

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes
January 24, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 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 Council Vice Chair

(P) Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive

Boardmembers

(P) Claudia Balducci, Bellevue Councilmember

(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Council President

(P) Richard Conlin, Seattle Councilmember

(A) Dow Constantine, King County Executive

(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Mayor

(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Mayor

(P) Paula Hammond, WSDOT Secretary

(P) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor

(P) Joe McDermott, King County Councilmember

(P) Mike McGinn, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) 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 she appointed Fred Butler to represent Sound Transit on the Eastside Transportation Partnership, Paul Roberts to represent Sound Transit on SeaShore, and Joe McDermott to represent Sound Transit on the South County Area Transportation Board.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Joni Earl, CEO, reported on recent improvements to the Sound Transit website, including the launch of the improved Projects and Plans section of the website. The new section is the result of research and testing done to help make it easier for people to find information and learn about our projects. The site provides current information on Sound Transit projects, safety, contracting, transit-oriented development and upcoming community meetings. The website also includes links describing what it takes to build a regional transit system, Sound Transit history and the lifecycle of a typical project.

Ms. Earl noted that she met with the Citizen Oversight Panel last week to talk about Sound Transit's organizational structure, cost savings measures, asset management and budget and reporting systems. It was a good discussion.

Ms. Earl also reported on the recent mudslides affecting the Sounder north service. There have been an unprecedented number of mudslides this winter. The rainfall was around 40% higher than average from October 1 to December 31. Mudslides interrupted service for a total of 24 days since November 7th. The second-most impactful year was 2005-06 where Sounder service was interrupted for a total of 14 days. The track and right-of-way that Sounder operates on is owned by BNSF Railway and they have responsibility to maintain the track and surrounding area owned by BNSF.

Sound Transit staff and contractors have been communicating with Sounder customers on the various bus options available and have added extra buses to offset the increased ridership on existing bus routes.

Representatives from BNSF plan to give a presentation at the February Board meeting on mudslide monitoring.

Ms. Earl also noted that a letter received yesterday from the City of Bellevue was in Boardmember packets. The letter addresses the City of Bellevue's progress in reviewing Land Use Codes related to Link light rail.

CEO PRESENTATION ON 2012 AND 2013 SOUND TRANSIT MILESTONES

Ms. Earl presented the 2013 Sound Transit milestones, and reviewed achievements and remaining milestones from 2012. Last year was Sound Transit's 15th birthday and the third anniversary of Link light rail. Sound Transit achieved 24 out of 33 milestones, for 73% completion. In 2012, Sound Transit ridership on trains and buses reached 27 million. In October, Sound Transit reached 100,000 average weekday boardings on trains and buses and began Sounder service to South Tacoma and Lakewood.

In 2012 Sound Transit made progress on a variety of construction projects including completion of tunneling from downtown Seattle to the University of Washington, breaking ground on the Northgate Link Extension, awarding contracts for the South 200th Link Extension, and furthering planning work on East Link and Lynnwood Link. Sound Transit's ST Express program received delivery of 24 replacement buses, including 22 hybrid buses. A new route also began in 2012 connecting the Bonney Lake Park and Ride and Sumner Station.

There were nine milestones that Sound Transit did not complete in 2012, the majority will be rolled over into 2013. These include starting construction of the Tukwila permanent Sounder Station and Mukilteo Sounder Station south platform, a Board decision on the ST Express bus base development project, the start of Puyallup and Sumner Station access environmental review, completion of phase one of the Sounder Lakewood layover yard, installation of artwork between Tacoma and Lakewood, and the delivery of three new Sounder locomotives.

There are 34 milestones for 2013 based around four themes, increasing ridership, reducing operating and capital costs, delivering capital projects on time and within budget, and maintaining nimble, efficient business processes and systems. As a result of slower than expected economic growth, Sound Transit's revenue in 2013 is 3.5% lower than previous projections. However, Sound Transit will continue to move forward and deliver as much of the ST2 plan as possible.

