

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING
Summary Minutes
December 11, 2008

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by Chair Greg Nickels, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

Roll Call

Chair

(P) Greg Nickels, City of Seattle Mayor

Vice Chairs

(P) Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive

(P) Claudia Thomas, Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Julie Anderson, Tacoma City Councilmember
(P) Mary-Alyce Burleigh, Kirkland Councilmember
(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Deputy Council President
(P) Richard Conlin, Seattle Councilmember
(P) Dow Constantine, King County Council Vice Chair
(P) Deanna Dawson, Edmonds Councilmember
(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Mayor
(A) Paula Hammond, WSDOT Secretary

(P) John Ladenburg, Pierce County Executive
(P) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor
(P) Julia Patterson, King County Council Chair
(P) Larry Phillips, King County Council Chair
(P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember
(P) Ron Sims, King County Executive
(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember

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

Report of the Chair

Chair Nickels presented a chart showing the district voting percentages for Proposition 1. Joni Earl, Chief Executive Officer noted that the final percentage in favor of Proposition 1, 57.1% was greater than for Sound Move.

Chair Nickels thanked departing Boardmembers John Ladenburg and Deanna Dawson for their service. He announced that Boardmember Ladenburg served on the Board from 2001 to 2008, and served as Board chair for four years. During his time as a Boardmember, Sound Transit opened Sounder, Tacoma Link and ST Express service. Chair Nickels also thanked Boardmember Dawson who came to the Board in 2008 during its work on the ST2 plan. He announced that Ms. Dawson is leaving to take a job in Washington D.C. He presented both Boardmembers with plaques to commemorate their time on the Sound Transit Board.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

Ms. Earl reviewed the ridership numbers from the third quarter ridership report. Ridership is up 21% compared to the third quarter of last year. Average weekday boardings reached almost 60,000, an increase of 22%. Quarterly ridership on ST Express was 3.4 million, on Sounder Commuter rail was 708,000 and on Tacoma Link was 245,000.

She announced that she has appointed a Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Ron Tobert. Mr. Tobert recently retired as General Manager at Charlotte Transit. He also worked at Cleveland Transit as General Manager and Secretary Treasurer and as the Director of Transit for Metro Transit in Seattle. Ms. Earl announced that he made a one-year commitment to come to Sound Transit to help with the Link and ST2 start-up work.

Ms. Earl noted that the public comment period for the East Link Draft Environmental Impact Statement starts tomorrow. Ms. Earl announced that the January 15, 2009 Board meeting will be followed by a work session

to look at the East Link project. The Central Link Oversight Committee will also be reviewing the East Link project at its next meeting.

Public Comment

Tom Jones
Paul W. Locke
Will Knedlik

Puget Sound Regional Council/Sound Transit BNSF Eastside Corridor Feasibility Study

Greg Walker, Chief Policy & Planning Officer and David Beal, ST2 Program Manager gave the presentation. Mr. Beal explained that the Washington State legislature passed a law in February 2008 requiring that a feasibility study be conducted by Sound Transit and PSRC and that a joint report be submitted to the legislature.

Mr. Beal summarized the findings of the feasibility study by saying that the corridor is feasible and has the potential for ridership of between 5,000-6,000 trips per day. The corridor has lower capital costs than creating a rail corridor from scratch, and no fatal flaws were identified by the study. The project ranks in the top ten transit routes in the three-county region, and phasing-in the project is possible.

The draft final report has been posted and will be filed with the legislature before February 1, 2009. He noted that further study would be needed if passenger rail on this line is pursued. Looking for potential partners on the rail line will take place in 2009 and 2010.

Consent Agenda

Minutes of the September 25, 2008 Meeting
Minutes of the November 13, 2008 Meeting

It was moved by Vice Chair Thomas, seconded by Boardmember Conlin, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

Action Items

Item referred by Executive and Finance Committees

Resolution No. R2008-15 – Fixing and imposing an additional five-tenths of one percent sales and use tax; applying existing approved taxes to implement the Sound Transit 2 Regional Transit System Plan “A Mass Transit Guide” and the Sound Move Regional Transit System Plan as authorized by a vote of the electorate; and authorizing the chief executive officer to contract with the State of Washington for tax collection and administration.

Chair Nickels called for a roll-call vote on the resolution.

