

2012 SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes

March 22, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Chair

(P) Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive

Vice Chairs

(P) Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember

(P) Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive

Boardmembers

(A) Claudia Balducci, Bellevue Councilmember

(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Deputy Council President

(P) Richard Conlin, Seattle Councilmember

(P) Dow Constantine, King County Executive

(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Mayor

(A) Paula Hammond, WSDOT Secretary

(P) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor

(P) Joe Marine, City of Mukilteo Mayor

(A) Joe McDermott, King County Councilmember

(A) Mike McGinn, City of Seattle Mayor

(A) Mary Moss, Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Larry Phillips, King County Councilmember

(P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

(P) Marilyn Strickland, City of Tacoma Mayor

(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 McCarthy announced that The Board retreat will be on April 5th from 8:30 to 4:00 in the Sound Room of the Bell Harbor Conference Center on Pier 66 in Seattle. The final agenda and materials will be sent to Boardmembers next Friday.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

University Link Tunnel Boring Machine

Since May 2011 the two tunnel boring machines have made steady progress tunneling from the UW campus to the Capitol Hill Station. Togo, the lead TBM, broke through into the Capitol Hill Station site on Wednesday morning, March 21. The second TBM, Balto, is expected to reach the station site in April. The U-Link project is about halfway complete and is scheduled open in 2016.

Re-opening Pacific Avenue in Tacoma

Last Monday, Sound Transit re-opened Pacific Avenue in Tacoma, more than two months ahead of schedule. Pacific Avenue was closed for the D Street to M Street Track and Signal Project work to be completed to begin Sounder service to South Tacoma and Lakewood. Board Chair McCarthy and Boardmember Enslow attended an event to mark the occasion.

Women in Transportation Awards

Next Thursday former Boardmember Thomas will be awarded the Puget Sound Woman of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award by the local chapter of WTS, the Women in Transportation Seminar at the Annual Gala on March 29. The Woman of the Year award honors a woman who is an outstanding role model in transportation. The lifetime award honors a person who has served at least 20 years in a transportation leadership role and has a record of community service to enhance mobility, livability, social justice or public health.

Kittitas County Superior Court Decision on use of I-90 Center Roadway for East Link

Earlier this month, the Kittitas County Superior Court issued its decision on Sound Transit's use of the I-90 center roadway. The Court ruled in Sound Transit's favor in its ruling that WSDOT has the authority to lease the I-90 center lanes to Sound Transit for light rail and rejected the argument that the lease violates the 18th Amendment of the Washington State Constitution, because Sound Transit is paying adequate compensation for the lanes. The ruling confirms that East Link is consistent with plans and agreements that have been in place before the bridge was built.

East Link Update

East Link final design effort is underway. The Capital Committee authorized the South Bellevue to Overlake design contract on March 8, 2012 and notice to proceed was given this week.

The joint Sound Transit and City of Bellevue effort to identify cost savings options is also underway. The City of Bellevue and Sound Transit Leadership Group consists of Sound Transit Boardmembers Butler, Conlin, and von Reichbauer, and Bellevue City Councilmembers Robertson, Wallace, and Stokes. The team reviewed a list of the options with the Leadership Group. Bellevue City Council held a retreat yesterday to review the concepts.

June ST Express Service Change

St Express service changes go into effect on June 10, 2012. Changes are being implemented to address overcrowding on routes serving East and South King County. The changes will make it easier for riders to transfer from an ST service to one operated by regional partners. Some of the changes include:

ST Express Route 550: Two additional trips and schedule adjustments in the afternoon peak hour to reduce overcrowding and bus bunching between Seattle and Bellevue. In addition, adjustments are being made to evening schedules to better coordinate the schedules between ST Express Bus 550 and King County Metro's Rapid Ride B Line.

ST Express Route 577: One additional a.m. peak hour trip between Federal Way and Seattle in the morning. Schedules will be more efficient on ST Express Route 574, which operates between Lakewood and Sea-Tac Airport serving Tacoma and Federal Way.

ST Express Route 578: Sunday service will be added to the route between Puyallup and Seattle. The route also serves Sumner, Auburn and Federal Way.

Federal Partnership Report and State Legislature Update

The second edition of the Federal Partnership Report is in Boardmembers' packets. The second edition spotlights jobs and how the regional system will create jobs across the region.

