

## **SOUND TRANSIT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **Summary Minutes**

**February 5, 2015**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10.40 a.m. by Vice Chair Marilyn Strickland, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

#### **ROLL CALL**

##### Chair

(A) *Dow Constantine, King County Executive*

##### Vice Chairs

(P) *Marilyn Strickland, Tacoma Mayor*

(P) *Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember*

##### Boardmembers

(P) *Fred Butler, Issaquah Mayor*

(P) *John Lovick, Snohomish County Executive*

(A) *Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive*

(P) *Ed Murray, Seattle Mayor*

(P) *Lynn Peterson, WSDOT Secretary*

(A) *Larry Phillips, King County Council Chair*

Katie Flores, Acting Board Administrator, announced that a quorum of the committee was present at roll call.

#### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

##### Boardmembers Request to Participate via Teleconference

Vice Chair Marilyn Strickland noted that Boardmember John Lovick asked to participate in today's meeting by phone. 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 Butler, seconded by Boardmember Roberts and carried by the unanimous vote that Boardmember Lovick be allowed to participate in the Executive Meeting by teleconference.**

Vice Chair Strickland reported that the Obama Administration included \$75 million in his budget for fiscal year 2016 to fund the Tacoma Link Expansion project. In addition to the \$50 million committed from Sound Transit, the City of Tacoma is required to come up with \$40 million and has already secured grants totaling \$13 million. This project was approved ST2 in 2008 will extend Tacoma Link to the Hilltop and Stadium neighborhoods that represent the most densely populated neighborhoods in Tacoma as well as underserved neighborhoods.

#### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

##### Update on Olympia

The House Transportation Committee held a work session and a hearing on House Bill 1180 that would provide new revenue authority for ST3. Several board members attended and testified at hearing including Board Chair Constantine, Vice Chair's Strickland and Roberts, and Boardmembers Lovick, Murray and O'Brien. The House Transportation Committee subsequently voted House Bill 1180 out of committee by vote of 13-12. Sound Transit Legal counsel worked with staff on amendments the committee adopted to narrow the additional taxing authority to only Sound

Transit and correct a draft error on property tax. An amendment was proposed that would require Sound Transit to add three directly elected Board members in order to use the additional taxing authority and that amendment was defeated. The bill will now go to the House Finance Committee and the Sound Transit team has already begun meeting with this committee.

## **REPORTS TO THE COMMITTEE**

### ST3 System Planning Core Priorities

David Beal, Planning and Development Director and Karen Kitsis, Planning and Development Manager provided the staff report. Mr. Beal provided a summary of the schedule for ST3 planning. During the remainder of 2015, the Board will identify of core priorities, and staff will create and evaluate high level scenarios of system plans that could be put together. These scenarios will show differences, benefits and combinations of core priorities and are not intended to be alternatives for adoption. Sound Transit will then move into identifying a priority project list from the hundreds of projects cleared environmentally and included in the long range plan Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Core priorities included completing Link Light Rail Spine, achieving high ridership, connecting region's centers with high capacity transit, supporting land use and Transit Oriented Development (TOD). The Board may also identify corridors that might not get into ST3 but possibly into ST4 plan. The Board discussed the core priorities to confirm they should be used by Sound Transit to proceed.

Boardmembers asked that finding for future system planning and corridor studies be considered for inclusion and asked that completion of the spine be listed as the first priority. Boardmembers also noted the importance of working with cities and counties to give them a head start on required comprehensive land use planning.

Ms. Kitsis provided a summary of system planning briefings over the next several months. In March, Sound Transit will present a summary of methodology used to evaluate both system wide and project level activities for the year along with draft conceptual expansion scenarios. In April, the refined expansion scenarios will be presented and we will talk about evaluating measures based on core priorities. In May, refinement of evaluation of conceptual system expansion scenarios will be presented with the intent of developing project list priorities within the long range plan. This briefing will include the EIS document along with other items. In June, Sound Transit intends to present a draft project priority list along with socio-economic and land use factors to be considered in developing the system plan. Also in the months of June and July, Sound Transit plans to engage the public to gain input from stakeholders on their priorities. Sound Transit will be looking at both the corridor level and supporting projects.

After incorporating information collected during these activities, Sound Transit plans to return to the Board with a refined project list to be considered for evaluation. In September, project templates with descriptions of the projects and key information about ridership, costs, and environmental impacts will provide a first look at early results for projects. By the fall, we will be looking to identify which projects should be advanced as a core group for 2016 system planning consideration.

Boardmember Butler asked about opportunities engage with King County Metro as they begin work on their long-range planning. Ms. Kitsis informed the committee that monthly meetings are scheduled with King County metro. Acting CEO Mike Harbour added that Sound Transit has been asked to appoint staff to King County's technical advisory committee.

## Citizen Oversight Panel Appointments

Katie Flores, Acting Board Administrator, provided a short presentation on the process to fill the vacancies. There are currently five vacancies: two in North King County, one in South King County and two in Pierce County. One of the Pierce County vacancies just occurred when long-time COP member Bruce Seiber announced he would be leaving the panel a couple weeks ago. There are also two COP members whose second term will expire in March of this year, one from North King County and one from East King County.

Boardmember packets included eight applications that were received for the North King County vacancies, and one application for the South King County vacancy. Since there will be another North King County vacancy at the end of March, the Executive Committee could choose to recommend three individuals at this time to represent North King County.

The process to appoint COP members was updated by the Board in 2012 to allow Boardmembers representing the subarea that has a vacancy the chance to review the applicants and make a recommendation to the Executive Committee. Under the process, the Executive Committee could then discuss the recommendation, and potentially direct staff to prepare an action for the full Board to appoint the individuals selected. Sound Transit will continue to recruit for vacant positions on the panel, including the two positions in Pierce County and the upcoming vacancy in East King County.

Vice Chair Strickland noted that the Boardmember packets included two letters; one from Boardmember von Reichbauer recommending the appointment of Dr. Mildred Ollée, and another from Chair Constantine recommending the appointment of three applicants; Ms. Robin Gold, Mr. John Harrison, and Mr. Michael Williams.

Boardmember Fred Butler asks about the available options for the member positions that are subject to term expiration. Ms. Flores explains that the COP was established with the ability to have only two terms and there is no option to extend beyond the end of the second term. There is one applicant in the packet that resides in Bellevue but works in Seattle. He is currently being considered as one of the applicants for North King County but he could be considered for the East King County vacancy. Sound Transit can also look at past applicants for the East King County position and bring those forward as well as new recruiting activities. All of those applications could then be brought to the Board for their review.

Boardmember Ed Murray said it was the first time that the Boardmembers saw the recommendations and asked if the appointments needed to be acted on today. Vice Chair Strickland suggested holding off on acting on recommendations for another month so Boardmembers have time to discuss and better understand the makeup of the appointees to ensure a diverse panel. Ms. Strickland requested that the next packet be provided ahead of the meeting and that if possible, additional information also be provided on the members already sitting on the panel.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

Items for Committee Final Action

Minutes of the May 1, 2014 Executive Committee meeting

It was moved by Vice Chair Strickland, seconded by John Lovick, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the minutes of the May 1, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting be approved as presented.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, March 5, 2015  
10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:11am



Dow Constantine  
Executive Committee Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator

APPROVED on May 7, 2015, KWF