		<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Julie Anderson		Julia Patterson	
Mary-Alyce Burleigh		Larry Phillips	
Fred Butler		Aaron Reardon	
Richard Conlin		Paul Roberts	
Deanna Dawson		Ron Sims	
Dave Enslow		Claudia Thomas	
John Ladenburg		Peter von Reichbauer	
John Marchione		Greg Nickels	

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Enslow, and carried by the unanimous vote of the sixteen Boardmembers present that Resolution No. R2008-15 be approved as presented.

Item referred by Executive Committee without recommendation

Motion No. M2008-116 – Adopting the Sound Transit 2009 State Legislative Program and directing staff to continue to evaluate issues for impact to the agency as it continues to successfully implement the regional transportation system.

Motion No. M2008-116 was moved by Boardmember Phillips and seconded by Boardmember Burleigh.

Boardmember Phillips introduced an amendment to change the language in the second paragraph under the first bullet as follows:

Sound Transit supports the State's efforts to promote public transit and improve the connectivity and efficiency of the transportation system through the Office of Transit Mobility (OTM). The Office's grant program aims to aid local governments in funding projects such as inter-county connectivity service, park and ride lots, rush hour transit service, and capital projects. Sound Transit and project partners received more than \$14 million in grant funding for Sound Move projects from OTM for the 2007-2009 budget cycle and will be submitting proposals for consideration for the next biennium. Sound Transit supports ~~maintaining the Regional Mobility Grant program as a competitive funding source to assist transit and local governments with capital and operating projects that improve regional mobility~~ increased state funding for public transit. Public transit agencies are experiencing budget shortfalls at a time when public demand for transit is increasing. To assist transit agencies meet the current economic challenges, Sound Transit supports a one-time distribution of the 2009-2011 Regional Grant Mobility Program in a formula distribution that includes all modes of service provided by Sound Transit.

It was moved by Boardmember Phillips and seconded by Boardmember Sims that the proposed language be adopted as an amendment to Motion No. M2008-116.

Mr. Phillips explained that the amendment would allow Sound Transit to support a one-time formula distribution of the Regional Grant Mobility Program funds. A formula distribution would provide extra money for transit agency operations to offset budget shortfalls caused by the economic downturn.

Boardmember Marchione asked what agencies would be affected by not being able to submit projects through a competitive process. Ann McNeil, Government & Community Relations Manager responded that cities and counties would not be eligible for money if it was not a competitive process.

Chair Nickels asked how much money has gone to cities and counties in the past. Lisa Wolterink, Grants Manager responded that the exact amount granted to cities and counties varies from year to year; but they have been successful in the past. Boardmember Marchione asked if any cities or counties are partners for projects in the Sound Transit service area. Ms. Wolterink noted that Sound Transit has written letters of support for several cities' projects.

Boardmember Ladenburg asked for a roll-call vote on the amendment.

Boardmember Enslow asked how this would affect Sound Transit's application for additional funding for the D-M Street project. Ms. Wolterink responded that a formula distribution would reduce Sound Transit's ability to get additional funding for that project.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Mary-Alyce Burleigh	Julie Anderson
Fred Butler	Deanna Dawson
Richard Conlin	Dave Enslow
Dow Constantine	John Ladenburg
Julia Patterson	John Marchione
Larry Phillips	Aaron Reardon
Ron Sims	Paul Roberts
Peter von Reichbauer	Claudia Thomas
Greg Nickels	

The motion to amend Motion No. M2008-116 carried by a majority vote of nine out of seventeen Boardmembers present, with Boardmembers Anderson, Dawson, Enslow, Ladenburg, Marchione, Reardon, Roberts and Thomas voting in the minority.

It was carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-116 be approved as amended.

Items referred by the Finance Committee

Resolution No. R2008-14 – Adopting an annual budget for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2009.

Brian McCartan, Chief Financial Officer, gave a presentation on the current financial status of the agency.

Ms. Earl noted that she would be asking the Board to amend the 2009 Budget later in 2009 to add ST2 projects and will be reviewing the financial situation at that time.

Chair Nickels called for a roll-call vote since this action requires a supermajority affirmative vote.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Julie Anderson	John Marchione
Mary-Alyce Burleigh	Julia Patterson
Fred Butler	Larry Phillips
Richard Conlin	Aaron Reardon
Dow Constantine	Paul Roberts
Deanna Dawson	Ron Sims
Dave Enslow	Claudia Thomas
John Ladenburg	Greg Nickels

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Thomas, and carried by the unanimous vote of the sixteen Boardmembers present that Resolution No. R2008-14 be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2008-16 - Amending Sound Move by removing the Star Lake Freeway Station project.

Boardmember Butler explained that the project money will be transferred into the South King County program reserve.

Boardmember Patterson noted that the cities of Kent, Des Moines and Federal Way are aware of this action and are not in opposition. Ms. Earl noted that a feasibility study was done on the project and WSDOT was a participant; and the project was found to not be feasible.

Chair Nickels called for a roll-call vote since this action requires a supermajority affirmative vote.

<u>Ayes</u>	<u>Nays</u>
Julie Anderson	John Marchione
Mary-Alyce Burleigh	Julia Patterson
Fred Butler	Larry Phillips
Richard Conlin	Aaron Reardon
Dow Constantine	Paul Roberts
Deanna Dawson	Ron Sims
Dave Enslow	Claudia Thomas
John Ladenburg	Greg Nickels

It was moved by Boardmember Butler and seconded by Boardmember Burleigh, and carried by the unanimous vote of the sixteen Boardmembers present that Resolution No. R2008-16 be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2008-18 – Adopting the 2009 Service Implementation Plan, authorizing the chief executive officer to implement the 2009 service changes, and approving the use of the preliminary 2010-2014 service changes for planning and forecasting purposes.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Enslow, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Resolution No. R2008-18 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2008-117 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the contract with Obayashi Corporation for construction of the Beacon Hill Station and Tunnel segment of the Central Link Light Rail Initial Segment project in the amount of \$7,288,004, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$313,000,000, which includes costs reimbursable to Sound Transit from third parties for betterments.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Thomas, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-117 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2008-118 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the contract with PB Americas, Inc. (previously Parsons Brinckerhoff Construction Services, Inc.) to provide continuing construction management services of the Beacon Hill Station and Tunnel civil construction contract, in the amount of \$3,011,427, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$18,600,000.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Burleigh, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-118 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2008-119 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the contract with GE Transportation Systems Global Signaling, LLC to provide communications systems for construction of the Central Link Light Rail Initial Segment project in the amount of \$3,800,000, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$47,904,051, which includes costs reimbursable to Sound Transit from third parties.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Thomas, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-119 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2008-114 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the contract with Hatch Mott MacDonald/Jacobs Joint Venture to provide civil engineering design services during construction for the Beacon Hill Tunnel in the Central Link Light Rail Initial Segment Project in the amount of \$479,760 for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$22,268,243.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Burleigh, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-114 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2008-108 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an agreement with King County to provide a capped funding contribution of \$800,000 for construction of the Redmond Transit Center Parking Garage, contingent upon Board adoption of the 2009 Budget.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Thomas, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-108 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2008-110 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an agreement with King County granting a license to use the Totem Lake Transit Center/Evergreen Hospital facility and for King County to reimburse Sound Transit for maintenance and mid-life replacement costs.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Burleigh, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-110 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2008-111 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute and implement an agreement with King County to transfer the Sammamish Park-and-Ride lot to King County per the Program Understanding authorized by the Board in Resolution No. R98-9.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Burleigh, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2008-111 be approved as presented.

Executive Session

None.

Other Business

None.

Next Meeting

Thursday, January 15, 2009
1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

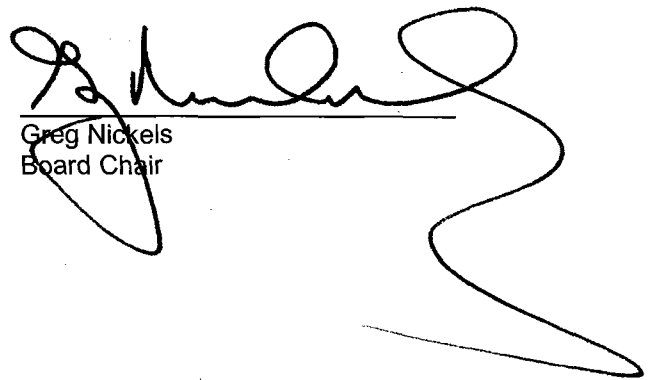
Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator



Greg Nickels
Board Chair