

SOUND TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Summary Minutes
April 1, 2010

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:48 a.m. by Vice Chair Claudia Thomas in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

Roll Call

Chair

(A) *Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive*

Vice Chairs

(A) *Fred Butler, Issaquah Deputy Council President*

(P) *Claudia Thomas, Lakewood Councilmember*

(P) *Dow Constantine, King County Executive*

(A) *David Enslow, Sumner Mayor*

(A) *Paula Hammond, WSDOT Secretary*

(P) *Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive*

(P) *Mike McGinn, Seattle Mayor*

(P) *Julia Patterson, King County Council Chair*

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

Report of the Chair

Vice Chair Claudia Thomas chaired the meeting in Chair Reardon's absence.

Chief Executive Officer's Report

None.

Reports to the Committee

None.

Business Item

Routine Item

Minutes from the March 4, 2010 Executive Committee meeting

It was moved by Boardmember McCarthy, seconded by Boardmember McGinn, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the minutes of the March 4, 2010 Executive Committee meeting be approved as presented.

Policy Items

Resolution No. R2010-10 – Adopting a Fare Policy and superseding Resolution No. R99-2-2, Resolution No. R2005-05, Resolution No. R2007-06, and Motion No. M2004-53

Brian Brooke, Research, Policy and Business Development Manager, presented the staff report.

It was moved by Boardmember McCarthy and seconded by Boardmember Constantine that Resolution No. R2010-10 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Rob Tober, Deputy CEO, stated that the Special Event Service addition to the proposed Fare Policy is a recommendation from the Transit Operations Task Force (TOTF).

Joni Earl, CEO, stated that the policy includes recommendations from TOTF, was discussed at the last meeting of the Operations and Administration Committee, will be at the next Operations and Administration Committee meeting, and has a public hearing scheduled for April 22, 2010. During the 2010 budget process, a possible fare increase was discussed with the Board to maintain the minimum farebox recovery ratio for ST Express mentioned in Sound Move. While preparing for a possible fare increase, work began on consolidating several existing Sound Transit fare policies into one policy.

Boardmember Patterson asked how Sound Transit determined the minimum farebox recovery ratios in the proposed fare policy. Ms. Earl responded that the ratios are the same as identified in Sound Move. Historically, Sound Transit has well exceeded the farebox recovery minimum, however in 2010, ST Express is projected to fall below 20%.

Boardmember McGinn suggested adding an explicit connection between Section 1 and Section 7 of the proposed fare policy. He also suggested acknowledging public safety, low income riders, fares for people with disabilities, and public involvement in the fare policy principles.

Boardmember Patterson requested clarification on Sound Transit's policy toward providing service to transit dependent populations. Mr. Brooke responded that the establishment of fare categories addresses the needs of transit dependent populations.

The Committee discussed options for including Boardmember McGinn's suggestions in the Resolution.

Boardmember McCarthy withdrew the motion.

It was moved by Boardmember McGinn, seconded by Boardmember McCarthy, and carried by unanimous vote of all members present that the Executive Committee supports the language of the proposed fare policy with the recommendation that the Operations and Administration Committee integrate the principles of transit dependent populations and public safety and connect Section 1 to Section 7.

Resolution No. R2010-11 – Adopting new fare rates and fare structures for ST Express bus and Link light rail and superseding Resolution No. R2009-01 and Resolution No. R2005-05

Sarah Lovell, Project Manager, presented the staff report.

The Committee did not take action on the Resolution due to loss of a quorum.

Boardmember McGinn asked when future fare increases are anticipated. Mr. Brooke stated that the proposed fare increase for ST Express should keep the farebox recovery ratio above 20% for two to three years. Ms. Earl stated that a Sounder fare increase could be brought to the Board before another ST Express increase. Brian McCartan, CFO, stated that farebox recovery ratios are determined by fares, ridership, and operating and maintenance costs; this action covers the fares portion, however ridership and costs are in flux.

Other Business

None.

Executive Session

None.

Next Meeting

Thursday, May 6, 2010
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

APPROVED on August 5, 2010.

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator



Aaron Reardon
Executive Committee Chair