In 2013, Sound Transit expects to carry 28.3 million passengers on buses, trains and paratransit vehicles. A new Sounder round trip will be added between Lakewood and Seattle and alternatives will be identified for the Puyallup and Sumner station improvements. The Sound Transit Board is scheduled to adopt a System Access Policy and pilot projects. Planning work will take place on the South Corridor alternatives planning study, and the Ballard-to-downtown Seattle High Capacity Transit study. A draft EIS will be published for the Link light rail operations and maintenance satellite facility and alternative analysis work will be completed for the Tacoma Link and Federal Way Transit extensions. Work will also begin to look at a potential ST3 expansion. Work is advancing on University Link and the Northgate Link Extension with multiple milestones being completed for each project. Construction will begin on the link extension to South 200th Street. The Board will also make decisions on East Link cost savings measures in the City of Bellevue. Planning work will continue for Lynnwood Link. A new route 567 will begin in 2013 to connect Kent and the Overlake Transit Center. Sound Transit will also continue work in the areas of sustainability and transit-oriented development.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

System Access Policy

Ric Ilgenfritz, Executive Director of Planning, Environment and Project Development, and Brian Brooke, Research Policy and Development Director, gave a presentation on the draft System Access policy. Mr. Ilgenfritz noted that the policy was developed based on Board direction at the April 2012 retreat to update Sound Transit's parking policy. The key takeaways from the retreat included the need to address immediate parking issues while reviewing and updating policy, be responsive to the local land use and travel patterns

while creating integrated multi-modal access strategies, manage existing parking to optimize use by transit users, carefully coordinate changes and expansion of transit parking with other agencies. Mr. Brooke provided a follow-up to the retreat takeaways and reviewed the draft System Access Policy.

In response to the need to address immediate parking issues, Sound Transit has leased 103 new spaces in Edmonds and included \$150,000 in the 2013 budget to lease spaces at up to five facilities. The draft policy authorizes tools for Sound Transit to manage parking proactively. The policy would allow Sound Transit to initiate pilot projects to test and tailor new management tools.

To address the need to be responsive to local land use and travel patterns and create integrated multi-modal access strategies, Sound Transit has completed the Sounder station access study and applied new tools to the Northgate Link Extension. A station access assessment will also be conducted for the Lynnwood Link Extension. King County Metro and Sound Transit will complete a non-motorized access improvement study to look at facilities in King County including Sound Transit facilities. The study will look at access improvements for pedestrians and bicycles.

To manage existing parking to optimize it for transit users, Sound Transit will conduct a study of electronic parking monitoring solutions including use of the ORCA system. Pilot proposals will also be developed for transit-user prioritization. The System Access policy includes additional parking management tools and improvements to enforcement.

To coordinate with regional agencies on the management and expansion of transit parking, Sound Transit has put together a Regional Parking and System Access Strategy Team. The strategy team includes staff from Community Transit, Everett Transit, King County Metro, Pierce Transit, the Puget Sound Regional Council, the Washington State Department of Transportation, and Sound Transit staff. The working groups looked at parking fees and permits, customer parking/system access information, and parking/system access capacity planning and market research. Input from the working groups will be used to inform the development of a pilot proposal.

The draft System Access Policy prioritizes investments to achieve ridership, agency and community goals, supports system access infrastructure improvements both at facilities and in surrounding communities, and works with local jurisdictions to manage parking demand. The policy also limits parking to transit users only, with limited exceptions. It promotes efficient parking use through HOV stalls, parking permits, parking fees or validation and provides expanded options for parking enforcement. Parking management can be contracted out under the policy.

Proposals for pilot programs will be presented to the Board later in 2013. Boardmembers responded that the policy is consistent with the direction provided by the Board at the April Board retreat.

Boardmember Hammond noted that the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is developing a map of all the parking in the region managed by Washington State and transit agencies, including leased parking.

WSDOT PRESENTATION ON TOLLING ON I-90

Paula Hammond, Sound Transit Boardmember and WSDOT Secretary noted that the Executive Advisory Group for the I-405 Corridor began meeting again. Both Boardmember Butler and Enslow are part of that advisory group. The group is receiving advice from jurisdictions in the corridor to see how policies and pricing will affect them. The Washington State Legislature has asked WSDOT to look at tolling I-90 in order to make improvements in the I-90 corridor or help with funding for SR 520.

John White, Director of Tolloed Corridors Development from WSDOT gave a presentation on the background of tolling in the cross-lake corridor and the I-90 tolling study. WSDOT is tolling SR 520 to generate revenue to fund replacement of the current bridge. The SR 520 replacement bridge is estimated to cost \$4.13 billion; \$2.72 billion is currently funded. The funded portion of the bridge includes the portion of SR 520 on the East side of Lake Washington, and the floating bridge and landings. Through a Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan recently received by WSDOT, the north-half of the west approach

bridge is funded for environmental work, preliminary engineering and right-of-way, but not construction. The remaining portion of the west approach bridge is unfunded. \$1.404 billion is still needed to complete the project.

Mr. White also reviewed regional corridor performance since SR 520 tolling went into effect. The performance is meeting or beating traffic and revenue forecasts. Eighty-four percent of all toll trips use *Good to Go!* accounts. Over three million transactions take place each month; 18 million toll transactions have occurred since the beginning of tolling on December 29, 2011. Tolling has impacted traffic volumes by reducing traffic by 33% on SR 520 and increasing traffic on I-90 by 11%; SR 522 by 9%; I-5 by 2% and I-405 by 5%. Ms. Earl noted that both Sound Transit and King County Metro ridership has increased significantly on SR 520. Both agencies also received grant funds to provide additional service to handle increases in transit demand on the corridor. Travel times have also been effected; times are decreased on SR 520 and increased by four minutes during peak times on I-90. Travel times are two minutes longer on SR 522 in the afternoon peak and two to four minutes slower in both directions on I-5 during peak times. Traffic is also slower through Bellevue during the evening peak. WSDOT continues to monitor traffic and travel times.

Tolling on I-90 was recommended by the 2006 Expert Review Panel, 2008 520 Toll Implementation Committee and the 2009 Legislative Work Group. Environmental review of tolling I-90 is underway, public scoping meetings are and findings will be issued in early 2014. Mr. White reviewed the schedule for potential I-90 tolling and its relation to the closing of the I-90 center roadway for East Link; tolling could begin in 2015 or early 2016 and closure of the center roadway is scheduled for late 2016. Tolling is currently in operation on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge, SR 167 HOT Lanes and SR 520. The I-405 Express Lanes, Columbia River Crossing and SR 99 Alaskan Way Tunnel are all authorized for tolling. The I-90 Bridge, SR 509 Extension and SR 167 Extension are being studied for future tolling. Federal approval would be required for tolling on I-90, as well as other approvals from federal highways as part of the value pricing pilot program. A NEPA environmental study and approval from the State Legislature would also be required.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Comments on file with the Board Administrator)

Paul W. Locke
Will Knedlik

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the November 15, 2012 Board Meeting

Minutes of the November 29, 2012 Board Workshop

Minutes of the December 20, 2012 Board Meeting

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

Motion No. M2013-02: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract amendment with Huitt-Zollars to provide additional design services for the South 200th Link Extension in the amount of \$1,979,090, with a 10% contingency of \$197,910, totaling \$2,177,000, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$10,686,988

Resolution No. R2013-01: (1) Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property by negotiated purchase, by condemnation (including settlement of condemnation litigation), or by entering into administrative settlements, and to pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected owners and tenants as necessary in order to secure property required for operation, and maintenance of the Sounder line, and (2) requiring staff to prepare an amendment to the Adopted 2013 Budget to fund the acquisition for Board consideration within 60 days of completion of the acquisition

Resolution No. R2013-02: Approving the chief executive officer's declaration of surplus real property, including the method of disposition of selling the property and using the proceeds for the open University Link Extension Project, or other capital projects

It was moved by Vice Chair Patterson, seconded by Boardmember Moss, and carried by unanimous vote that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

ACTION ITEMS

Item not Referred by Committee

Motion No. M2013-03: Authorizing the chief executive officer to pay an additional \$14,500 in lease rent payments to The Boeing Company for the parking lot at the temporary Tukwila Station, for a new total authorized agreement amount not to exceed \$469,500

Nancy Bennett, Property Management Manager, gave the staff presentation.

It was moved by Boardmember Strickland, seconded by Boardmember Butler, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2013-03 be approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:11 p.m., Chair McCarthy announced that the Board would convene an executive session for 20 minutes to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price. The executive session is authorized by RCW 42.30.110 subsection (1)(b).

Chair McCarthy reconvened the meeting at 3:27 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 28, 2013
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

It was moved by Boardmember Strickland, seconded by Boardmember McDermott and carried by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

ATTEST:


Marcia Walker
Board Administrator


Pat McCarthy
Board Chair

APPROVED on April 25, 2013, MW