

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M2006-03

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority directing staff to set aside from further consideration those Sound Transit 2 projects listed below, that do not perform well under the Board's initial screening criteria.

Background:

In 1996, the Board adopted a Regional Transit Long-Range Vision as the agency's statement of goals, policies, and strategies to guide the long-range development of the regional high capacity transportation (HCT) system. The vision will be implemented in phases, and the Board adopted Sound Move as first phase of the transportation system plan. The Regional Transit Long-Range vision anticipated that it would be updated with subsequent development phases.

Sound Transit is in the middle of its planning process to identify a set of investments for regional high capacity transportation that will constitute its next system plan (ST2). The process began with the preparation of a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), which was issued in June 2005. The SEIS informed an update to the agency's Regional Transit Long-Range Plan, which was adopted in July 2005 (Resolution No. R2005-14). The resolution adopting the Regional Transit Long-Range Plan also authorized the Chief Executive Officer to work with staff, the public, agencies, and communities throughout the region to develop priorities for Sound Transit 2, consistent with the adopted Regional Transit Long-Range Plan. The Long-Range Plan contains over 400 potential HCT projects. Since then, staff has worked with local jurisdictions and communities throughout the region to identify approximately 80 candidate projects for consideration in ST2.

On December 8, 2005, the Sound Transit Board of Directors received information on each of these candidate projects, including details on scope, costs, risks and benefits, and preliminary financial information that will be used to build the agency's financial capacity for ST2. Based on this information, the Sound Transit Board will develop a draft package of ST2 projects for public consideration and review. Eventually, a final ST2 plan will be prepared, financing for which will be voted on by the public. While the Board is in the early stages of the ST2 development process, this motion represents the first formal step in narrowing the projects to be included in ST2.

At the Board of Directors meeting on December 8, 2005, the Board outlined the process and priorities to be used for the initial screening of ST2 projects. The Board asked staff to focus on four key evaluation criteria at this preliminary stage: costs (capital and operating), ridership/benefit, system integration, and risk. These criteria are consistent with the agency's Long-Range Plan, and were responsive to the suggestions of the Expert Review Panel who advised Sound Transit to focus on the key criteria that the Board identifies as the most important to its decision-making. Staff was asked to apply these criteria to all of the candidate projects and to make recommendations to the Board regarding which projects perform well under the criteria and which projects the Board may want to set aside. The projects remaining after this preliminary screening would be subject to continued analysis and review. Projects set aside would receive no further staff attention, unless subsequently directed to do so by the Board.

On December 15, the Sound Transit Board of Directors conducted a workshop to publicly review the ST2 project list and to hear reports from staff on financial capacity. In addressing the project list, staff discussed generally how the proposed ST2 projects build on Sound Move and promote the Long-Range Plan. Staff explained the process for internal project review (including various expertise work teams) and then described those projects that did not perform well under the Board's initial screening criteria. In response to questions and input from Board members and local jurisdictions, staff provided the Board with additional information on certain projects.

Having reviewed and considered the information about the candidate projects and the recommendation presented by staff, the Board takes the action described below.

Motion:

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that staff is directed to set aside from further consideration those Sound Transit 2 projects, which are listed below, that do not perform well under the Board's initial screening criteria:

North Corridor:

- N4 Link LRT – Lynnwood Park & Ride to Alderwood Mall along I-5 (Lynnwood)
- N9 Express Bus – HOV Access Ramps and Flyer Stops on I-5 at NE 185th Street (Shoreline)
- N18 Express Bus – Parking Garage at Lake Forest Park Town Center (Lake Forest Park)
- N24 Sounder – New Station near Point Wells (Shoreline)
- N25 Sounder – New Station in Ballard (Seattle)
- N27 Express Bus – New Route to Provide Feeder Service to New Sounder Station at Broad Street (Seattle)

East Corridor:

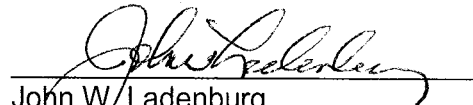
- E10 Enhanced Transit – ST funding of Metro Route 269 (East King County)
- E11 Enhanced Transit – ST funding of Metro Route 240 (East King County)
- E14 Express Bus – Direct Access Ramps on I-90 at SR 900 (Issaquah)
- E16 Express Bus – Flyer Stop and Pedestrian Bridge on I-405 (Bothell)
- E17 Express Bus – Flyer Stop on I-405 at NE 85th Street (Kirkland)
- E18 Express Bus – BAT Lanes on SR 522 between I-405 and SR 527 (Bothell)
- E19 Express Bus – BAT Lanes on SR 522 (East King County)
- E21 Express Bus – Parking Garage and Transit Loading at Bothell Park & Ride (Bothell)
- E27 Express Bus – New Route between Bothell and Renton on I-405 (East King County)

South Corridor:

- S4 Link LRT – New Station on Tacoma Link Commerce Street (Tacoma)
- S8 Express Bus – Bus-Only Access Ramps on 1-5 at South Industrial Way and Airport Way/5th Avenue South (Seattle)
- S14 Express Bus – Extension of Route 565 to Tacoma Dome Station during Peak Periods with Limited Stops

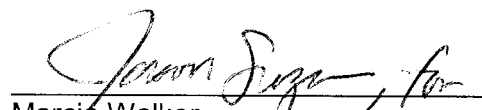
It is further moved that Board action is required before returning any of these projects to the potential project list for inclusion in Sound Transit 2.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on January 12, 2006.



John W. Ladenburg
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcja Walker
Board Administrator