

**SOUND TRANSIT
STAFF REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO. R2007-12

Establishing a Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Board	6/28/07	Action	Desmond Brown, General Counsel Perry Weinberg, Legal Counsel and Environmental Compliance Manager	(206) 398-5017 (206) 689-4931

Contract/Agreement Type:	✓	Requested Action:	✓
Competitive Procurement		Execute New Contract/Agreement	
Sole Source		Amend Existing Contract/Agreement	
Agreement with Other Jurisdiction(s)		Budget Amendment	
Real Estate		Property Acquisition	

PROJECT NAME

Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative

PROPOSED ACTION

Authorizes the chief executive office to establish a Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative.

KEY FEATURES of PROPOSED ACTION

- The purpose of the proposed action is to re-enforce and strengthen Sound Transit's environmental commitment as part of continual improvement and in response to diminishing natural resources and the impact of global warming.
- The proposed action directs the chief executive officer to take all reasonable and appropriate steps to integrate sustainable business practices and strategies throughout the Sound Transit organization.
- The proposed action explains the concept of sustainability, which involves maintaining adequate habitat and resources to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the future.
- The proposed action will help improve the agency's environmental performance and may help reduce long-term costs.
- The action is consistent with the commitments contained in Sound Transit's Environmental Policy.

BUDGET IMPACT SUMMARY

There is no action outside of the Board-adopted budget; there are no contingency funds required, no subarea impacts, or funding required from other parties other than what is already assumed in the financial plan.

BUDGET and FINANCIAL PLAN DISCUSSION

The proposed action encourages the agency to become more sustainable, which in itself does not require funds and may instead result in overall cost-savings. Incorporating certain sustainable features could involve up-front costs, but such costs likely would be offset by savings over time. The proposed action is also intended to be implemented consistent with the agency's Environmental Policy, which encourages continual improvement of the agency's environmental performance through cost-effective innovation.

SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

Not applicable for this action.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION and BACKGROUND for PROPOSED ACTION

In 2004, Sound Transit adopted an Environmental Policy and was among the first wave of transit agencies to develop and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS). Public transit, which is Sound Transit's core mission, helps protect the environment by providing alternatives to automobile travel, by helping to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled, and by encouraging compact, urban development at regional centers consistent with the Washington Growth Management Act.

Sound Transit is proud of its environmental record yet strives for continual improvement, especially in light of the challenge presented by diminishing natural resources and the impact of global warming. The concept of sustainability means maintaining adequate habitat and resources to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the future and involves a healthy environment, economy, and society. By promoting energy efficiency, minimizing waste, and seeking more efficient alternatives to existing practices, sustainability programs often lead to cost savings over time.

The international community, the federal government, the State of Washington, and many of the jurisdictions that comprise the Sound Transit district have adopted initiatives related to sustainability and global warming. The Sound Transit Board contains members who are local and national leaders with regard to these issues.

Sound Transit has taken steps to address sustainability. The proposed action will re-enforce the Agency's environmental commitment and responsibility and will set the framework for a more ambitious, comprehensive approach for addressing sustainability throughout the Agency.

Prior Board/Committee Actions on this Project

Motion/Resolution Number and Date	Summary of Action
Resolution No. 20 2/27/97	Revised the Code of Ethics for Board members, officers, and employees of the Regional Transit Authority. Requires all Board members, officers, and employees to devote their "best efforts and attention to ... managing human and environmental resources for the benefit and enjoyment of both current and future generations."
R2004-06 5/20/04	Adoption of agency Environmental Policy and authorization to implement and maintain an Environmental Management System.

CONSEQUENCES of DELAY

While there is urgency to the issue of diminishing natural resources and global warming, which this action helps to address, there are no direct consequences to delay of Board approval regarding Sound Transit projects and programs.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

In researching and developing this Sustainability Initiative, staff has coordinated with other public agencies, local jurisdictions, consultants, and various private sector organizations involved in sustainability efforts.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

PW 6-21-07

LEGAL REVIEW

BN 6-22-07

SOUND TRANSIT

RESOLUTION NO. R2007-12

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to establish a Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative.

