



SOUND TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Summary Minutes

March 7, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:37 a.m. by Board 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

(A) Aaron Reardon, Snohomish County Executive

Boardmembers

(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Deputy Council
President

(A) Paula Hammond, Washington State Secretary
of Transportation

(P) Dow Constantine, King County Executive

(A) Mike McGinn, Seattle Mayor

(P) David Enslow, Sumner Mayor

(P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

Alex Herzog, Board Coordinator, announced that a quorum was present at roll call.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

None.

CEO REPORT

Impacts of Federal Sequester Budget Spending Cuts

Sound Transit receives the largest share of its federal funding through the FTA New Starts program. For FY 2013, the agency is slated to receive \$110 million under the New Starts Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) for University Link. However, the sequester requires the FTA to cut the New Starts program by 5% for the remainder of the fiscal year. The FTA will have the discretion to apply those cuts. A 5% cut to the University Link FFGA would result in a \$5.5 million reduction this year. Sound Transit expects that reduction to be made up before the final FFGA payment in FY 2015.

Federal formula funds are exempt from the sequester. In FY 2013, Sound Transit is expecting approximately \$40 million in formula funding. The agency earns the bulk of these funds, approximately \$30 million, through services provided, and competes for remaining funds with other agencies.

The current TIGER program is expected to be impacted by the 5% sequester reduction, but the agency's \$10 million TIGER grant, received two years ago, is unaffected.

Brian McCartan, Finance and Information Technology Director spoke about the agency's Build America Bonds. Build America Bonds are taxable bonds offered only to municipalities of which the federal government pays for 35% of the debt service payment. Sequestration may impact the federal government's ability to pay 35% of the debt service payment.

National Recognition Award: ACEC

The North Corridor Transit Project Alternatives Analysis recently earned an award for its exceptional achievement in engineering from the American Council of Engineering Companies. Project staff and the engineering firm will be honored at the upcoming Engineering Excellence Award ceremony in Washington D.C.

Excellent 10 Award: Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County

The Economic Development Board for Tacoma-Pierce County announced the 2013 *Excellent 10 Awards* at its Annual Meeting last week. The *Excellent 10 Awards* highlight growth in several economic sectors including logistics and trade, health services, manufacturing, and construction. Sound Transit's Sounder extension to Lakewood won an award in the infrastructure category.

REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE

ORCA Performance Report

Lynn Horton, ORCA Site Administrator, and Sunny Sterling, Revenue Analysis Manager, gave an update on ORCA performance.

In 2012, nearly 1.4 million ORCA cards were issued. The Business Passport Program generated 46% of sales in 2012. The Business Passport Program is a comprehensive, annual transportation pass program for employers offering standard pricing for employers in downtown Seattle, Belltown, International District and downtown Bellevue.

ORCA usage, measured by number of boardings and revenue generated has increased every year since 2010 for Link, ST Express and Sounder.

There are several future ORCA initiatives and expansions underway, including a wireless, portable customer service terminal, ticket vending machines and ORCA cards for the First Hill Streetcar, and ORCA website improvements. Challenges with ORCA include coordinating usage with seven transit agencies and expanding into markets not yet using ORCA.

CITIZEN OVERSIGHT PANEL APPLICANT DISCUSSION

Kathy Albert, Executive Programs Advisor, gave a presentation on the Citizen Oversight Panel (COP) and the process to fill the Panel's four vacant seats, one in Pierce County, two in South King County, and one in East King County subareas.

An updated recruitment process has been developed based on Board direction at the November 2012 Board meeting. The process includes advertising vacancies with media outlets, blogs and forums, informing Boardmembers and COP members, and the creation of a new application form. Applicants are discussed at an Executive Committee meeting, then recommended for appointment by the Board at its next meeting.

Boardmembers discussed potential ways COP members may be compensated or reimbursed for expenses associated with attending meetings. Also, discussed were varying locations for COP meetings.

Boardmember Enslow recommended Michael Garrity be appointed to the Panel, an applicant from the Pierce County subarea. Staff was asked to prepare an action to appoint Mr. Garrity for consideration by the Board at its March 2013 meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Minutes from the December 6, 2012 Executive Committee meeting

It was moved by Boardmember Enslow, seconded by Boardmember Butler, and carried by unanimous vote that the minutes of the December 6, 2012 Executive Committee be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2013-03: Establishing a system access policy for Sound Transit's provision of infrastructure and improvements to facilitate customer access to Sound Transit services, and superseding Motion No. M2002-122.

Brian Brooke, Research Policy and Development Director, and Michael Miller, Customer Facilities and Accessible Services Manager, presented the policy.

The System Access Policy reflects the Board's discussion at the April 2012 retreat. The goals of the policy are to balance investment in multiple forms of system access for pedestrians, bicyclists, connecting transit and vehicles, and provide tools to efficiently manage parking resources for transit customers. The policy emphasizes multiple access modes, and includes management tools specific to parking.

Four potential pilot projects were presented; issuing parking permits, rideshare management, parking management systems, and improved information for all forms of access. The approach for implementing parking pilot projects includes careful testing and phase-in of any new parking management tools that change customer use, coordination with WSDOT and partner agencies, and coordination with host jurisdictions.

Several representatives from partner transit agencies spoke about the policy, including Victor Obeso, Service Development Manager for King County Metro, Roland Behee, Strategic Planning Unit Manager for Community Transit, and Kelly Hayden, Service Planning Manager for Pierce Transit. Partner agencies are supportive of the policy and look forward to coordinating parking efforts throughout the region.

It was moved by Boardmember Enslow, seconded by Boardmember Roberts, and carried by unanimous vote that Resolution No. R2013-03 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, April 4, 2013
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

ATTEST:


Marcia Walker
Board Administrator


Pat McCarthy
Executive Committee Chair

APPROVED on May 2, 2013, MW