This week, Chair McCarthy sent a letter on behalf of the Board to the agency's Congressional delegation urging support for the FY 2013 installment of \$110 million on the University Link Full Funding Grant Agreement. The funding was included in the President's budget, and Congress may include it in the transportation appropriations bill this year.

Congressman Dicks announced that he is retiring from congress. He has been a champion for his district, for the State of Washington and for Sound Transit.

The agency's Grants team has been busy on federal grant applications. The agency recently submitted two TIGER grants: one for funding to replace the Tacoma Trestle, and another for federal financing support for a combination of our East Link and I-90 Two-Way Transit projects. Sound Transit also submitted two State of Good Repair grants for \$14 million, and in the next few weeks, applications will be submitted for the federal Clean Fuels, Bus Livability, and Alternative Analysis programs.

State Legislature

There are two bills the Governor may sign next week. HB 2252 clarifies fare enforcement authority related to ORCA and HB 2238 authorizes ST to use job order contracting.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Sounder Stations Access and Demand Study

Ric Ilgenfritz, Planning, Environment and Project Delivery Executive Director, and Val Batey, Senior Transportation Planner gave a report on the Access and Demand Study.

ST2 includes access improvement projects at eight Sounder stations: Mukilteo, Kent, Auburn, Sumner, Puyallup, Tacoma Dome, South Tacoma and Lakewood. Another four stations were not included for access improvement projects either because they are in ST2 as stand-alone projects, new station projects or because they will not require additional parking to meet future demand. The access and demand study looked at the cost effectiveness of implementing alternative access improvements. As part of the study, a ridership model based on PSRC population and employment was developed to forecast ridership for each station.

At a typical Sounder station, nearly 80% of riders require a parking space in order to access a train. In the future parking space requirements could be lower, depending on land use in the surrounding station area.

Several areas for potential access improvement projects were identified: pedestrian improvements may include improving and/or building bridges, crosswalks, and railroad crossings. Bicycle improvements that may include improving and/or building trails, lanes and boulevards. In addition, building or improving a station's "kiss-and-ride" capacity may improve access.

In the future, the Board will discuss specific improvements, for each station.

Lakewood Commuter Rail Extension

Eric Beckman, Project Director, and Melissa Saxe, Project Manager, gave a report on the Lakewood Sounder extension.

The Lakewood extension is 21.3 miles long and includes three stations. There are five projects in the corridor, including the Lakewood Station, the South Tacoma Station, the M to Lakewood Track & Signal Project, and layover yard tracks. Lakewood Sounder service is scheduled to begin in October 2012.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Comments on file with the Board Administrator)

John Niles
Paul W. Locke

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the February 23, 2012 Board Meeting

Voucher Certification for January 1, 2012 through January 15, 2012

Voucher Certification for January 16, 2012 through January 31, 2012

Voucher Certification for February 1, 2012 through February 15, 2012

Voucher Certification for February 16, 2012 through February 29, 2012

Motion No. M2012-08: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract with New Flyer Industries, Inc. to manufacture and deliver 19 sixty-foot, high-capacity buses in the amount of \$15,048,221, with a 5% contingency of \$752,411, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$15,800,632

Motion No. M2012-04: (1) Approving the chief executive officer's declaration of surplus real property acquired for the Central Link project and (2) authorizing the chief executive officer to negotiate and execute two Transit Oriented Development joint development feasibility agreements with Catholic Housing Services / Washington Housing Equity Alliance and Centioli Family LLC, to investigate the feasibility of a potential transit-oriented, affordable housing project

Resolution No. R2012-08: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests, pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected owners and tenants as necessary, and acquire and dispose of property interests owned by public entities including acquisition by condemnation for the North Link – University of Washington Station to Northgate Project between Roosevelt Station and Northgate Station

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Board Retreat

Thursday, April 5, 2012
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Bell Harbor Conference Center, Sound Room
2211 Alaskan Way-Pier 66

Board Meeting

Thursday, April 26, 2012
1:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

It was moved by Boardmember Enslow, seconded by Vice Chair Reardon, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.


Julia Patterson
Board Vice Chair

ATTEST:


Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

APPROVED on April 26, 2012, KWF