WHEREAS, a Regional Transit Authority, hereinafter referred to as Sound Transit, has been created for the Pierce, King, and Snohomish County region by action of their respective county councils pursuant to RCW 81.112.030; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 1996, at a general election held within the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority district, the voters approved local funding for high capacity transit in the Central Puget Sound Region; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit's Code of Ethics (Resolution 20) requires Board members, officers, and employees to devote their best efforts and attention to managing environmental resources for the benefit and enjoyment of both current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Board has adopted a strong Environmental Policy (Resolution No. R2004-06) and was among the first wave of transit agencies to develop and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS); and

WHEREAS, public transit, which is Sound Transit's core mission, helps protect the environment by providing alternatives to automobile travel, by helping to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled, and by encouraging compact, urban development at regional centers consistent with the Washington Growth Management Act; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit is proud of its environmental record yet also strives for continual improvement through cost-effective innovation and self-assessment; and

WHEREAS, a healthy and sustainable environment is important to our citizens, our economy, and our future, and such an environment is increasingly threatened due to diminishing natural resources and the impact of global warming; and

WHEREAS, the concept of sustainability means maintaining adequate habitat and resources to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the future and involves a healthy environment, economy, and society; and

WHEREAS, while Sound Transit has taken steps to address sustainability, the Board desires to re-enforce and strengthen the Agency's environmental commitment and responsibility through a more comprehensive approach for incorporating sustainability throughout the agency; and

WHEREAS, the international community, the federal government, the State of Washington, and many of the jurisdictions that comprise Sound Transit have adopted measures related to sustainability and global warming, and the Sound Transit Board includes local and national leaders on these issues; and

WHEREAS, it has been reported that sustainability programs can result in long-term cost-savings by reducing or eliminating waste, promoting efficiency, and by streamlining business practices; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that embracing sustainability measures is in the public interest.

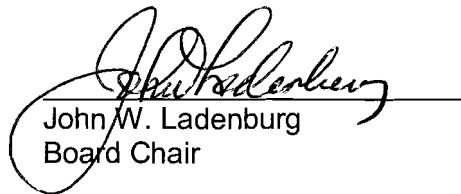
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority as follows:

Section 1: The Board hereby directs the chief executive officer to take all reasonable and appropriate steps to integrate sustainable business practices and strategies throughout the Sound Transit organization including planning, designing, constructing, and operating existing and new transit systems and facilities. Such strategies shall constitute Sound Transit's

Sustainability Initiative and shall address at a minimum, but are not limited to, petroleum conservation, alternative fuels, and renewable energy; energy efficiency; greenhouse gas emissions; water conservation; toxics reduction; procurement; waste prevention, re-use, and recycling; building and facility performance; and land use.


Section 2: To ensure progress and continual improvement, objectives and targets shall be established and updated as part of the Agency's Environmental Management System and other Agency performance management systems. Periodic reports will be provided to the Board on progress toward implementing this Resolution.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on June 28, 2007.



John W. Ladenburg
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

SOUND TRANSIT

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 1

ESTABLISHING A SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE FOR SOUND TRANSIT

Background

In 2004, Sound Transit adopted an Environmental Policy and was among the first wave of transit agencies to develop and implement an Environmental Management System (EMS). Public transit, which is Sound Transit's core mission, helps protect the environment by providing alternatives to automobile travel, by helping to reduce the number of vehicle miles traveled, and by encouraging compact, urban development at regional centers consistent with the Washington Growth Management Act.

