

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes

November 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 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) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

Boardmembers

(A) 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) John Lovick, Snohomish County Executive

(P) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor

(P) Joe McDermott, King County Councilmember

(A) Mike McGinn, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) Mary Moss, Lakewood Councilmember

(A) Lynn Peterson, WSDOT Secretary

(P) Larry Phillips, King County Councilmember

(A) Marilyn Strickland, City of Tacoma Mayor

(A) 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 Boardmember Lovick asked to participate in today's meeting by telephone. The Board Rules and Operating Procedures allow members to attend meetings by teleconference with a two-thirds affirmative vote of those members in attendance.

It was moved by Boardmember Enslow, seconded by Boardmember McDermott, and carried by majority vote that Boardmember Lovick be allowed to participate in the Board meeting by telephone.

CEO REPORT

Ms. Joni Earl, Sound Transit CEO, reported that Sound Transit's 2012 Fare Revenue Report was recently released. The report provides detailed breakdowns of fare revenues received by Sound Transit in 2012 and projected fare revenues through 2014. In total, fare revenues during 2012 were \$54.1 million, with ST Express generating \$30.7 million in revenue, Sounder generating \$9.4 million, and Central Link generating \$14 million.

Sound Transit also released its Quarterly System Performance Report. In comparison to the third quarter of 2012, the number of boardings increased 10% for both the ST Express and Central Link services, 3% for the Sounder North Line, and 12% for the Sounder South Line. Ridership for Tacoma Link and Paratransit each decreased by 1%. The third quarter of 2013 was the first time that Sound Transit averaged more than 100,000 weekday boardings for an entire quarter, and the first time that Central Link surpassed 30,000 average weekday riders for an entire quarter.

Sound Transit recently held its quarterly meeting with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), where the FTA reviews all agency projects receiving federal funding. The meeting also included discussion of the FTA's triennial review of Sound Transit, consisting of an in-depth examination of 18 areas of the agency. Sound Transit scored very well in the triennial review, including receiving zero deficiencies in all 18 areas.

(Boardmember Conlin arrived at this time)

CITIZEN OVERSIGHT PANEL SIXTEEN YEAR REPORT

Josh Benaloh, COP Chair, and Phil Lovell, COP Vice Chair, presented the report. Mr. Benaloh explained that the Citizen Oversight Panel (COP) completed a report in April 2005 covering the first eight years of the agency; this report is a cumulative review of the following eight years, from 2005–2013. Overall, the report found that Sound Transit is performing very well and that the agency is well respected and exemplary in many ways.

Mr. Lovell commented that there are areas where Sound Transit can continue to improve, including improving regional coordination among transit providers, fully meeting the needs of high-demand routes, and improving the accuracy of early project cost estimates. The COP report also suggests that the Sound Transit Board should consider reevaluating the subarea equity policy and develop a way to evaluate the feasibility of providing services that may not be delivering value to taxpayers.

Boardmember Earling commented that the COP provides great value to the Board and thanked COP members for their service. Ms. Earl seconded Boardmember Earling's comments and thanked Kathy Elias for her great work as an independent staff member to the COP.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Review Excess Property Draft Policy

Brooke Belman, DECM Chief of Staff, and Roger Hansen, Director of Real Property, provided an overview of the draft policy. Ms. Belman explained that this policy is designed to maintain flexibility so that Sound Transit has the ability to conduct business needs while focusing on site-specific and local details. The policy would prioritize the Board's goals and values, complement Sound Transit's updated TOD policy, and simplify the policy to make it more transparent and accessible to the public, stakeholders, and local jurisdictions.

In response to a question from Boardmember Marchione, Mr. Hansen explained that the proposed policy places more emphasis on early involvement with local communities around station planning and TOD planning than the current policy. Ms. Belman commented that the policy also creates more visibility regarding Sound Transit's real property inventory, including an annual update to the Board.

Boardmembers discussed the proposed policy, including the importance of ensuring that Sound Transit receives fair market value for excess real property and expressed that the policy achieves that goal.

University Link Project Update

Ahmad Fazel, DECM Executive Director, and Joe Gildner, Executive Project Director, provided an update regarding the University Link project. Mr. Gildner explained that the project is approximately 79% complete. The Capitol Hill Station is about 35% complete, with concrete that started six stories underground beginning to reach the surface.

Mr. Fazel commented that the total project is estimated to be approximately \$107 million under budget. In addition, because the project schedule currently contains 169 days of float time, there is a possibility that the project will open earlier than the original plan of September 2016. Staff recommends that the Board target the first quarter of 2016 as an early opening date. In order to do so, the pre-revenue testing can be shortened from 180 days to 90 days. However, one major challenge for this project will be creating the University Link operating systems, and testing and integrating the systems with current Link operating systems without interrupting service for riders. Sound Transit will continue to monitor this risk and additional project risks to remain ahead of schedule and below budget.

