

**Sound Transit Board Meeting  
Summary Minutes  
January 24, 2002**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by Chair Ron Sims in the Sound Transit Board Room of Union Station, 401 South Jackson, Seattle, Washington.

**Roll Call**

Chair

(P) Ron Sims, King County Executive

Vice Chairs

(A) David Earling, Edmonds City Council President  
(P) John Ladenburg, Pierce County Executive

Board Members

|   |   |
|---|---|
| (P) Jack Crawford, City of Kenmore Councilmember  | (P) Chuck Mosher, City of Bellevue Councilmember  |
| (P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive        | (A) Greg Nickels, City of Seattle Mayor           |
| (P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Councilmember    | (P) Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember    |
| (P) Mary Gates, City of Federal Way Councilmember | (P) Dwight Pelz, King County Councilmember        |
| (A) Jane Hague, King County Councilmember         | (P) Kevin Phelps, City of Tacoma Councilmember    |
| (P) Ed Hansen, City of Everett Mayor              | (P) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Council Chair   |
| (P) Doug MacDonald, WSDOT Secretary               | (P) Claudia Thomas, City of Lakewood Deputy Mayor |
| (P) Richard McIver, City of Seattle Councilmember |   |

Ms. Marcia Walker, Board Administrator, indicated a quorum of the Board was not present at roll call.

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

John Ladenburg  
Bob Drewel  
David Enslow  
Mary Gates  
Ed Hansen  
Doug MacDonald  
Richard McIver  
Julia Patterson  
Kevin Phelps  
Claudia Thomas

**Public Comment**

The following individuals presented comments to the Board. Comments are on file with the Board Administrator.

**Ms. Rebecca Slivka**, Bike Lines of Washington and the Cascade Bicycle Club, stated the need to comply with the 1976 Memorandum of Agreement which states the center lanes of I-90 be used for high-capacity transit.

(Mr. Drewel and Mr. MacDonald arrived at this time.)

**Mr. Mark Dublin** spoke to buses and bus rapid transit on the Eastside. Concerning I-90, he felt that if there were a way to convert the center lanes to a two-way bus-way prior to rail being implemented, it would work well.

(Mr. Phelps arrived at this time.)

**Ms. Virginia Gunby**, representing 1,000 Friends of Washington/Trans-Lake Citizens' Advisory Committee. She expressed her support of the staff's recommendation for using I-90 for the long-term rail system.

**Mr. John Niles**, President of a public policy research firm and also a research associate at the Minnetta Transportation Institute in San Jose, and a volunteer technical coordinator for the Sane Transit group. He stated his belief that Link costs too much and does little when compared to the alternatives, and urged the Board to preview the forthcoming environmental analysis (EA).

(Ms. Gates, Mr. Enslow, Mr. Ladenburg, and Mr. McIver arrived at this time.)

**Mr. Phillip Grega** discussed correspondence he sent to Congresspersons Cantwell, McDermott, and Murray regarding excavation spoils. He said he recommends disposal of these spoils in the ocean.

(Ms. Thomas arrived at this time.)

**Mr. Greg Thomas** advised the Board that he owns a manufacturing business located on the Tacoma Link light rail path. He said the construction has cut his walk-in trade in half, and he couldn't afford to lose that business.

#### **Report of the Chair**

Mr. Sims stated that he has received requests regarding the effects of Mr. Eyman's initiative. He asked staff to bring a report to the next Board meeting detailing the impacts on Sound Transit and each of the subareas.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Ms. Earl addressed the Board's request for a recommendation for strengthening oversight. She said at the time of the request, Mr. Drewel volunteered to work with Board members and the Citizen Oversight Panel, members of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and the Project Review Committee. She advised that three meetings have been held, with Mr. Enslow and Mr. Crawford working with Mr. Drewel. Ms. Earl gave an overview to the Board on what has come out of the meetings.

Ms. Earl then mentioned the Project Review Committee. She said that she expected a letter would be forthcoming from the PRC outlining their continuing role to Sound Transit.

#### **Citizen Oversight Panel Monthly Report**

Mr. Art Carter, Citizen Oversight Panel Chair, reported on the panel's finding for the year ending 2001. (A copy of the performance report is on file with the Board Administrator.)

Mr. Carter highlighted three themes in the report: accomplishments, regional focus, and execution.

## Accomplishments

Central Link Light Rail has a defined project in place. Five hundred million dollars in federal funding will hopefully soon be in hand. Sounder Commuter Rail and Regional Express carry tens of thousands of riders daily, comfortably and reliably. Ridership has been increasing. Numerous capital projects are under construction. The Tacoma Link tracks are being laid and the maintenance facility is nearly complete.

He said the COP has observed new and higher rigors on budget and schedule, in particular the 2002 process resulted in a significant improvement over similar efforts in the past. The panel acknowledges improvements in other areas and attempts to analyze policy issues. In addition, Board members are requiring more complete information prior to reaching decisions.

Mr. Carter stated that the COP would like to challenge the Board to overcome the concerns about the role of the Board and its governance. He said this could be done by demonstrating the ability to keep a stronger focus on the regional concept of the overall program. The Board should pay particular attention to three things: (1) setting clear priorities on how to proceed if funds fall short; (2) ensuring that upcoming agreements with third parties keep the regional benefits in the forefront; and (3) maintaining the goal to achieve the full Sound Move 21-mile system light rail system from SeaTac Airport to the University District and beyond.

## Execution

Mr. Carter stated that the Board had given the COP a charge to monitor Sound Transit's performance against its commitments to the public to deliver services and facilities on time and within budget. He said that the COP recognized the Board has been working in a constrained funding environment with a number of uncertainties that could impact future performance. While not wishing to diminish the challenge associated with the future, Mr. Carter said the panel could not over-emphasize the importance of meeting current Sound Transit commitments that have been proposed.

## Consent Agenda

Minutes of the December 13, 2001, Board meeting.

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

## Action Items

### Items Referred by Finance Committee

Motion No. M2002-04 – Authorizing an increase to the sole source contract with the Rainier Chamber of Commerce (legal representative for the Rainier Valley Transit Advisory Council) in the amount of \$62,880 to the current contract amount of \$137,900 for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$200,780 for continued services from January 1, 2002, through December 31, 2002

**It was moved by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Crawford, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Motion No. M2002-04 be approved as presented.**

## **Items Not Referred by Committee**

**Motion No. M2002-02 - revising the responsibilities of the Board's Executive and Finance Committees and renaming the Central Link Implementation Committee the Central Link Oversight Committee and superseding Motion No. M2001-74**

**It was moved by Mr. Drewel, seconded by Mr. McIver, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Motion No. M2002-02 be approved as presented.**

**Confirming the Appointment of Sound Transit Executive Committee and Central Link Oversight Committee Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members**

**It was moved by Mr. Drewel, seconded by Mr. Phelps, and approved by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that Mr. Ron Sims be elected Chair of the Executive Committee, Mr. Dave Earling and Mr. John Ladenburg be elected Vice Chairs, and that Mr. Bob Drewel, Mr. Dave Enslow, Mr. Doug MacDonald, Mr. Chuck Mosher, Mr. Greg Nickels, Ms. Julia Patterson, Mr. Kevin Phelps, and Ms. Cynthia Sullivan be elected as members; and that Ms. Cynthia Sullivan be elected Chair of the Central Link Oversight Committee, Mr. Richard McIver be elected Vice Chair, and that Mr. Dave Earling, Ms. Mary Gates, Ms. Jane Hague, Ms. Julia Patterson, Mr. Dwight Pelz, and Dr. Claudia Thomas be elected as members.**

## **Discussion Items**

### **Trans-Lake Washington Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Alternatives**

Ms. Barbara Gilliland gave a presentation of the Trans-Lake Washington EIS alternatives (copy on file).

Ms. Gilliland advised the Board that Sound Transit was coming up on an important decision on the Trans-Lake project. She said the Trans-Lake Washington Executive Committee would be selecting the alternatives to be moved forward into an EIS at their meeting the following Wednesday. She explained that the purpose for the briefing was to give the Board an opportunity to provide feedback to Mr. Crawford and Mr. Earling who are Sound Transit's representatives to the committee.

Ms. Gilliland went over the overall time line advising that the Trans-Lake Executive Committee would be deciding on the EIS the following week with the anticipation of having a preliminary draft available by the end of the year.

### **Consideration of North Link Routes for Draft Environmental Impact Statements**

Mr. Sims advised that the purpose of the discussion would be for staff to describe each segment and wait for verbal direction from the Board. He said this would be to (1) advance the alternative, (2) eliminate the alternative, or (3) hold the alternative for additional review and action on February 14, 2002.

Mr. Ron Endlich, Link Project Manager, North Corridor, discussed the following topics:

- Response to January 10, 2002, Board questions
- Overview of new route
- Initial staff recommendations on routes
- Additional information before February 14, 2002, meeting
- Next steps

It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Crawford, and approved by the consensus of the Board that the Capitol Hill/South Lake Union staff recommendations be approved for:

- The exclusion of Route B.3.2., Boren Avenue Route with stations at Denny and Mercer; and Route B.4.2., First Hill By-Pass with two Capitol Hill stations, one at Pike/Broadway and one at 14th/John; and
- The inclusion in the draft SEIS and conceptual design effort of Route B.1, First Hill Capitol Hill (LPA) Route with stations at First Hill and Capitol Hill (cut-and-cover under Broadway retained for comparison to a cut-and-cover under Nagle Place); Route B.3.1, Eastlake Avenue Route with stations at Convention Place and Harrison; and Route B.4.1, First Hill By-Pass with a single Capitol Hill station and Route B.4.3 with a potential station at Convention Place (the location for a single Capitol Hill station to be optimized during conceptual engineering).

It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Crawford, and carried by unanimous vote of all Board members present that the Ship Canal/University District staff recommendations be approved for:

- The exclusion of Route B.B.2, Mid Level Bridge crossing of the Ship Canal with stations at West Pacific and NE 45th;
- Further study and consideration of Route B.A., Portage Bay Tunnel (LPA) with a deep tunnel crossing of Portage Bay and stations at Pacific and 45th; Route B.B.1., High Level Bridge crossing of the Ship Canal with stations at Campus Parkway and NE 45th; Route B.C. Roanoke Tunnel with stations at West Pacific and NE 45th; Route B.E., Interstate 5 – U-District By-Pass via high level bridge crossing of the Ship Canal with an elevated station just east of I-5 and over NE 45th; and a New West of Campus route to be determined; and
- The inclusion in the draft SEIS and conceptual design effort of Route B.D., Montlake Tunnel with stations at South Campus and NE 45th.

It was moved by Ms. Sullivan, seconded by Mr. Crawford, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board members present that the Northgate staff recommendations be approved for:

- Further study and consideration of Route A.3, Interstate 5 – U-District By-Pass via elevated guideway parallel to Interstate 5 with elevated stations at Northgate and Roosevelt; and
- The inclusion in the draft SEIS and conceptual design effort of Route A.1.1; 12th Avenue Tunnel via tunnel under Lake City Way with elevated station at Northgate and cut-and-cover station in Roosevelt; Route A.2.1b; 8th Avenue Elevated with design variation b; West Portal via tunnel to Ravenna Blvd. with elevated stations at Northgate and Roosevelt; and Route A.2.1c; 8th Avenue Elevated with design variation c: East Portal also via tunnel to Ravenna Blvd. with elevated stations at Northgate and Roosevelt.

## Committee Reports

### Finance Committee

Mr. Phelps reported on the January 17, 2002, Finance Committee meeting. He said in addition to Motion No. M2002-04 which was approved by the Board earlier in the meeting, the Committee also Adopted Motion No. M2002-03, a contract for the redesign of the Tacoma Dome station to allow a third rail corridor; and Motion No. M2002-07 amending an agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to exchange up to \$4,101,274 of WSDOT's federal Section 5307 Formula Funding for an equivalent amount of Sound Transit local funds.

Mr. Phelps said the Committee held over a motion approving geological environmental work on Central Link because of questions and will continue discussion of the item at the February 7 meeting.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Desmond Brown, General Counsel, advised that the Board would convene an executive session to discuss with legal counsel potential litigation. He said the executive session was expected to last for 15 minutes, at which time the Board would reconvene the meeting. The Board would not be taking any further action after the executive session.

The Board recessed into executive session at 3:28 p.m.

The Board was called back to order at 3:42 p.m.

**Other Business**


None.

**Next Meeting**

Thursday, February 14, 2002  
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
Union Station  
Seattle, Washington


**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 p.m.



Ron Sims  
Board Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator