

Sound Transit

Board Meeting Summary Minutes October 22, 1998

Call to Order

Board Vice Chair Nickels called the meeting to order at 2:05 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) Paul Miller, City of Tacoma Councilmember

Vice Chairs

(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Councilmember

(P) Greg Nickels, King County Councilmember

Board Members

(A) Ann Davis, City of Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner 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

(A) Dave Russell, City of Kirkland Councilmember

(A) Paul Schell, Seattle Mayor

(A) Ron Sims, King County Executive

(P) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Councilmember

(P) Doug Sutherland, Pierce County Executive

(A) 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:

Dave Earling, City of Edmonds, Councilmember

Rob McKenna, King County Councilmember

Public Comment

The following individuals presented comments to the Board:

Mr. Dick Burkhardt, Cascade Bicycle Club

Mr. Philip Grega

(Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.)

Report of the Chair

None

Executive Director Report

Mr. Bob White mentioned that Sound Transit will receive an appropriation of \$54 million in the 1999 federal budget. The appropriation will be broken down with \$46 million allocated for New Starts funding for light rail and commuter rail and \$8 million allocated to discretionary funds for the bus program.

(Board member Sullivan arrived at this time.)

Mr. White stated that the \$46 million ranks Sound Transit sixth in the nation for New Starts funds.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of August 27 and September 10, 1998 Board Meetings

Motion No. M98-74 - Adopting the Basic Program Elements of the Research and Technology Program

Motion No. M98-75 - Sound Transit's Economic Development Program

Motion No. M98-70 - Service Redeployment Guidelines to guide the reinvestment of resources freed up as a result of the implementation of Sound Move

It was moved by Ms. Gates, seconded by Mr. Sutherland, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.

Items for Discussion and Action

Motion No. M98-79 - Establishing advertising policies on Sound Transit vehicles and at transit facilities and stations

It was moved by Mr. Miller and seconded by Ms. Gates that Motion No. M98-79 be approved as presented.

Ms. Sullivan stated that the Public and Government Affairs Committee recommends the adoption of Motion No. M98-79 with the caveat that advertising be done on the exterior of the buses, including the option of a small percentage of fully wrapped bus ads, advertising on the exterior of light rail stations and other facilities on a case-by-case basis, including the option of advertising in and on restrooms.

(Board member Earling arrived at this time.)

Ms. Sullivan mentioned that customer information will be given priority. The first six months will be advertising for the agency and its services with agreements with transit agencies consistent with their adopted policies. Once Sound Transit is operating, staff will contract directly and have the usual prohibitions on alcohol, tobacco, and obscene materials.

The motion to approve Motion No. M98-79 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M98-73 - Designating a preferred site for the parking garage for the Kent commuter rail station and directing staff to finalize environmental review of the parking garage

Ms. Val Batey, Project Development Manager for Sounder Commuter Rail, presented the Board with an overview of the alternate sites for the Kent commuter rail station. She stated that the Kent City Council has made it clear that they want a garage to provide parking, and they have approved \$4 million in city funds for the garage. The Kent Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which is a group formed by Sound Transit in an agreement with Kent to represent the community, met to consider the garage location. Their recommendation is for Alternative 1.

Ms. Batey reminded the Board that at last month's public hearing, the Board was asked to consider expanding Alternative 1 as a fourth alternative. Alternative 1A, an extension of Alternative 1, would add 2.77 acres to the west

of Alternative 1, including Washington Cedar Supply. All of the property controlled by Washington Cedar Supply would be included for a total of 4.02 acres. The garage would probably have three stories with 810 stalls and additional surface parking could be provided adjacent to the garage.

(Board member McKenna arrived at this time.)

It was moved by Mr. Sutherland and seconded by Mr. Earling that Motion No. M98-73 be approved, inserting approval for Alternative 1A.

Mr. Hansen pointed out that Mr. Jim White was not present to represent the City of Kent's site preference.

Ms. Batey stated that the City of Kent has deferred to the TAC as their representative and they have recommended Alternative 1.

Mr. Earling asked what the benefits of Alternative 1A are versus Alternative 1.

Ms. Batey explained that Alternative 1A would provide an opportunity for future transit oriented development (TOD). The connection between commuter rail and the Regional Justice Center is a very key location in Kent in terms of improving access to the downtown and jobs.

Mr. McKenna suggested that with the additional acreage, surface parking might be an alternative in the short term to save money. Structured parking could be built in the future, but putting it off would save money and allow Sound Transit to get use out of the property while deciding how it would be developed in a transit-oriented development scheme.

Mr. McIver asked if there are environmental problems with Alternatives 1 and 1A.

Ms. Batey responded that the environmental assessment for these sites is under review by the FTA.

Mr. Drewel requested that the motion indicate the selection of Alternative 1A, subject to cost assessment and environmental review.

The motion to approve Motion No. M98-73, designating Alternative 1A as the preferred site for the parking garage for the Kent commuter rail station and directing staff to finalize environmental review of the parking garage, was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M98-76 - Adopting the 1999 State Legislative Program

It was moved by Ms. Sullivan that Motion No. M98-76 be approved as presented.

Ms. Sullivan stated that there are three major items included in the 1999 state legislative program: (1) Proof of Payment permits Sound Transit to implement a barrier free method of passenger fare payment to expedite boardings on Sounder and Link; (2) exemptions from the Public Funds Depository Act would permit Sound Transit to undertake Lease Purchase transactions with out of state and off-shore institutions; and (3) Public Disclosure Exemptions for Transit Riders authorizes an exemption from public disclosure statutes regarding personally identifiable information maintained by public transit agencies for persons who participate in public transportation programs.

The motion to approve Motion No. M98-76 was seconded by Mr. Drewel, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Motion No. M98-78 - Establishing bicycle policies which provide direction to staff on encouraging bicyclists to use Sound Transit services and facilities, and setting forth considerations for bicycle access in developing those services and supporting facilities.

It was moved by Ms. Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Drewel that Motion No. M98-78 be approved as presented.

Mr. Hansen asked how responsive the proposal is to the various concerns raised by the public.

Ms. Barbara Gilliland stated that staff has met with bicycle clubs and local, state, and regional agencies. The policies presented incorporate many of their ideas while allowing flexibility to address some of the issues regarding capacity.

The motion to approve Motion No. M98-78 was carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present.

Regional Express Bus System Plan

Mr. Nickels advised the Board that the bus system plan was scheduled for presentation at this time; however, staff gave a description of the implementation plan prior to the public hearing. Mr. Nickels stated that Board members would be receiving written copies of the report during the next week, and Board action will be sought at the November 12, 1998 Board meeting.

Ms. Sullivan mentioned that the Board received a letter from SeaShore Transportation. She asked that staff evaluate these alternatives to be included in the next briefing.

Other Business

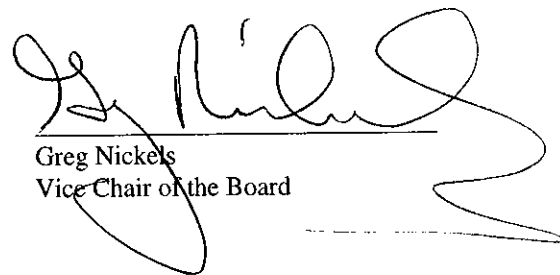
None.

Next Meeting

Thursday, November 12, 1998
2:00 to 5:00 p.m.
REI
222 Yale Avenue North
Seattle, Washington

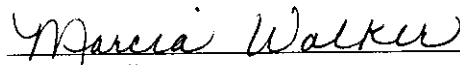
Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.



Greg Nickels
Vice Chair of the Board

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

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