

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to execute an amendment to the sole source contract with the Rainier Valley Chamber of Commerce, Rainier Valley Transit Advisory Council (RVTAC) to provide community-to-community group outreach for the Link Light Rail Project and community transit-related issues. This action authorizes an increase of \$27,990 to the original contract amount of \$110,000 for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$137,990 for continued services through December 31, 2001.

Background:

On December 4, 1998, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Central Link Light Rail Project was distributed to communities, jurisdictions, agencies and other interested parties. Following its distribution, there were many workshops, information sessions, and public hearings regarding its content. Based upon feedback via comment letters, e-mails, and one-on-one discussions from interested citizens, Link staff determined a requirement for increased effectiveness in the timely delivery of information to the general and English as a second language (ESL) communities.

In March 1999, sole source contract RTA/LR 142-99 was executed with Rainier Valley Chamber of Commerce, which represents the Rainier Valley Transit Advisory Council (RVTAC). Under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the RVTAC provides community-to-community group outreach at the request of Sound Transit, the City of Seattle, and neighborhood groups that it represents via its steering committee.

Motion:

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director is authorized to execute an amendment to the sole source contract with the Rainier Valley Chamber of Commerce, Rainier Valley Transit Advisory Council (RVTAC) to provide community-to-community group outreach for the Link Light Rail project and community transit-related issues. This action authorizes an increase of \$27,990 to the original contract amount of \$110,000 for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$137,990 for continued services through December 31, 2001.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the day of , 2001.

David Earling
Board Chair

ATTEST:

Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

**STAFF REPORT SOUND TRANSIT MOTION NO. M2001-58 Sole Source Contract
Amendment with Rainier Valley Chamber of Commerce, Rainier Valley Transit Advisory
Council, for Community-to-Community Group Outreach**

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Finance Committee	6/7/01 6/14/01	Discussion/Possible Action to Recommend Board Approval	Tuck Wilson, Light Rail Director Johnathan Jackson, Link Project Manager	(206) 398-5134 (206) 398-5272
Board of Directors		Discussion/Possible Action		

PROPOSED ACTION

This action authorizes the Executive Director to execute an amendment to the sole source contract with the Rainier Valley Chamber of Commerce, Rainier Valley Transit Advisory Council (RVTAC) to provide community-to-community group outreach for the Link Light Rail Project and community transit-related issues. This action authorizes an increase of \$27,990 to the original contract amount of \$110,000 for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$137,990 for continued services through December 31, 2001.

KEY FEATURES

Highlights of Proposed Action:

- Amends an existing sole source contract with Rainier Valley Chamber of Commerce, Rainier Valley Transit Advisory Council (RVTAC) for community-to-community group outreach for the Link Light Rail Project and community transit related issues.
- Authorizes an increase of \$27,990 for a new total contract amount not to exceed \$137,990.
- Extends the terms of Agreement from June 30, 2001 to December 31, 2001.

Discussion of Proposed Action:

On December 4, 1998, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Central Link Light Rail Project was distributed to communities, jurisdictions, agencies and other interested parties. Following its distribution, there were many workshops, information sessions, and public hearings regarding its content. Based upon feedback via comment letters, e-mails, and one-on-one discussions from interested citizens, Link staff determined a requirement for increased effectiveness in the timely delivery of information to the general and English as a second language (ESL) communities.

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In research and discussions with the City of Seattle, the RVTAC is the only known organization with a unique blend of community based organizations represented through its steering committee. The steering committee's focus is to discuss broad and specific transit-related community issues brought to RVTAC and reach general consensus on them. While RVTAC's process does not necessarily get complete consensus, it may reflect acceptance of strategies and outcomes via its ability to have independent, open and direct discussions of the issues, and equity voting of its membership.

Over the past two years, RVTAC has been active in keeping abreast of the light rail proposals for Southeast Seattle, and in advocating for the Rainier Valley community. The RVTAC worked with the FastJobs Coalition to incorporate job training and access for minorities and women (with the Rainier Valley as one of the target communities) into the Sound Transit Project Labor Agreement, lobbied the Sound Transit Board to preserve viable options for the Beacon Hill station, and took the lead in the community process to set up the Community Development Fund. However, there will be more crucial work for the RVTAC to do in the next year, as the impact of project uncertainty, real estate impacts, Community Development Fund's use and related issues related to the proposed new project schedule. The RVTAC monitors the pulse of the community to share and discuss these issues within the confines of community groups and stakeholder meetings and then provides feedback to Sound Transit and City of Seattle.

The RVTAC is currently a registered City of Seattle, Rainier Valley community-based organization whose fiscal agent is the Rainier Chamber of Commerce. The RVTAC coordinator position is maintained by independent contractor (woman owned small business).

The RVTAC has continued the work of the original scope of work that was established in 1999. The total cost of the original sole source contract was \$57,200 for the cost of staff, resources, and the production of materials, activities, and products, which are referenced as deliverables in their agreed-to scope of work (see attached). Currently the sole source contract amount is \$110,000 per approved board motion M2001-25 approved on April 26, 2001. In order to continue, uninterrupted, the work of the RVTAC, approval of an additional \$27,990 is sought from the Board, for a new total not to exceed \$137,990. Upon the Board's approval, Change Modification No. 4 will then be issued.

BUDGET

Funding for the scope of work for this contract is included in Sound Move and in the FY2001 adopted capital budget developed for the Central Link configuration as adopted by the Board on January 11, 2001 under public outreach. In addition, provision for this level of activity is included within the three-year work plan for Airport Link, as approved by the Board on March 8,

2001. Budget for future activities will be re-assessed in light of alignment and sequencing decisions made for Central Link in the coming months.

Alternatives

- Attempt to assemble a similar type of community forum using existing Sound Transit or City of Seattle staff.

Because of RVTAC's unique characteristics of membership and process, it is far more effective for both Sound Transit and the City of Seattle to utilize the abilities of this existing, recognized organization than it would be for Sound Transit to try to assemble this type of forum and process.

Consequences of Delay

Under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the RVTAC will not be able to provide community-to-community group outreach after June 30, 2001.

Regional Partnership and Cooperation

Under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the RVTAC provides community-to-community group outreach at the request of Sound Transit, the City of Seattle, and neighborhood groups that it represents via its steering committee. The City of Seattle recognizes the RVTAC as a unique body to offer guidance to City of Seattle and Sound Transit about community transit related issues.

Public Involvement

Public involvement during final design will continue to be ambitious and aggressive to achieve community understanding of Sound Transit's Link Light Rail's new proposed schedule and acceptance of progress and the processes associated with this enormous capital project. With RVTAC's unique characteristics of membership and process, its ability to assist both the City of Seattle and Sound Transit remains very effective.

Legal Review

MBL 5/23/01

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M2001-58

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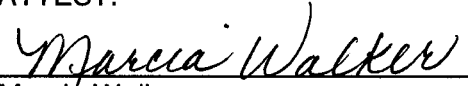
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APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 14th day of June, 2001.


David Earling
Board Chair

ATTEST:


Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

RVTAC

Workplan July to December 2001

Monthly activities

- Steering Committee meeting
- General meeting
- Newsletter
- Outreach to the SE Seattle community
- E-mail and US mail updates on ST Board meetings,
- Central Link Taskforce meetings, Project Review Committee meetings,
- Link light rail project developments

Workshops:

(RVTAC is conducting a poll of member organizations spring & early summer 2001 to determine what workshop topics they are most interested in). Potential workshop topics for fall of 2001:

- Technical support for businesses
- TOD/Economic Development
- Attracting and retaining local businesses
- New Urbanism
- Light Rail in Other Cities
- TOD
- Traffic Calming
- Community Development Funds
- Growth management and Sprawl
- Modern Roundabouts
- Monorail
- Bus Transit Systems

On-going work

Station Area Planning

Metro bus rerouting

ADA access issues

Community Development Fund

Job access on the Sound Transit project

Station Design

TOD

Support for impacted businesses: (Coordinating with various entities including Sound Transit, City of Seattle OED team, Rainier Chamber of Commerce, local banks, Community Capital, Community Development Fund consultants).