

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M2006-80

A motion of the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority directing staff to (1) conduct a high-level analysis of Concept B and Concept F alignments for the D Street to M Street project along the Sounder Tacoma-to-Lakewood Corridor concurrent with the Modified Alternative 2 engineering study and environmental assessment currently underway; (2) determine rough orders of cost, compliance with design standards or fatal flaws of Concepts B and F and identify any opportunities to incorporate feasible elements of those concepts into other design alternatives utilizing the existing consultant design team contract at a cost increase not to exceed \$30,000; (3) and while continuing to conduct the feasibility study of Alternative 2 Modified as directed by the Board, to complete the high level analysis of Concepts B and F and report the findings to the Finance Committee at its December 7, 2006 meeting.

Background:

Sounder commuter rail service in the Lakewood to Tacoma Corridor is dependent on resolution of operational issues associated with design. Several studies have been undertaken to identify feasible alignments that will address operation issues, including complex road crossings. In 2002, the Sound Transit Board selected a Preferred Alternative (Alternative 1) using an at grade crossing alignment. In November of 2005, the Board directed design of the Preferred Alignment to be placed on hold at the 70% stage of engineering to allow other alternatives to be considered to address concerns with the two at grade crossings.

In March 2006, staff briefed the Board on a potential overpass alignment alternative (Alternative 2 Modified) endorsed by the Tacoma City Council which would cross Pacific Avenue via an overpass and would eliminate the at-grade crossing at South Tacoma Way. West of Pacific Avenue, Alternative 2 Modified would be located along the north side of South Tacoma Way. The Board requested staff to evaluate the feasibility of the Alternative 2 Modified alignment over Pacific Avenue and report back in the first quarter of 2007.

At the October 26, 2006 Board meeting, staff provided a status report on projects within the Tacoma to Lakewood corridor and the progress on the Alternative 2 Modified feasibility study. Staff also presented two new alignment concepts within the D Street to M Street segment recently developed by the American Institute of Architects. The Tacoma City Council at an October 17, 2006 study session requested Sound Transit to consider these concepts as part of the on going feasibility study.

Motion:

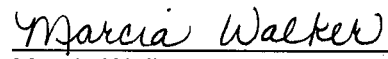
It is hereby moved by the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that staff is directed to (1) conduct a high-level analysis of Concept B and Concept F alignments for the D Street to M Street project along the Sounder Tacoma-to-Lakewood Corridor concurrent with the Modified Alternative 2 engineering study and environmental assessment currently underway; (2) determine rough orders of cost, compliance with design standards or fatal flaws of Concepts B and F and identify any opportunities to incorporate feasible elements of those concepts into other design alternatives utilizing the existing consultant design team contract at a cost increase not to exceed \$30,000; (3) and while continuing to conduct the feasibility study of Alternative 2 Modified as directed by the Board, to complete the high level analysis of Concepts B and F and report the findings to the Finance Committee at its December 7, 2006 meeting.

APPROVED by the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on November 2, 2006.



Fred Butler
Finance Committee Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator