

SOUND TRANSIT CAPITAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Summary Minutes

May 12, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Committee Chair Fred Butler, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Chair

(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Deputy Council President

Vice Chair

(P) Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember

Boardmembers

(A) Claudia Balducci, Bellevue Councilmember

(P) Joe McDermott, King County Councilmember

(P) Richard Conlin, Seattle Council President

(A) Mike McGinn, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) Jake Fey, Tacoma Councilmember

(P) Larry Phillips, King County Councilmember

(P) Joe Marine, City of Mukilteo Mayor

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

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Committee Chair Butler welcomed CEO Joni Earl back from her medical leave.

CEO REPORT

Joni Earl, CEO, thanked the Board and Sound Transit staff for the support she received while on medical leave.

Ms. Earl reported on the actions of two crewmen working on the joint WSDOT/Sound Transit I-90 project. Kirk Whalen and Glen Palacios from Gary Merlino Construction helped a driver who had a heart attack in morning rush hour on Friday. The driver's car hit a jersey barrier on Mercer Island and the driver was found unconscious. Mr. Whalen and Mr. Palacios pulled the driver from the car and began CPR. The driver was transferred to Overlake Hospital and survived.

REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE

Tacoma Link Expansion Project Update

Val Batey, Senior Transportation Planner, and Eric Anderson, Tacoma City Manager and Jessyn Farrell, Interim Government Relations Officer of Pierce Transit gave the presentation.

Tacoma Link started service in 2003 with five stations. The system has average weekday boardings of over 3,000. A small expansion of the existing system is underway to add a station on Commerce Street near South 11th Street. The City of Tacoma's contractor started

construction in April and work is scheduled to be completed in June 2011. Service can begin later in the summer.

The ST2 plan included a capital contribution to Tacoma Link if matching funds are provided. The financial plan assumed that Sound Transit's contribution would be up \$88.4 million in 2007 dollars and that Sound Transit would seek federal funding for part of the project contribution amount. The 2011 Transit Implementation Plan endorsed by the Board through the budget process reduced the contribution amount to \$74.6 million.

A stakeholder group was started by Sound Transit in conjunction with the City of Tacoma and Pierce Transit. A copy of the stakeholder report was included in Committee member's packets. The report includes a map of six corridors evaluated by the stakeholder group and an evaluation matrix. Serving underserved communities and Tacoma neighborhoods were listed as the top objectives in evaluating expansion possibilities. Three corridors, north downtown to central corridor, the eastside, and the north end to central corridors were determined to be the most responsive to the selection criteria. Mr. Anderson expressed appreciation for the stakeholder process and noted the importance of the project for community and economic development.

A preliminary alternatives analysis effort was undertaken that evaluated the six corridors and an additional corridor that connects Tacoma Dome Station with 54th Avenue and Pacific Highway in Fife, WA. Information on population and employment, low income populations, minority populations, existing community institutions, the level of investment in transportation in the last three years, and the relationship between the corridor and high-ridership transit routes.

Next step would be to develop an alternatives analysis initiation package to submit to the FTA in order to maintain eligibility for federal funding. Alternatives analysis work will likely take one year. If the Committee did not have any objections, a scope of work will be developed for a consultant to perform an alternatives analysis beginning fall 2011. A purpose and needs statement will be developed and alternative alignments will be identified and defined. Community input will be sought and staff will report the final alternatives to take into the environmental process to the Board. Funding partners will need to be determined after the alternatives analysis work is completed and preliminary engineering is underway.

Committee members thanked the City of Tacoma, Pierce Transit, and Sound Transit staff for their partnership on this work. Committee Chair Butler noted that Committee members were in agreement on moving forward on the alternatives analysis work.

Beacon Hill Voids Update

Joe Gildner, Initial Segment Project Director, and Richard Sage, Construction Director summarized Sound Transit's remediation efforts to address voids on Beacon Hill. The Beacon Hill Station is contained in twin tunnels, each approximately a mile in length. In March 2009 a resident discovered a void on her property. Excavation records were reviewed and the weight of excavated materials were compared with estimated volumes. Based on the records, areas were identified where voids were likely to exist. Voids that were discovered through drilling and other measurements were filled with controlled density fill. The work was conducted in phases. In phase one, 2,544 cubic yards of an estimated 3,296 cubic yards of over-excavation were filled. In phase two, compaction grouting was used to remediate loose soils and 293 cubic yards were filled. Phase three was conducted in a series of steps starting with vertical drilling in accessible areas, followed by angled drilling under houses. 108 holes were drilled and 115 cubic yards of over-excavation were filled with grout. At the completion of phase three a total of

2,952 cubic yards were filled, for a 90% fill factor. The difference in soil density between dense and medium dense soil accounts for the difference in cubic yards estimated versus the number filled. The completed work met the objectives of filling the over-excavated areas and was completed within budget.

Pressure data will be used on University Link to ensure that the tunnel boring machine is being operated according to contract requirements. The theoretical weight will be compared with the scale weights and the proper materials for excavation will be maintained on site and used correctly. The construction management team will be trained in reading and interpreting the data to look for over-excavation. Immediate corrective action will be taken if any measurements are not as expected.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Minutes of the April 14, 2011 Capital Committee Meeting

It was moved by Boardmember Phillips, seconded by Boardmember McDermott, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that the April 14, 2011 Capital Committee Minutes be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2011-35 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the contract with Mid Mountain Contractors, Inc. for the construction of the D Street to M Street Track and Signal project in the amount of \$10,950,000, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$55,855,509.

Eric Beckman, Project Director, gave the staff presentation. The contract contingency includes funding for a sound wall to mitigate the impact of train noise on The Rescue Mission in Tacoma. Sound Transit originally planned to mitigate train noise with sound insulation. The decision to build a sound wall was made after the project had gone to bid for construction.

It was moved by Committee Vice Chair Patterson, seconded by Boardmember Fey, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2011-35 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Motion No. M2011-36 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a task order agreement with the Washington State Department of Transportation for final design services for the I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV Operations Stage 3 Project in the amount of \$16,400,000, plus a 10% contingency of \$1,640,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$18,040,000.

Jim Edwards, Deputy Executive Director, and Hank Howard, Project Manager, gave the staff presentation. Stage 3 of the I-90 Two-Way Transit and HOV Operations Project will complete the HOV improvements between Mercer Island and Seattle. Final design work would begin in June 2011 and be completed in the first quarter of 2013. Construction would take place from 2013 to 2015. Mr. Edwards noted that construction of the Stage 3 project will not proceed without an agreement between Sound Transit and WSDOT on the I-90 center roadway and Board approval.

It was moved by Boardmember Phillips, seconded by Boardmember Marine, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2011-36 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday June 9, 2011
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.



Fred Butler
Capital Committee Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

APPROVED on June 9, 2011, KWF