

**STAFF REPORT**  
**SOUND TRANSIT**  
**MOTION NO. M2000-70**

**Interagency Agreement with Pierce Transit  
For the Funding of  
Maintenance and Operations Base Expansion**

<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Type of Action:</b>	<b>Staff Contact:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
Finance Committee	8/3/00	Discussion/Possible Action to Recommend Board Approval	Agnes Govern, Director, Regional Express Gloria Overgaard, Regional Express Deputy Director	(206)398-5037 (206)689-4909
Board	8/10/00	Action	Fred Chun, Project Coordinator, Regional Express	(206)398-5044

**PROPOSED ACTION**

The proposed motion authorizes the Executive Director to execute an interagency agreement with Pierce Transit to provide no more than \$1 million (2000\$) for the Phase I expansion of the maintenance and operations base in support of ST Express bus service and fleet operated and maintained at Pierce Transit. The total authorized amount is not to exceed \$1,000,000.

**KEY FEATURES**

- The 1999 and 2000 Regional Express Service Implementation Plans called for the development of Regional Express bus maintenance facilities in the Pierce County subarea to accommodate Sound Transit's fleet and identified \$9 million (1995 dollars) for that purpose.
- Pierce Transit currently operates 60 ST Express buses and 153 Pierce Transit buses resulting in the maximum usage of the base. In 2001 Sound Transit will expand its fleet to 80 buses by adding 20 CNG buses at Pierce Transit. This addition will exceed Pierce Transit's current maximum base capacity.
- Pierce Transit's initial plan to build a full maintenance and operations base has been deferred due to passage of I-695. However, due to the immediate need, Pierce Transit developed a two-phase plan. Phase I will accommodate the Sound Transit fleet through 2005; and Phase II will address the future expansion beyond existing plan.
- The total cost of Phase I is estimated at \$3.5 million with Pierce Transit funding \$2.7 million. Sound Transit's funding is estimated at \$800,000. However, the final cost estimation is not completed, and staff is asking to fund Phase I project in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 (2000 dollars).

- Phase I will include expansion of the Pierce Transit's maintenance building by adding two maintenance bays for ST Express articulated buses, bus parking and storage area, parking for non-revenue vehicles, and employee parking. Phase I is expected to be completed by the end of 2001 when additional ST Express buses arrive at Pierce Transit.
- The expanded base will provide a self-contained maintenance and operations facility through 2005 for both Pierce Transit and Sound Transit bus fleets, including seventy, 40-foot and ten, 60-foot articulated ST Express buses.

### **DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED ACTION**

Pierce Transit currently operates 60 ST Express buses in three ST Express routes under the terms of the Interagency Service Agreement. By the end of 2004, Pierce Transit will be operating six (6) ST Express routes with eighty (80) buses comprised of seventy (70) 40-foot and ten (10) 60-foot articulated buses. In addition to the ST Express bus fleet, Pierce Transit currently operates 153 buses on their local routes.

The 1999 and 2000 Service Implementation Plans included a \$9 million (1995 dollars) capital improvement fund for maintenance and operations facilities in the Pierce subarea. When ST Express service started in 1999, Pierce Transit's operations and maintenance base was nearing its full capacity for the existing Pierce Transit fleet. With the addition of Sound Transit fleet, Pierce Transit modified the parking lot and made temporary changes to their maintenance and operations procedures in order to accommodate for the fleet expansions. This has been an on-going challenge, because the Pierce Transit maintenance bays were not configured for the ST Express articulated buses in addition to the other Sound Transit buses.

Pierce Transit's initial plan of full base development has been deferred due to passage of I-695. However, they developed a plan to meet Sound Transit's immediate needs. It is in two phases, and this motion proposes to fund the portion of Phase I to develop a bus operations and storage space and room for non-revenue vehicles and employee parking that will allow the expansion of the current maintenance building to accommodate Sound Transit fleet. Phase II is a longer-term plan for constructing a self-contained maintenance and operating base that will be needed should both Pierce Transit and Sound Transit expand beyond existing plan capacity.

### **BUDGET**

The Adopted 2000 Budget and Capital Plan included \$43 million for bus-related capital outlays in the Pierce County subarea, to cover vehicles, maintenance facilities, and related agency administrative costs through 2006. The following table summarizes the budget specifically for maintenance facilities and expenditures to date. All figures are in YOES\$, per the 2000 Adopted Budget. This motion's financial commitment is within the scope and budget approved in the 2000 Budget.

<b>10-year Pierce Subarea Bus Capital Plan</b>	<b>Allocation for this Pierce Transit base expansion (A)</b>	<b>Expenditures to Date (B)</b>	<b>Total not-to-exceed amount (C)</b>	<b>Balance Remaining (A-[B+C])</b>
\$43,069,000	\$10,416,000	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$9,416,000

All figures in YOES\$ per 2000 budget.

**ALTERNATIVES**

No practical alternatives exist if Pierce Transit is to continue to operate our service and maintain our fleet.

**CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY**

Pierce Transit is moving forward with Phase I and needs this interagency agreement approved to keep the project on schedule.

**LEGAL REVIEW**

MBL 7-21-00

**BOARD ADMINISTRATION REVIEW**

MW 8-5-00

**SOUND TRANSIT**

**MOTION NO. M2000-70**

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to execute an Interagency Agreement with Pierce Transit for the capital investment for the Phase I expansion of the maintenance and operations base in support of ST Express bus service and fleet to be operated and maintained at Pierce Transit. The total authorized amount is not to exceed \$1,000,000.

**Background:**

The 1999 and 2000 Regional Express Service Implementation Plans called for the development of ST Express bus maintenance facilities in the Pierce County subarea to accommodate Sound Transit's Express fleet by identifying \$9 million (1995\$). As a partnering agency, Pierce Transit currently operates 60 buses under the terms of the Interagency Service Agreement. With the start of ST Express service in 1999, Pierce Transit's maintenance base has reached the maximum base utilization, and it is not of sufficient size to accommodate Pierce Transit's and Sound Transit's current operating requirement. Pierce Transit's initial plan to build a full maintenance and operations base has been deferred due to the passage of I-695; however, due to the immediate need, Pierce Transit has developed a two-phase plan. The Phase I plan is to be completed by the end of 2001, and will accommodate for the Sound Transit fleet through 2005, and Phase II will address the future expansion beyond existing plan.

The Phase I Plan will include expansion of the Pierce Transit's maintenance building by adding two maintenance bays for ST Express articulated buses, additional bus parking and storage areas, parking for non-revenue vehicles, and employee parking. The total estimated cost of Phase I is \$3.5 million; Pierce Transit's grant funds are estimated at \$2.7 million; thus Sound Transit will fund the estimated difference of \$800,000. However, the final project estimation is not yet completed, and staff is requesting to fund this project in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 (2000\$).


**Motion:**

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority, that the Executive Director be authorized to execute an Interagency Agreement with Pierce Transit for the capital investment for the Phase I expansion of the maintenance and operations base in support of ST Express bus service and fleet operated and maintained at Pierce Transit in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Approved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof on the 10th day of August, 2000.

  
David Earling  
Board Chair

ATTEST:

  
Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator