

SOUND TRANSIT FINANCE COMMITTEE
Summary Minutes
December 7, 2006

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Chair Fred Butler in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

Roll Call

Chair

(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Councilmember

Vice-Chair

(P) Julie Anderson, Tacoma Councilmember

(A) Mary-Alyce Burleigh, Kirkland Councilmember

(P) Dow Constantine, King Co. Councilmember

(P) Dave Enslow, Sumner Mayor

(P) Richard Marin, Edmonds Councilmember

(A) Richard McIver, Seattle Councilmember

(A) Pete von Reichbauer, King Co. Councilmember

Jason Suzaka, Board Coordinator, announced that a quorum of the committee was present at roll call.

Report of the Chair

None.

Chief Financial Officer's Report

Brian McCartan, Chief Financial Officer, announced that earlier today the Washington State Supreme Court handed down its decision on I-776. By an 8-1 vote, the court upheld the collection of Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes throughout the life of the existing bonds despite the passage of I-776 in 2002. The MVET was pledged when the bonds were issued in 1999.

Discussion Item – Tacoma to Lakewood Sounder Corridor

Project Manager Mark Johnson and Rail Program Manager Eric Beckman gave a staff presentation. At its November 2, 2006 meeting, the Finance Committee approved Motion No. M2006-80, which directed staff to perform a high level analysis of the two community concepts that were proposed for the D to M Street project along the Tacoma – Lakewood Sounder corridor and to report the findings at the December 7, 2006 meeting.

Project Manager Mark Johnson and Rail Program Manager Eric Beckman provided the report. Mr. Johnson discussed the alternatives in more detail and evaluated them based on criteria such as impacts on local businesses and properties and vehicle traffic.

Based on the findings, no additional work will be performed on the two concepts discussed by Mr. Johnson. He added that staff will finish work on the feasibility study for modified alternative #2 route.

As a follow up, Vice-Chair Anderson asked staff for the fund balance in the Pierce subarea, and for each concept a list of the properties that would need to be taken and businesses that would need to be relocated, along with the degree of risk involved for each property.

Items within Finance Committee Authority for Final Action

Chair Butler announced that the committee will not consider Motion No. M2006-85 today.

Minutes of November 16, 2006 Finance Committee Meeting

It was moved by Board member Marin, seconded by Board member Enslow, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the November 16, 2006 minutes be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2006-84 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract with Dell, Inc. to provide hardware maintenance and procurement services for agency-wide technology projects for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$678,000.

Kevin Crawford, IT Manager, presented the staff report. He clarified that even though the Agency is piggy-backing on the Western States Contracting Alliance contract, the Agency will still have the ability to further negotiate with Dell.

Public Comment

None.

It was moved by Board member Marin, seconded by Board member Enslow, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Motion No. M2006-84 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2006-86 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a one-year contract with two one-year options to extend with Cocker Fennessy, Inc. to provide strategic communications and public affairs services for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$500,000.

Ric Ilgenfritz, Chief Communications Officer, presented the staff report. He noted that the firm also does work for the Regional Transportation Investment District, and is well positioned to assist both agencies in presenting a joint transportation package to the voters in November 2007.

Public Comment

None.

It was moved by Board member Marin, seconded by Board member Enslow, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Motion No. M2006-86 be approved as presented.

Items for Recommendation to the Board

Resolution No. R2006-24 – Adopting an annual budget for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2007.

Pete Rogness, Budget Manager, presented the staff report. He gave a brief background on the budget process.

It was moved by Board member Marin, seconded by Board member Enslow, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Resolution No. R2006-24 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Resolution No. R2006-22 – Adopting the 2007 Service Implementation Plan, authorizing the chief executive officer to implement the 2007 service changes, and approving the use of the preliminary 2008-2012 service changes for planning and forecasting purposes.

Mike Bergman, Program Manager, presented the staff report. He reported that staff was able to negotiate transit service rates that are affordable within the Proposed 2007 Budget.

Mr. Bergman outlined a preliminary schedule of the new Sounder train that will be running a reverse commute from Seattle to Tacoma in the morning and Tacoma to Seattle in the evening.

In response to questions from Vice-Chair Anderson, Mr. Bergman stated that the budget has enough funding to provide more Tacoma Link service for special events; however, further studies need to be performed to determine whether or not increased activity and land use changes in the area warrant expanded Tacoma Link service. Vice-Chair Anderson also asked for projections showing how ridership would change if the Tacoma Link schedule changed.

The committee also discussed parking issues at the Tacoma Dome garage, which is approaching full capacity.

It was moved by Board member Marin, seconded by Board member Enslow, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Resolution No. R2006-22 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Resolution No. R2006-23 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests by negotiated purchase, by condemnation (including settlement), by condemnation litigation, or by administrative settlement; and to pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected parties as necessary for the Sounder Commuter Rail – M Street to Lakewood Track and Signal Project.

Roger Hansen, Real Estate Manager, presented the staff report.

It was moved by Board member Anderson, seconded by Board member Marin, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Resolution No. R2006-23 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Next Meeting:

Chair Butler announced that the December 21, 2006 Finance Committee meeting had been cancelled.


Thursday, January 4, 2007, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m., Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle WA.

Adjourn

There was no other business; the meeting was adjourned at 1:10 p.m.


Fred Butler
Finance Committee Chair

ATTEST:


Jason Suzaka
Board Coordinator