

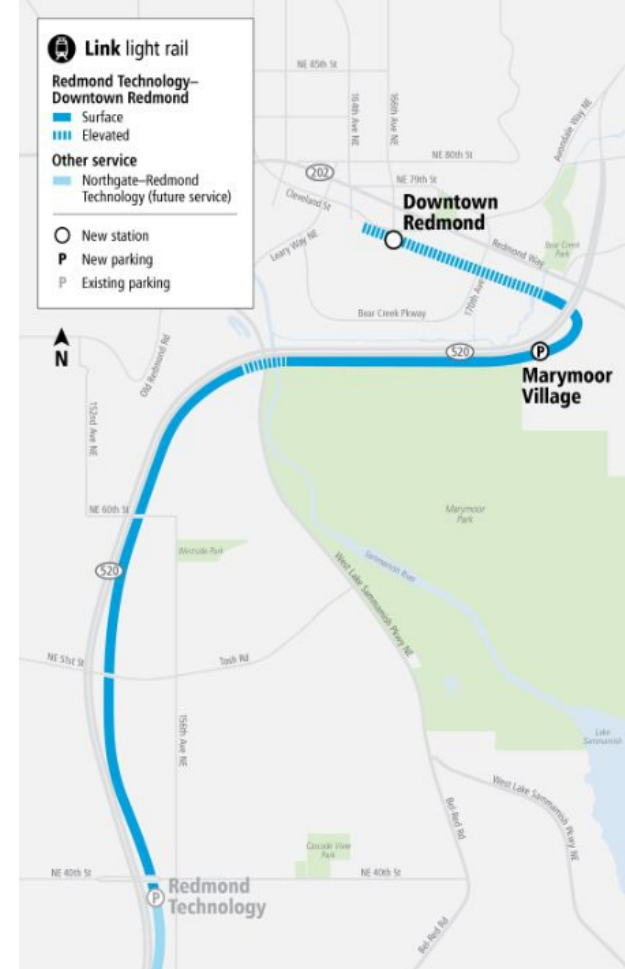
On-Board Dog Policy Discussion

Rider Experience & Operations Committee

5/1/2025

Why we are here

- Provide background on the current rules for on-board pets
- Share peer agency information and passenger experience considerations
- ***Request committee feedback on what should be considered in an updated dog policy***



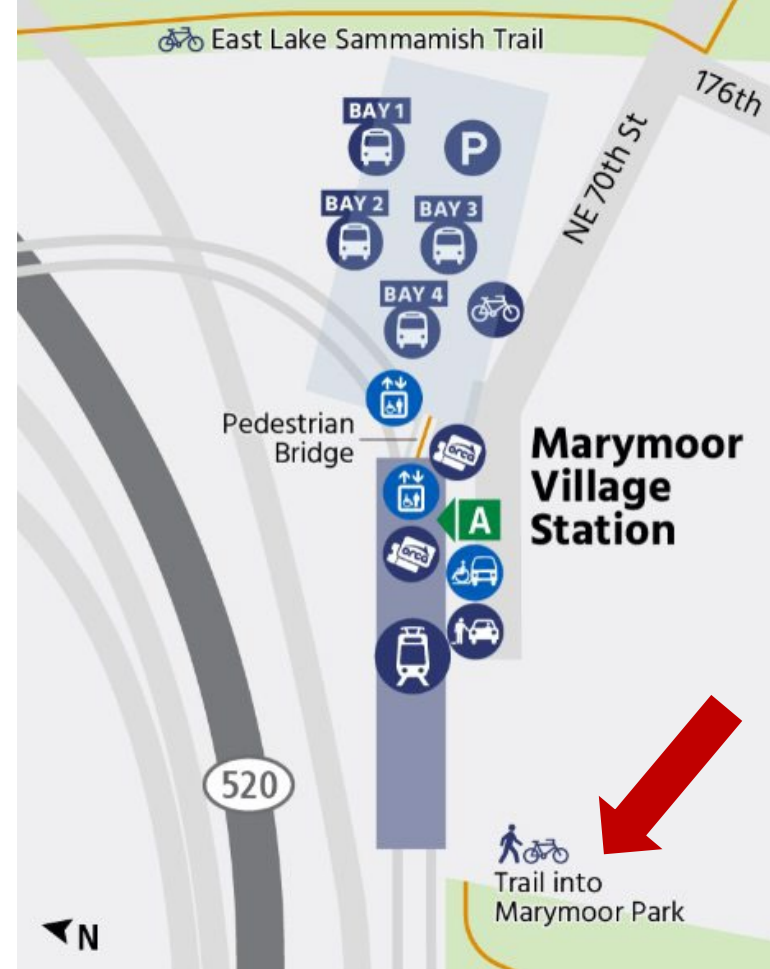
Dog Amenities Near Stations



Marymoor Dog Park

Amenities near Marymoor Village Station

- Passengers will be able to access Marymoor Park, a regional 640-acre park via trail.
- The park is dubbed "Doggy Disneyland" for its well-known 40-acre off-leash dog area.



Peer Agency Pet Policies

Sound Transit's rules for pets

- Pet may ride if carried in small container.
- Service animals allowed without container under full control of their handlers. Not on seat.

Administering the policy

- Generally, if pet is under control of handler and not posing a safety concern, Sound Transit personnel do not engage.
- It is not customary for Sound Transit personnel to ask for details on service animals.

Local ORCA Agency Pet Policies

Agency	Requirement					
	Carrier	Not on Seat	Leash	Muzzle	Fare	Behavior Rule
Sound Transit	✓	✓				
Community Transit	✓ *	✓	✓	✓		✓
Everett Transit	✓ *	✓	✓	✓		✓
King County Metro	✓ *				✓	✓
Kitsap Transit	✓					
Pierce Transit	✓					
Washington State Ferries	✓		✓			
Seattle Center Monorail			✓			✓

* Dogs allowed outside carrier

National Peer Agency Pet Policies

Peer light rail operators:

- Trimet – Portland, Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART), Valley Metro - Phoenix, Regional Transportation District – Denver (RTD), and LA Metro **allow pets in closed containers**.

Alternative approach:

- Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) **allows pets in containers and large pet dogs that don't fit in a container if leashed. Restrictions around peak hours and large events.**

Passenger Experience Considerations

Passenger Experience

Policy opportunities:

- Inclusion while respecting current passenger experience
- Focus on pet behavior and handler control

Policy considerations:

- Impact to passenger comfort & safety perception
- Hazard analysis (i.e., egress, cleanliness)
- Pet safety

Next Steps

May

- **Rider Experience & Operations Committee:** Discussion and feedback from committee

June

- **Executive Committee:** Consider motion to direct the CEO to research and implement a policy update
- **Board of Directors meeting:** Final action on the motion forwarded by REO committee

Thank you.



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Proposed Motion No. M2025-XX principles for consideration:

- Dogs allowed on leashes or in carriers when under control of the dog handler;
- Sound Transit may limit dogs based on the animal's behavior, or under certain riding conditions such as crowded events;
- Sound Transit will consider whether to designate certain train cars as dog-friendly;
- No fare will be required for dogs on Sound Transit buses and trains; and
- No changes to rules allowing service animals, or the existing rule allowing pets if they are carried in small containers.