

**SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING**  
**Summary Minutes**  
**September 22, 2005**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. by Vice Chair Mark Olson, in the Sound Transit Board Room, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

**Roll Call**

**Chair**

(A) *John Ladenburg, Pierce County Executive*

**Vice Chairs**

(P) *Greg Nickels, City of Seattle Mayor*

(P) *Mark Olson, Everett City Councilmember*

(P) *Julie Anderson, Tacoma Councilmember*

(P) *Fred Butler, Issaquah Council President*

(P) *Jack Crawford, Kenmore City Councilmember*

(A) *David Enslow, City of Sumner Deputy Mayor*

(P) *Doug MacDonald, WSDOT Secretary*

(A) *Connie Marshall, City of Bellevue Mayor*

(P) *Richard Marin, Edmonds Council President*

(P) *Richard McIver, Seattle City Councilmember*

(P) *Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember*

(P) *Dwight Pelz, King County Councilmember*

(P) *Larry Phillips, King County Council Chair*

(A) *Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive*

(P) *Ron Sims, King County Executive*

(P) *Claudia Thomas, Lakewood City Councilmember*

(P) *Pete von Reichbauer, King County Council Vice Chair*

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

**Report of the Chair**

Mr. Olson announced a change to the agenda order, reversing the Capital Projects Management System Performance Audit Report and Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel Closure Update.

**Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Ms. Joni Earl, Chief Executive Officer, announced the opening of the direct access ramp to Interstate 5 at the Ash Way Park-and-Ride. She also announced that Link received the Record of Decision (ROD) from the Federal Transit Administration bringing the Airport Link Project to final design, and now the acquisition of property may begin.

**Public Comment**

None

**Presentation by Puget Sound Regional Council**

Mr. Bob Drewel, Executive Director of Puget Sound Regional Council, discussed the strategy of the Prosperity Partnership. He identified that the Puget Sound transportation infrastructure has been underinvested for over 30 years, though serious investments to catch up have recently begun. The Prosperity Partnership is a coalition of government, business, labor and community leaders from King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties developing a strategy and taking

critically important action toward a shared goal of long-term economic prosperity and 100,000 new jobs for the central Puget Sound region.

Mr. Drewel outlined six foundation initiatives of the Prosperity Partnership along with short and long-term goals. The next steps will be to draft the strategy and implementation plans to ensure those initiatives are met.

Mr. Charlie Howard, Transportation Planning Director of Puget Sound Regional Council, presented a technical analysis of the potential economic development benefits of a long-range regional high capacity transit system. He stated the economic impacts of transportation investments bring direct transportation user benefits and indirect economic development benefits. He cited a study conducted with the 50 largest metro areas in the U.S. that revealed a significant correlation between the economic competitiveness of the region and the level of transit services.

### **Capital Projects Management System Performance Audit Report**

Mr. Dave Shuter of Gannett Fleming acknowledged the strong relationship between Gannett Fleming and Sound Transit. He commended the agency on its use of sound principles and good management practices. He shared that the performance audit was based on current relevant projects and measured against the best practices of five other agencies from around the nation.

Mr. Dan Estrada of Gannett Fleming presented the Capital Projects Management Systems Performance Audit (copy on file with the Board Administrator). He identified five current projects that were audited and noted that a best practices survey was created based on the criteria of five other mature agencies, given that Sound Transit has been in operation for eight years. He acknowledged Ms. Earl for enlisting enthusiastic participation by staff.

Eleven best practices comprised the ratings for the audit. Sound Transit was judged to be on par with three, evolving on six, and challenged by two of the eleven. Twenty-three recommendations were developed, including six high priority items. Gannett Fleming concluded that Sound Transit's capital project management systems are progressing appropriately toward maturity and best practice standards, and compare favorably against other transit agencies. Sound Transit management has acknowledged opportunities for immediate and sustained improvement, with action already begun.

Ms. Earl noted that her responses to the twenty-three recommendations are included in the audit beginning on page 7, and that she is pleased overall with the audit findings.

Mr. Olson stated that the Board would take action to accept the audit.

### **Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel Closure Update**

In the fifth installment of her report on the tunnel closure, Ms. Earl reminded the Board that it would close on September 24th. A massive street team effort has already begun, with 227 Sound Transit employees volunteering. She acknowledged the media for assistance in publicizing the upcoming closure.

Ms. Earl reviewed the action plan for the tunnel closure and following demolition. Due to anticipated noise and vibrations, some of the demolition will occur at night. An open channel of

communication has been established with area residences for feedback as needed. Daily post-implementation meetings are planned for review and rapid response on action needed.

### **Action Items**

#### **Voucher Certification from August 16 through August 31, 2005**

**It was moved by Mr. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Marin, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the Voucher Certification be approved as presented.**

Resolution No. R2005-19 - (1) amending Sound Move to create two new projects, Rainier Avenue/Hardie Avenue Circulation and Transit Improvements Project and Strander Boulevard/SW 27th Extension Project, in the City of Renton; (2) amending the lifetime Adopted 2005 Budget for the Renton HOV Access/N 8th to transfer \$19,883,000 in surplus funds into the East King County Program Reserve, for an amended lifetime budget of \$67,075,000; (3) allocating \$15,675,000 from the East King County Capital Program Reserve to the Rainier Avenue/Hardie Avenue Circulation and Transit Improvements Project and \$4,208,000 to the Strander Boulevard/SW 27th Extension Project; and (4) establishing an annual 2005 budget of \$726,344 for the Rainier Avenue/Hardie Avenue Circulation and Transit Improvements Project and an annual 2005 budget of \$47,116 for the Strander Boulevard/SW 27th Extension Project and reducing the annual 2005 budget for the Renton HOV Access/N 8th project to \$56,717

**Mr. Olson noted that Resolution No. R2005-19 was forwarded by the Finance Committee to the Board with a do pass recommendation. He announced that Resolution No. R2005-19 be held over to the next Board Meeting on October 13, 2005 because an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board membership is required to amend Sound Move and to amend the adopted budget.**

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Finance Committee – September 15, 2005**

Finance Committee Chair Crawford reported on the Finance Committee meeting. Approved were Motion No. M2005-206 – authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to execute a General Services Agreement with Seattle City Light for the design and installation of system modifications; Motion No. M2005-104 – authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to acquire certain real property from the Washington State Department of Transportation for the Issaquah Transit Center/SR900 project; Motion No. M2005-103 – authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to acquire certain real property from the Washington State Department of Transportation for the Mercer Island Park-and-Ride project; Motion No. M2005-100 – authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract amendment with Willis of Seattle, Inc. to provide continuing insurance brokerage services; Motion No. M2005-81 – authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to execute a contract with DMJM Harris to provide refined preliminary engineering and final design services for the Mukilteo Station Project

### **Executive Session**

At 2:40 p.m., Vice Chair Olson announced that the Board would convene a 20 minute executive session. There would be no action thereafter.

The Board reconvened in open session at 3:00 p.m.

**Other Business**

None.

**Next Meeting**

Thursday, October 13, 2005  
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.  
Union Station Board Room

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.



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John W. Ladenburg  
Board Chair

ATTEST:



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Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator