

## SOUND TRANSIT

### RESOLUTION NO. R99-7

#### Agreement with Washington State Department Of Transportation For Partial Funding (HOV Share) of Interstate 90 Interchange at Sunset Drive

#### BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Finance Committee	2/18/99	Recommend Board Action	Agnes Govern, Director,	206-684-1673
Executive Committee	2/19/99	Recommend Board Action	Regional Express	
Board of Directors	2/25/99	Action	Bill Guenzler, Program Manager, HOV Access	206-689-3534

#### ACTION:

Approve Resolution No. R99-7 authorizing the Executive Director to execute an agreement with Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) providing for funding of Sound Transit's share of the Sunset Interchange project on Interstate 90 in the amount of \$9 million (HOV Share).

#### BACKGROUND:

Appendix A of *Sound Move* lists six high occupancy vehicle (HOV) access projects in East King County totaling \$258 million (1995\$). Included in this amount is \$16 million (1995\$) for the HOV share of the Sunset Interchange. As a result of the decision to retain the HOV lanes on I-90 on the "outside," Sound Transit's HOV Share of the Sunset Interchange project was reduced from \$16 million to \$9 million. King County, Issaquah, and WSDOT are currently involved in the design of the Sunset Interchange project and are securing the balance of the funding. The schedule calls for completing contract specifications and advertising for bids by mid-1999. All funds, including Sound Transit's contribution, must be formally committed by the advertisement date to ensure that the funds are in place to pay the contractor.

#### RELEVANT BOARD POLICIES AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN:

- ◆ Adoption of *Sound Move*, the Ten-Year Regional Transit System Plan (May 31, 1996).
- ◆ Adoption of the 1999 Budget (November 12, 1998).
- ◆ Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with WSDOT (October 23, 1997).
- ◆ Approval of High Occupancy Vehicle-Transportation System Management Policies and Guidelines (December 10, 1998).

## **PROJECT BENEFITS:**

King County adopted a comprehensive plan that designates the Urban Growth Area and provides for the orderly extension of public facilities supporting the planned growth. In particular, the County, Issaquah, and WSDOT have pursued planning and development of a package of improvements that will provide transportation capacity for the area between Lake Sammamish and the eastern edge of the Urban Growth Area. The planned improvements include:

- Reconstruction of the Sunset Way Interchange on I-90.
- Development of the South Sammamish Plateau Access Road (South SPAR).
- Connection of South SPAR to new arterial streets serving the Sammamish Plateau.
- Staged development of a 1,000 stall park and ride facility at the top of South SPAR.
- Regular bus service between the park and ride facility and Seattle.

The Sunset Interchange is the central project which provides a variety of benefits to current and future development that support a cost sharing arrangement between the agencies and the developer. Transit will directly benefit from the park and ride facility, HOV priority on SPAR Road, and a bypass lane on the interchange ramp. The City of Sammamish is within Sound Transit's tax boundary and will benefit from service to be provided by King County Metro linking the park and ride with facilities to be served by Sound Transit.

## **KEY FEATURES:**

- Establishes WSDOT as the lead agency responsible for the construction of the Sunset Interchange project.
- Makes an HOV bypass on the interchange a requirement of Sound Transit's financial participation in the project.
- Authorizes the Executive Director to make a \$4.5 million payment in year 2000 and a \$4.5 million payment in the year 2001 to compensate WSDOT for Sound Transit's share of project construction.
- Assures that the facilities constructed under the agreement will be maintained and operated so that the transit benefits are sustained into the future.

## **FUNDING:**

The adopted 1999 budget included \$9 million (YOES) to be expended on construction for I-90 at Sunset Interchange (HOV Share). The proposed agreement with WSDOT would convey \$4.5 million in the year 2000 and \$4.5 million in the year 2001 consistent with the cash flow provided in the approved budget. An additional \$568,000 will be expended by Sound Transit for agency administration and art relative to the Sunset Interchange project.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

Delay an agreement with WSDOT until all other funding is committed.

**CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY:**

The project partners need certainty that Sound Transit will participate to the level indicated. There would be major schedule and financial consequences if the board were to delay action and subsequently decline participation. Acting now provides important planning time in which to finalize the project design and contract specifications with the certainty that the bid advertisement does not have to be delayed until there is consistency between project design and available resources.

**LEGAL REVIEW:**

The Legal Department has reviewed and approved the Background and Comments and the Resolution.

## SOUND TRANSIT

### RESOLUTION NO. R99-7

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to execute an agreement with Washington State Department of Transportation providing funding participation of the Sunset Interchange Project on Interstate 90 in the amount of \$9,000,000 (HOV Share).

WHEREAS, the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority is a duly organized regional transit authority existing under RCW Chapters 81.104 and 81.112 and has powers necessary to implement a high capacity transportation system, and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 1996, central Puget Sound area voters approved local funding for *Sound Move*, Sound Transit's ten-year plan for regional high-capacity transit; and

WHEREAS, *Sound Move* includes Sound Transit \$16 million (1995\$) for the HOV share of the Sunset Interchange Project on Interstate 90 ("I-90"); and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Transportation ("WSDOT") maintains a statewide transportation system as provided in Chapter 47.01 RCW, including HOV lanes, and manages the federal interstate highways within the State; and

WHEREAS, on October 23, 1997, Sound Transit and WSDOT entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing a cooperative working relationship between the parties to facilitate design, construction, and operation of capital projects listed in *Sound Move*, and providing for future agreements concerning specific projects related to *Sound Move*; and

WHEREAS, the MOU provides that WSDOT assume the lead role on design and construction of *Sound Move* projects on WSDOT right-of-ways; and

WHEREAS, WSDOT is currently designing improvements to the existing Sunset Interchange at I-90 (“Project”) and is scheduled to advertise for bids in mid-1999 for work to be performed on the Project; and

WHEREAS, WSDOT has determined that HOV lanes will not be provided at this time on this section of I-90 encompassing the Project; and

WHEREAS, WSDOT therefore proposes construction of a less expensive HOV queue bypass lane on the I-90 ramp at the Sunset Interchange; and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of the Project is seventy million dollars (\$70,000,000); and

WHEREAS, other Project funding parties; namely, City of Issaquah, King County, and Port Blakely Communities; have agreed to limit Sound Transit’s funding share to \$9.6 million (YOES) including Sound Transit costs for administration and art; and

WHEREAS, the HOV bypass lane will provide improved access for both east and west bound transit routes along I-90 to the park-and-ride lot serving public transportation riders in the Port Blakely Communities development and other riders in the areas, including the City of Sammamish, which is located within the Sound Transit district boundary; and

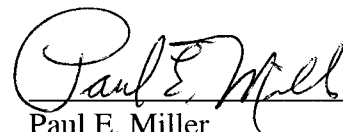
WHEREAS, the Project will provide a direct benefit to Sound Transit in furtherance of the development of a HOV-lane system to improve travel along high capacity transportation corridors and in support of the network of high capacity transportation services and facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Sound Transit to enter into an agreement with WSDOT to perform all work necessary to complete the Project.

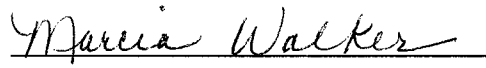
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director be authorized to execute an agreement with Washington State Department of Transportation for the Sunset Interchange project and the amount of Nine Million Dollars (\$9,000,000), which agreement shall provide for:

1. An HOV queue bypass lane at Sunset Interchange and I-90.
2. Bid advertisement and award of the construction contract by WSDOT.
3. Payment of funds in the amount of \$9M payable in two installments (i) payment of \$4,500,000 following award of the construction contract in the year 2000 and (ii) \$4,500,000 in the year 2001.
4. Assurance that the facilities to be constructed under this agreement are maintained and operated by WSDOT to provide sustained benefits to public transit speed and reliability.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 25th day of February, 1999.

  
Paul E. Miller  
Board Chair

ATTEST:

  
Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator