

**Sound Transit Board Meeting  
Summary Minutes  
October 23, 2003**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:18 p.m. by Chair Ron Sims in the Sound Transit Board Room, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

**Roll Call**

Chair

(P) Ron Sims, King County Executive

Vice Chairs

(P) Dave Earling, Edmonds City Council President

(P) John Ladenburg, Pierce County Executive

(P) Jack Crawford, Kenmore City Councilmember

(P) Bob Drewel, Snohomish County Executive

(P) David Enslow, Sumner City Councilmember

(P) Mary Gates, Federal Way City Councilmember

(P) Jane Hague, King County Councilmember

(A) Doug MacDonald, WSDOT Secretary

(A) Richard McIver, Seattle City Councilmember

(P) Chuck Mosher, Bellevue City Councilmember

(P) Greg Nickels, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) Mark Olson, Everett City Councilmember

(P) Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember

(P) Dwight Pelz, King County Councilmember

(P) Kevin Phelps, Tacoma City Councilmember

(A) Cynthia Sullivan, King County Council Chair

(P) Claudia Thomas, City of Lakewood Deputy Mayor

Ms. Marcia Walker, Board Administrator, indicated a quorum of the Board was present at roll call.

The following Board members arrived after roll call:

Jane Hague

Julia Patterson

**Public Comment**

Mr. Sims announced that Mr. Phillip Grega, who had been a very important transit activist at Sound Transit Board meetings, had passed away.

The Board observed a moment of silence for Mr. Grega.

Ms. Connie Marshall, Mayor of Bellevue, congratulated Sound Transit for its leadership in developing regional transportation, and said that the City of Bellevue supports the Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA).

(Board member Patterson arrived at this time.)

Mr. John Niles addressed an October 23, 2003, letter from Congressman Istook, Chair of the House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee, which outlined conditions that Sound Transit would be required to meet before authorization of the FFGA. He said that the Coalition for Effective Transportation Alternatives (CETA) shared many of the same concerns. (The complete text of Mr. Niles' comments is on file with the Board Administrator.)

Mr. Tom Heller commented that subarea equity must be maintained. Even if Initiative 776 (I-776) is struck down by the State Supreme Court, Sound Transit may not be able to meet its cash flow projections and will have to erode subarea equity to meet its obligation to its bond holders.

Ms. Maggie Fimia, Co-Chair of CETA, commented that light rail costs too much, does too little, damages the existing bus system, drains resources, breaks faith with the voters, and is dangerous.

Mr. Will Knedlik referred to the Chair's remarks during public comment at the October 9, 2003, Board meeting and said that they were intended to prevent regional taxpayers from expressing their right to petition Sound Transit for redress of grievances as to misconduct related to billions of dollars.

Mr. Ladenburg asked that Mr. Knedlik apologize for his testimony at the October 9, 2003, Board meeting where he portrayed remarks made by Mr. Scott Rutherford. Mr. Ladenburg read Mr. Rutherford's response and said that Mr. Rutherford is highly offended by Mr. Knedlik's use of his comments at the Board's October 9, 2003 meeting.

(Board member Hague arrived at this time.)

Mr. Donald Padelford stated that the plan approved in 1995 has tripled in cost, and cannot be completed as proposed. For the same amount of money being spent on the initial light rail segment, the final third of the HOV system could be completed and a 150 mile Bus Rapid Transit system could be built. A surface based light rail system cannot do the job.

Mr. Paul W. Locke said that Resolution No. R2003-20 does not address one of the three conditions noted in Congressman Istook's October 23, 2003 letter to the Federal Transit Administration regarding the award of the FFGA. The agreement is subject to future Congressional appropriations. There is no guarantee that Sound Transit will receive the FFGA and will have to pay for light rail out of local taxes.

Mr. Richard Borkowski, President of People for Modern Transit, congratulated the Board on its perseverance, and said that people prefer rail over buses because it is more comfortable, reliable and time certain.

Mr. Al Stipe, Citizen Oversight Panel member (COP), commented that he agreed with Mr. Sims' comments to the media that the reason Congressman Istook agreed to FTA's approval of the FFGA is that the agency has the top rated program in the country, a great staff, and the full commitment of the Board of Directors.

Mr. Henry Ramsey spoke to his concern regarding Sound Transit's commitment to subarea equity.

### **Report of the Chair**

Mr. Sims said that action on Motion No. M2003-108 was being postponed to the next Board meeting as the Finance Committee had deferred action on the item to its November 6, 2003 meeting.

**Resolution No. R2003-20 – A resolution of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority relating to the \$500 million full funding grant agreement.**

Mr. Sims said that this action was added to the agenda in response to the conditions outlined in Congressman Istook's letter to the FTA dated October 23, 2003. If the resolution is adopted, he will sign the transmittal letter and resolution and send it to the FTA this evening.

**It was moved by Mr. Crawford and seconded by Mr. Drewel that Resolution No. R2003-20 be adopted.**

Ms. Joni Earl, Chief Executive Officer, briefed the Board on the resolution. Two of Congressman Istook's conditions for the FTA's approval of the FFGA, are reconfirming the agency's commitment to subarea equity and a promise to neither seek nor accept any more than the \$500 million in federal grant funds. The third condition, that real estate acquisition in Tukwila be completed by December 2004, and does not require Board action.

**The motion to adopt Resolution No. R2003-20 was carried by the unanimous vote of all board members present.**

Mr. Sims announced that Mr. Mosher was retiring at the end of the year and that this was his last meeting. He asked Mosher to come back to a Board meeting early next year to be recognized for his service on the Board of Directors.

#### **Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Ms. Earl said that Regional Express will achieve another milestone on Monday, October 27, 2003 with the dedication of the Lynnwood Transit Center.

#### **Consent Agenda**

September 11, 2003 Board meeting minutes

Voucher Certification for the Month of September 2003

**It was moved by Mr. Phelps, 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. M2003-109 – authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to execute a sole source contract amendment with Lonnie Blaydes, Jr., to provide additional professional services in support of negotiations with Burlington Northern Santa Fe railway in the amount of \$50,000, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$149,000

**It was moved by Mr. Phelps, seconded by Mr. Crawford, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Board member present that Motion No. M2003-109 be approved as presented.**

## **Committee Reports**

### **Finance Committee**

Mr. Phelps reported that the Finance Committee will hold a budget workshop on November 6, 2003, at 11:30 a.m. The committee received a bond market report at its October 16, 2003, meeting. Staff will be introducing KPMG, the new independent auditors, at the November 19, 2003, Audit and Reporting Subcommittee meeting.

The committee deferred action on Motion No. M2003-107, executing a contract amendment with URS for preliminary engineering and environmental documentation of the Mercer Island Park-and-Ride/North Mercer Way to its next committee meeting.

The committee took action on Motion No. M2003-111, an agreement with Burlington Northern Santa Fe for \$1 million of track work on the Everett to Seattle segment; Motion No. M2003-106, a three-year agreement with KPMG for independent audit services; and Motion No. M2003-110, directing staff to seek technical assistance for regional planning activities with the Puget Sound Regional Council.

### **Other Business**

None.

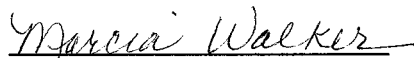
### **Next Meeting**


Thursday, November 13, 2003  
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
Union Station Board Room  
Seattle, Washington

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

ATTEST:

  
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Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator

  
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John Ladenburg  
Board Chair