee Technical Advisory Committee (EMCTC TAC)





#### **Outline**

- 1. FX System Plan goal
- 2. Why build an FX network?
- 3. Why make an FX System Plan?
- 4. FX System Plan contents
- 5. Project schedule & partner engagement
- 6. Question for partners



#### Why build an FX network?

Average trip time 14% - 20% faster in 1<sup>st</sup> year of FX service (both directions 7:00a – 7:00p)

			-citesiidiii - Al-i-
MANTEL SPAN SE 12 <sup>th</sup> SE 12 <sup>th</sup>	INNER SOUTHEAST PORTLAND	SOUTHEAST SOUTHEAST AND AVE	GRESHAM
	Inner SE Portland	Outer SE Portland	Gresham
Line 2	17.3 min	19.0 min	13.0 min
FX2	14.4 min	15.3 min	11.1 min
Change	-17%	-20%	-14%

### Why build an FX network? Ridership increased 40% in 1st year of FX2 service vs. 15% increase systemwide Line 2 FX2 Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug 2021 2022 2023

#### Why build an FX network?

FTA Capital Investment Grant Small Starts grants: current BRT pipeline



### Average project cost: \$188M / Average CIG funding: \$99M

Capital Investment Grants Project Pipeline Dashboard. American Public Transit Association, 2024

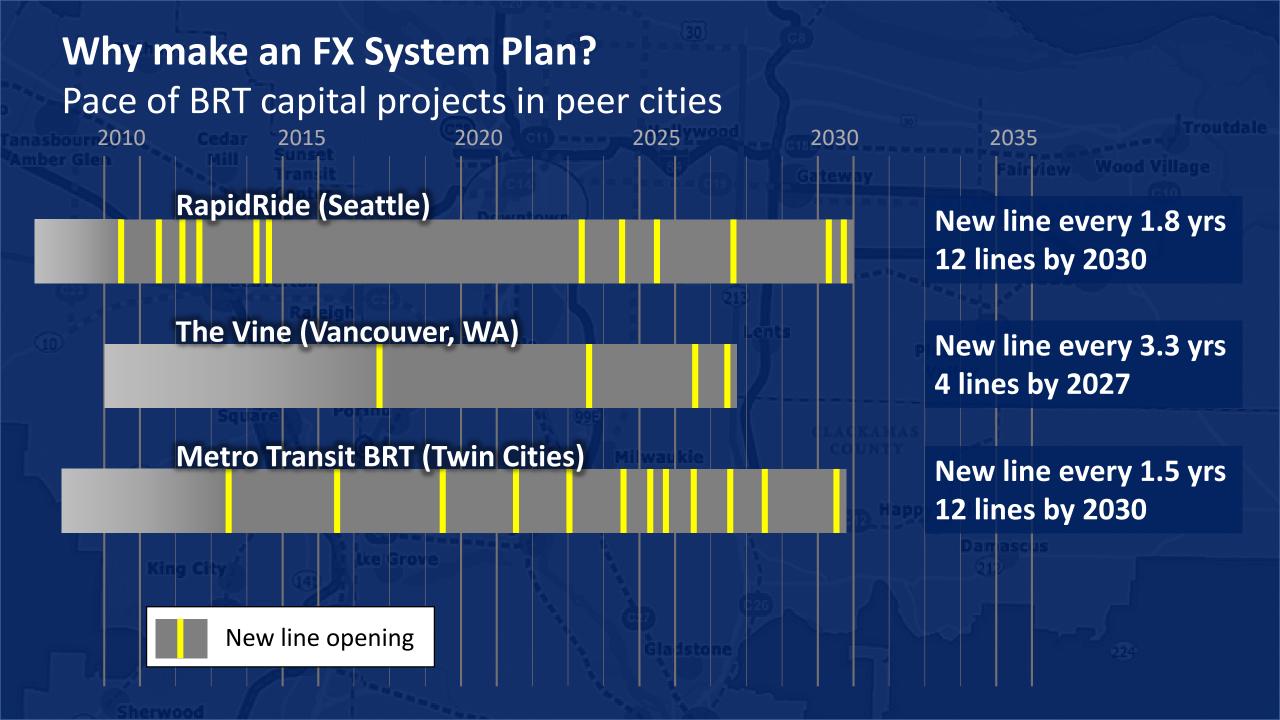
#### Why make an FX System Plan?

Challenges that make FX capital projects slower and costlier



- Long corridors = many communities that deserve service
- Substandard infrastructure (bike, pedestrian, stormwater, etc.)
- Major right of way issues (railroads, narrow rights of way)
- Requests to modify service
  - Vehicle type
  - Stop spacing
  - "Open BRT" lines (combining FX & regular bus)
  - Amenities

Small Starts vs. New Starts funding limitations



#### Why make an FX System Plan? **Build on High Capacity Transit Strategy**

- Refine corridors in the HCT plan specifically for FX
- Examine viability of Frequent Service corridors for FX
- Identify specific corridor limits
- Use same or similar datasets when possible

FX Plan will complement and add detail to the HCT Strategy's framework



RIGMET

## **FX System Plan**Contents



#### FX System Plan

Standards

What defines FX service?

System Map

What is the preferred FX network?

**Project Prioritization** 

What is the preferred order of FX project implementation?

#### Upcoming requests to our partner jurisdictions

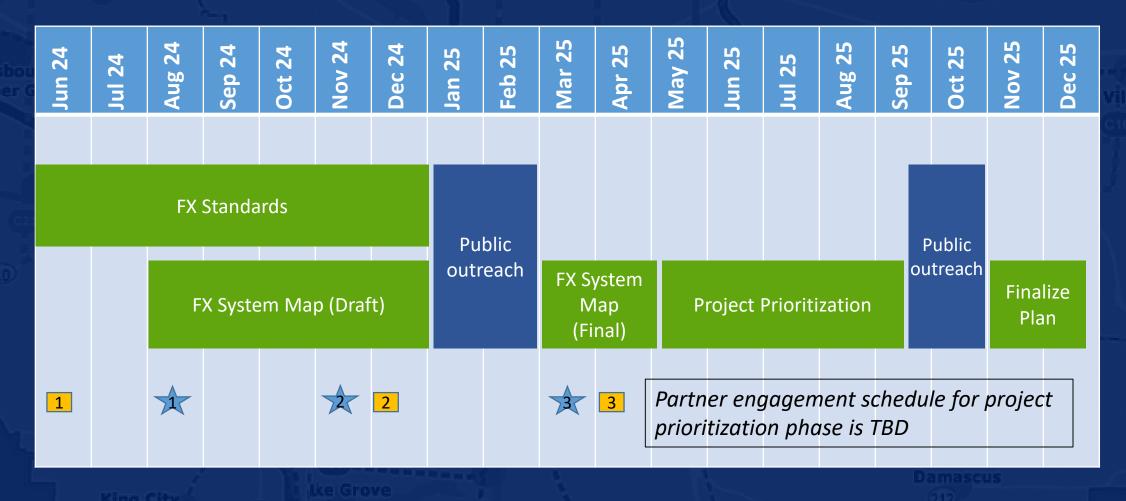
To understand potential project costs, we'll request (1) your data and (2) your review of data we compile on road conditions, such as:

- Whether your design standards are met
- Pavement conditions
- Major utility locations
- Right of way widths
- Existing fiber optic connections
- Traffic signal readiness
- Anything else that speaks to project costs?

This will help refine and deepen the HCT Strategy analysis



#### Project schedule & anticipated partner engagement



- Partner engagement via TPAC and County Coordinating Committees
- Partner engagement via staff workshops by geographic subarea at key milestones

#### **Anticipated partner engagement: Details**

- Partner engagement via TPAC and County Coordinating Committees
  - 1. (June 2024) Introduce Project
  - 2. (Dec 2024) Draft FX network
  - 3. (Apr 2025) Revised FX network responding to public comment
- ★ Partner engagement via staff workshops by geographic subarea at key milestones
  - 1. (Aug 2024) Review corridor screening; discuss corridor conditions
  - 2. (Nov 2024) Review draft FX network
  - 3. (Mar 2024 *if needed*) Review public comment and revisions to FX network
- Partner engagement schedule for Prioritization phase is TBD

#### **Question:**

Is there consensus support for the FX Plan goal?



GOAL: Increase ridership and connections for future riders by accelerating delivery of cost effective and feasible FX projects

#### Upcoming requests to our partner jurisdictions

To understand potential FX project costs, we'll request (1) your data and (2) your review of data we compile on road conditions, such as:

- Whether your design standards are met
- Pavement conditions
- Major utility locations
- Right of way widths
- Existing fiber optic connections
- Traffic signal readiness
- Anything else that speaks to project costs?

This will help refine and deepen the HCT Strategy analysis