Sound Transit is proud of its environmental record yet strives for continual improvement, especially in light of the challenge presented by diminishing natural resources and the impact of global warming. The concept of sustainability means maintaining adequate habitat and resources to meet the needs of the present generation without compromising the future and involves a healthy environment, economy, and society. By promoting energy efficiency, minimizing waste, and seeking more efficient alternatives to existing practices, sustainability programs often lead to cost savings over time.

The international community, the federal government, the State of Washington, and many of the jurisdictions that comprise the Sound Transit district have adopted initiatives related to sustainability and global warming. The Sound Transit Board contains members who are local and national leaders with regard to these issues.

Sound Transit has taken steps to address sustainability. This Executive Order will re-enforce the Agency's environmental commitment and responsibility and will set the framework for a more ambitious, comprehensive approach for addressing sustainability throughout the Agency.

Order

By the authority vested in me as Chief Executive Officer of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (Sound Transit) pursuant to Resolution 78-1 (Establishing Delegated Authority) and with reference to Resolution No. R2004-06 (Adopting Sound Transit Environmental Policy) and R2007-12 (Establishing Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative), it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1: Sustainable business practices and strategies will be integrated throughout the Sound Transit organization, including planning, designing, constructing, and operating existing and new transit systems and facilities. These will collectively constitute Sound Transit's Sustainability Initiative.

Section 2: Staff is directed to implement the following measures to the maximum extent practicable:

Petroleum Conservation and Renewable Fuel and Energy

- Purchase vehicles that reduce dependency on fossil fuels
- Reduce fuel consumption through measures such as (1) operating vehicles more efficiently; and (2) encouraging carpooling and use of public transit or other modes when traveling to meetings, events, and job sites
- Use alternative fuels
- Work with energy providers to maximize the percentage of renewable energy purchased

Energy Efficiency

- Implement energy conservation strategies at Agency buildings and facilities through measures such as (1) conducting audits; (2) monitoring utility usage; (3) assessing heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC) and lighting controls; (4) maximizing use of energy-efficient lighting; and (5) enabling energy-efficient features on electronic equipment such as Agency computers, monitors, televisions, and appliances

Greenhouse Gas Emissions

- Explore ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through measures such as (1) assessing emissions during project environmental reviews based on accepted methodologies and identifying ways to reduce any adverse impacts through reasonable and appropriate project mitigation; and (2) implementing other measures contained in this Executive Order

Water Conservation

- Implement water conservation strategies at Agency buildings and facilities through measures such as (1) conducting audits; (2) monitoring usage; and (3) reducing consumption

Toxics Reduction

- Reduce toxic and hazardous chemicals acquired, used, or disposed by the Agency through measures such as (1) conducting audits; (2) requiring contractors to minimize use of pesticides and other toxics when maintaining landscaping and rights-of-way; and (3) using environmentally sound practices with respect to disposition of Agency electronic equipment that has reached the end of its useful life

Ecosystem Mitigation

- Avoid impacts to environmentally sensitive resources and provide adequate mitigation to ensure there is no net loss of ecosystem function and acreage as a result of Agency projects

Procurement

- Purchase environmentally friendly, sustainable materials and products, such as those that are bio-based, energy-efficient, water-efficient, and which contain recycled-content

Pollution Prevention, Re-Use, and Recycling

- Prevent waste in all Agency administrative offices through measures such as (1) using duplex copying and printing as the Agency default standard and deviating only when there is a compelling business justification; (2) printing out email and other documents only when necessary; (3) exploring options for reviewing and approving documents electronically; (4) turning off lights and computers when not in use; (5) minimizing paper use in kitchen and restroom areas; and (6) using durable products and otherwise minimizing waste when hosting Agency meetings
- Re-use office supplies and other materials in all Agency administrative offices
- Maximize recycling efforts in all Agency buildings and facilities
- Encourage contractors to prevent waste, re-use and re-cycle materials and debris, and purchase products and materials with recycled content

Building and Facility Performance (Green Design/Green Building)

- Incorporate sustainable design features in Agency buildings and facilities through measures such as (1) revising Agency design guidelines, taking into account Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards or similar programs; (2) ensuring that construction and operations staff are consulted in the design phase of project development; (3) using low-impact development (LID) techniques, such as rain gardens and pervious pavement; and (4) using landscaping that minimizes use of water and pesticides

Land Use

- Explore opportunities to further incorporate transit-oriented development (TOD) and other sustainable economic development around stations to foster compact urban communities

Section 3: In order to implement this Executive Order and provide for continual improvement, I further direct as follows:

- Executive Directors and senior management will have responsibility for assuring implementation of this Executive Order
- Staff should implement this Executive Order expeditiously. Measurable targets reflecting steps and timeframes for implementation shall be developed and incorporated into the Agency's Environmental Management System (EMS) and the Agency's performance management system and reviewed and updated periodically
- Agency staff should be trained as necessary so that they understand the importance of this Executive Order and how to implement it

- Implementation of sustainability measures shall be considered at each phase of the project delivery as part of existing Agency project control systems (phase gate process)
- The importance of sustainability at Sound Transit shall be clearly communicated to contractors and agency partners, and incentives and/or requirements should be developed for them to carry a similar initiative into their operations, services, and fleets when doing business with Sound Transit or implementing Sound Transit projects
- Staff shall collaborate and develop partnerships with agencies, businesses, and other organizations to promote sustainability and solutions to global climate change and to leverage expertise and resources
- Progress towards implementing this Executive Order shall be assessed through periodic audits conducted as part of the Agency's EMS or other performance management system
- This Executive Order shall be considered a starting point. Additional sustainability measures may be developed as part of the Agency's EMS program consistent with the spirit and intent of this Order and the commitment to continual improvement and other commitments in the Agency's Environmental Policy

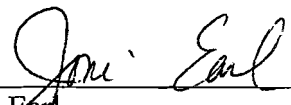
Section 4: For purposes of funding this Executive Order, staff shall strive to implement it within available means and resources. Many of the measures promote conservation and efficiency, which should result in overall Agency cost-savings. To the extent that funding is required to implement a part of this Executive Order, staff shall use their best efforts to:

- Identify necessary funds within the specific program's existing budget
- Work across departments and with the Finance Department to identify appropriate sources of funding within other programs contained in the Agency's existing overall budget
- Work with the Finance Department to assess cost-effectiveness of expenditures by identifying future cost savings
- Include specific funding requests if necessary as part of the annual Agency budget development cycle

Section 5: For purposes of this Executive Order, the following definitions shall apply:

- "Agency partners" refers to agencies and organizations that operate service or implement projects on behalf of Sound Transit
- "Alternative fuel" means a fuel that can be used instead of petroleum-based fuels and includes natural gas (compressed and liquefied), propane (LPG), hydrogen, biomass-derived fuels, alcohol (including ethanol and methanol), alcohol mixtures with gasoline or other fuels, electricity, or any other fuel determined to be substantially not petroleum and yielding substantial energy security and environmental benefits

- “Contractors” refers to the array of individuals and firms that supply goods or services to Sound Transit under contract, including vendors, consultants, and contractors
- “EMS” refers to the Agency’s Environmental Management System, which is a set of processes and procedures designed to document and improve environmental performance, consistent with international management standards
- “Greenhouse gases” means carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, and sulfur hexafluoride
- “Practicable” means capable of being accomplished within available means and resources or through additional resources that reasonably can be attained
- “Renewable energy” means any energy resource that is naturally regenerated over a short time scale and derived directly from the sun (such as thermal, photochemical, and photoelectric), indirectly from the sun (such as wind, hydropower, and photosynthetic energy stored in biomass), or from other natural movements and mechanisms of the environment (such as geothermal and tidal energy) and does not include energy resources derived from fossil fuels, waste products from fossil sources, or waste products from inorganic sources



Joni Earl
Chief Executive Officer

On this 16th day of July, 2007