

Sound Transit

Board Meeting Summary Minutes August 27, 1998

Call to Order

Board Chair Bob Drewel called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. The meeting was held in the sixth floor conference room of the Puget Sound Regional Council, 1011 Western Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

Roll Call

Chair

(P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

Vice Chairs

(P) Paul Miller

(P) Greg Nickels

Board Members

(P) Ann Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Councilmember

(P) Dave Enslow, Pierce County Councilmember

(P) Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember

(P) Jane Hague, King County Councilmember

(P) Ed Hansen, City of Everett Mayor

(P) Richard McIver, City of Seattle Councilmember

(P) Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember

(A) Sid Morrison, WSDOT Secretary

(P) Dave Russell, City of Kirkland Councilmember

(P) Paul Schell, City of Seattle Mayor

(A) Ron Sims, King County Executive

(A) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember

(P) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

(P) Jim White, City of Kent Mayor

Marcia Walker, Board Administrator, indicated a quorum of the Board was present.

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

Renee Montgelas, representing Sid Morrison, WSDOT Secretary

Public Comment

The following individuals presented comments to the Board:

Mr. John Layzer, Seattle Design Commission and Chair of the Light Rail Review Panel

Mr. Philip Grega

Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

Report of the Chair

Mr. Drewel recognized Mr. Bob Gunter who is leaving the firm of Preston Gates and Ellis, and presented him with a memento of appreciation.

Executive Director Report

None.

Election of Sound Transit Board Chair

It was moved by Ms. Gates, seconded by Mr. White, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the rules dealing with the selection of the Board Chair and Vice Chairs be suspended so the Board could hold an election for Board Chair at this time.

Mr. Earling nominated Paul Miller for the Chair position.

It was moved by Mr. Earling, seconded by Mr. Russell and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Mr. Miller be elected Sound Transit Board Chair.

Mr. Sutherland nominated Dave Earling to fill the vacated position of Vice Chair.

It was moved by Mr. Sutherland, seconded by Mr. McKenna and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Mr. Earling be elected Sound Transit Board Vice Chair.

(Ms. Montgela arrived at this time.)

Mr. Miller thanked the Board for electing him Chair. He then directed his attention to Mr. Drewel and presented him with a memento of appreciation on behalf of the Board for his service as Chair.

Mr. Drewel accepted the inscribed plaque and assured everyone that he will remain involved with Sound Transit and the Board.

Items for Discussion and Possible Action

Motions for Station/Facility Design Issues in Common for Commuter Rail, Link Light Rail and Regional Express

Ms. Debora Ashland, Architect for Link Light Rail, advised the Board that the design topics being presented were advertising, security, restrooms, and concessions.

Drinking Fountains

Ms. Ashland presented research information to the Board. She then stated that staff recommends providing drinking fountains at facilities where water and sewer utilities will be provided for other uses, such as restrooms or concessions, and continual ongoing maintenance will be possible.

Advertising

Ms. Ashland mentioned that advertising can be provided in the stations/facilities or on the vehicles. She stated that with this motion, staff was asking whether advertising areas should be provided in facilities. The placement of advertising should fit within the parameters of the Sound Transit signage program.

Ms. Ashland read the Seattle Light Rail Review Panel's recommendation:

Regarding Motion No. M98-65 and advertising, the Panel supports the staff recommendations with the following bullet point added to the motion:

"With respect to advertising Sound Transit shall (new and amended language):

- designate a portion of the advertising space for community use to accommodate artwork and/or community notices and information.
- *accommodate advertising, but not compromise the function, architectural and artistic expression of the station.*

Mr. Sutherland mentioned the importance of developing the ability for public service advertising and a policy relative to how that could be handled.

Ms. Gates stated the need to be aware that sign codes and rights-of-way advertising laws vary dramatically from one jurisdiction to another.

Security

Ms. Ashland discussed the issue of security and presented the Board with the staff recommendation to proceed with designing safe and secure facilities that meet Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Guidelines.

Restrooms

Ms. Linda Smith, Community Connections Project Manager for Regional Express, covered the issue of whether or not to provide public restrooms for Sound Transit's patrons. She stressed the necessity of balancing the short- and long-term cost concerns with the potential comfort of customers. Public restrooms generally are not provided with light rail facilities around the country due to the urban environment, short headways between trains, short waits for patrons, and concerns about maintenance, vandalism, and security. Restrooms are usually provided on commuter rail vehicles and in commuter rail stations that are multi-modal. Due to security concerns, public restrooms are generally not provided by public transportation agencies.

Ms. Smith presented the staff recommendation that public restrooms be provided where they will be most warranted; have the greatest security; where regular, effective maintenance can be provided; and where costs are shared with all agencies using that facility. Given the above criteria, staff recommends that restrooms be provided as noted below:

- Northgate Light Rail Station
- King Street Station in downtown Seattle.
- Bellevue Transit Center in downtown Bellevue
- Everett Multi-Modal Station.
- Tacoma Dome Station
- On board the Sounder commuter rail trains

Staff recommends working with other transit providers and jurisdictions to find other locations where restrooms are warranted and the above criteria are met.

Mr. McIver questioned why there is no restroom provided in the University District station.

Ms. Ashland answered that most of the stations recommended for restrooms involve participation by other agencies who can share the costs, or where there are currently restrooms provided, such as at Northgate. The University District station will be a tunnel station, and it would require significant capital costs to build a restroom there.

Mr. Schell questioned the conclusion that it is too expensive to build restrooms underground.

Mr. Nickels stated that this is a starting point. He expressed his hope that the architects and designers will work on the vandalism problem and be able to extend the list provided.

Concessions

Ms. Smith covered the area of concessions stating that they are a potential revenue source for Sound transit and also provide customer conveniences. Concessions can be provided either with moveable carts that come to the facility on a daily basis and plug into utilities or built-in stands that require permanent connection of utilities.

Ms. Smith stated that staff recommends Sound Transit encourage and provide for concessions in facilities where the market will support them. The type of concession, built-in or cart/vendor, should be determined during the development of a particular facility. Built-in concessions should be considered at stations where utilities are already provided for staff restrooms. Concessions are not recommended for stations in the street or underground.

Ms. Ashland interjected that the Seattle Light Rail Review Panel has recommended a sixth bullet point be added to the motion in order to accommodate the possibility of concessions in the tunnel, which would enhance security and contribute to a pleasant experience for Puget Sound commuters:

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Mr. Parker reviewed recommendations for architectural expression of the stations, vertical/horizontal circulation, guideway architecture, and streetscape issues.

Ms. Ashland read the following recommendation from the Seattle Light Rail Review Panel's:

"With respect to the Architectural Expression of stations, Sound Transit shall (new language);

pursue a thorough and ongoing neighborhood involvement process in order to respond to the neighborhood context, goals and principles, recognizing that those may be broadly and creatively addressed through station programming and design.

"With respect to guideway architecture, Sound Transit shall (new language):

address tunnel segments as guideway architecture rather than solely utilitarian components.

Mr. McIver stated that regarding streetscape, he would like to see language indicating Sound Transit will be making improvements with ½ mile of each station, consistent with the city neighborhood plans.

It was moved by Mr. McIver and seconded by Mr. Russell to approve Motion No. M98-60 with the revision restating Sound Transit's commitment to making improvements within 1/2 mile of each light rail station, and the incorporation of the Seattle Light Rail Review Panel's recommendations.

The motion to approve Motion No. M98-60, as amended, was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Committee Reports and Action Items

Finance Committee

Report of August 27, 1998 Meeting

Motion No. M98-68 - Appointing a new member to the Citizen Oversight Panel

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Mr. Russell that Motion No. M98-68 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels and Mr. Russell agreed to a friendly amendment to Motion No. M98-68 to insert the name of Mr. Michael A. (Tony) Hudson in the second line of the proposed motion, and that the title be amended to reflect not only the resignation of Ms. Katherine Rose, but the appointment of Mr. Hudson to fill the vacancy.

The motion, as amended, was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M98-62 - Approving a sole source contract award to Lorig Associates in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for Project Management services associated with Union Station

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Mr. Drewel that Motion No. M98-62 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels stated that this sole source contract to Lorig Associates in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 for project management services associated with Union Station was reviewed by the Finance Committee. The Committee felt there was good justification for the sole source award.

The motion to approve Motion No. M98-62 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M98-63 - Approving a sole source contract award to Albee Romein in an amount not to exceed \$150,000 for space planning and interior design work associated with Union Station

It was moved by Mr. Nickels and seconded by Mr. Drewel that Motion No. M98-63 be approved as presented.

Mr. Nickels stated that this would be a sole source contract award to Albee Romein to do space planning and interior design work associated with Union Station. He mentioned that in both Motions No. M98-62 and M98-63, one of the things that came out is they have been reviewed by legal counsel and approved as appropriate for sole source contract award.

The motion to approve Motion No. M98-63 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Resolution No. R98-39 - Implementing a Surety/Support Program for small, local businesses and contractors and Minority/Women/ and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise businesses and contractors to provide mentoring, accounting, legal, surety and banking services for such businesses and contractors involved in or desiring to be involved in a construction contract with Sound Transit

Mr. Nickels advised that this item would be held over for Board action at a future meeting. The Committee will be working on this action next week and will bring this back to the Board in the future.

Issues for Discussion and Deliberation

Service Implementation Plan (SIP) for Regional Express Bus

Ms. Veronica Parker, Regional Bus Program Manger for Regional Express, gave the Board an update on the SIP Committee. She advised the Board that staff will be coming to the Board for direction on the variety of issues over the next two months.

Link Light Rail Operations and Maintenance Business Plan

Mr. Paul Bay, Director for Link Light Rail, discussed the Link Business Plan (copy on file) with the Board. He advised the Board that regarding the tunnel, staff will have a major piece of work nearing completion with Seattle Metro and our staff and consultants, which will come before the Board in September. Staff will not be asking for a decision at that time, but would like discuss the facts.

Other Business

None.


Next Meeting

Thursday, September 10, 1998 - 2 to 5 p.m.
Edmonds Public Library
650 Main Street
Edmonds, WA

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker



Greg Nickels
Board Vice-Chair