Ms. Earl commented that this project was discussed during her meeting with the Federal Transit Administration, and that FTA staff are in full agreement with Sound Transit staff recommendations to establish an early opening timeline for the University Link project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

(Comments on file with the Board Administrator)

Shane Hope
Keith McGlashen
Loren Simmons
John Cohen
Annie Leiman
Will Knedik
Cynthia (Paula Revere)

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion No. M2013-102: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract amendment with Stacy and Witbeck, Inc. to provide track, signal and bridge maintenance services for the Sounder Tacoma to Lakewood segment in the amount of \$1,757,079, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$10,724,006.

Motion No. M2013-98: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract with International Electronic Machines Corporation to provide wheel flat, vibration and magnetic field monitoring and detection systems for the University Link Extension in the amount of \$4,999,400, with a 10% contingency of \$499,940, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$5,499,340.

Resolution No. R2013-26: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation, and pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected owners and tenants as necessary for the South 200th Link Extension.

Resolution No. R2013-27: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests in the Overlake Village/Overlake Transit Center neighborhood of Redmond, including acquisition by condemnation and pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected owners and tenants as necessary for the East Link Extension.

Resolution No. R2013-28: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests in the South Bellevue/Downtown neighborhood of Bellevue, including acquisition by condemnation, and pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected owners and tenants as necessary for the East Link Extension.

It was moved by Vice Chair Roberts to remove Motion No. M2013-102 from the consent agenda because it was not forwarded by the Operations and Administration Committee earlier today. Motion No. M2013-102 will be considered by the Board at a later date.

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

BUSINESS ITEMS

Motion No. M2013-105: Temporarily suspending Board rules of procedure in Resolution No. 1-1 (Amended) to allow the Executive Committee to nominate officers at the December Executive Committee meeting.

It was moved by Vice Chair Patterson, seconded by Boardmember Butler, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2013-105 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2013-96: Identifying the preferred light rail routes and station locations for the Lynnwood Link Extension Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Boardmember Butler provided an overview of work conducted by the Capital Committee regarding this item and asked Matt Shelden, Light Rail Development Manager, to provide specific information regarding the preferred alternative recommended from the Capital Committee.

Mr. Shelden explained that in North Seattle and Shoreline, the Capital Committee is recommending at-grade and elevated light rail with stations at 145th street and 185th street. The Committee also recommends maintaining access to the Latvian Evangelical Lutheran Church, and to further evaluate potential

modifications to the preferred alternative, such as including a station at 130th street and providing improvements to the pedestrian bridge over I-5 at 185th street to increase access to the 185th street station.

From Shoreline to Mountlake Terrace, the preferred alternative places light rail along the eastside of I-5 to the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center, and then along the westside of I-5. The preferred alternative identifies a station at the Mountlake Terrace Transit Center and directs staff to study expanded parking at or near the Transit Center. Staff will also examine the possibility of adding a station at 220th street, study the possibility of aligning light rail from the eastside of I-5 to the median of I-5, and will develop a preliminary plan for future use of the existing Mountlake Terrace Freeway Station.

From North Mountlake Terrace to Lynnwood, the preferred alternative recommends light rail along I-5 to the Lynnwood Park and Ride, with a station that utilizes the existing Lynnwood Transit Center. The preferred alternative also minimizes wetland and stream impacts and directs staff to evaluate the possibility of expanding parking options at the Lynnwood Transit Center.

Boardmembers spoke in support of this motion and the constructive engagement between Sound Transit and local communities during the process of identifying a preferred alternative. Boardmembers also expressed appreciation to Sound Transit staff, and citizens and communities for their input regarding this project.

In response to a question from Chair McCarthy, Mr. Shelden commented that Sound Transit has heard concerns about potential impacts of light rail near the 117th street bridge in North Seattle and that during the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), Sound Transit will study ways to minimize impacts upon residential properties and to mitigate the noise and visual impacts of light rail.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Vice Chair Roberts, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2013-96 be approved as presented.

Phase Gate 3: Authorize the Lynnwood Link Extension to enter Gate 3

Matt Shelden, Light Rail Development Manager, presented the phase gate action. Approval of Motion No. M2013-96 directs Sound Transit staff to begin preliminary engineering for the Lynnwood Link Extension project. This action completes the necessary step in the phase gate process to conduct preliminary engineering and the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) process.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember McDermott, and carried by unanimous vote that the Lynnwood Link Extension be approved as presented to enter Gate 3 of Sound Transit's Phase Gate process.

Motion No. M2013-97: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract amendment with North Corridor Transit Partners, LLC to provide engineering, environmental, and community development services for Phase 3 of the Lynnwood Link Extension project in the amount of \$18,550,205, with a 10% contingency of \$1,855,020, totaling \$20,405,225, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$40,209,710

Because this item is recommended by the Capital Committee, Boardmember Butler provided an overview. This motion authorizes engineering work for the preferred alternative for the Lynnwood Link Extension to develop the Final EIS and plan for the transition to final design work. This work is included in Phase 3 of the contract and will take approximately 19 months to complete, with scheduled completion being mid-2015.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Conlin, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2013-97 be approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, December 19, 2013
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

APPROVED on January 23, 2014, JAT