

MOTION NO. M2015-58

**Adopting Station Names for East Link Extension**

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:
Capital Committee	06/11/2015	Recommend to Board	Ahmad Fazel, DECM Executive Director
Board	06/25/2015	Final Action	<b>Ron Lewis, Executive Project Director – East Link</b> <b>Jeff Munnoch, Community Outreach Director</b>

PROPOSED ACTION

Adopting the permanent station names for East Link Extension.

KEY FEATURES SUMMARY

- This action adopts the permanent station names for East Link Extension.
  - Judkins Park Station
  - Mercer Island Station
  - South Bellevue Station
  - East Main Station
  - Bellevue Downtown Station
  - Wilburton Station
  - 120<sup>th</sup>/Spring District Station
  - 130<sup>th</sup>/Bel-Red Station
  - Overlake Village Station
  - Redmond Technology Center Station
- The proposed permanent station names meet the naming criteria established by the Board in the Facility and Link System Naming Policy. The policy states that station names should:
  - Reflect the nature of the environment: neighborhoods, street names, landmarks, geographical locations;
  - Be brief, easy to read and remember;
  - Comply with federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines and requirements and be limited to 30 characters;
  - Avoid commercial references because they may change, prove confusing to the public and be costly to change;
  - Avoid similar names or words in existing facility names.
- The Facility and Link System Naming Policy calls for the Board to adopt permanent facility names when it baselines a project budget and schedule (Gate 5 of the Phase Gate process). The Board adopted the East Link Extension baseline budget and schedule at the April 23, 2015 meeting.

BACKGROUND

East Link extends light rail to East King County via I-90 from Downtown Seattle to Downtown Bellevue and the Overlake area of Redmond, with 10 stations. Revenue service between Seattle and the Overlake Transit Center is forecast for June 2023.

The Board adopted the Facility and Link System Naming Policy in February 2012. The policy established a process, timeframe, and criteria for naming facilities. The process includes three

phases: internally identify and evaluate potential names based on defined criteria, receive input from the public, local jurisdictions, and the Sound Transit Board, and approval by the Board of Gate 5 of the Phase Gate process.

The policy requires public and stakeholder input be received during the 30% facility design review process. To meet this requirement, public meetings included discussion of potential names and collection of public feedback. Based on this feedback, input from the community and partner jurisdictions, Sound Transit extended the station naming public involvement process to include:

- the 60% milestone for stations (30% design for Redmond stations)
- the 90% design open house for the Bel-Red segment
- online surveys were left open to accept comments for additional time at each milestone (2-3 months at each milestone, instead of several weeks)

East Link outreach staff provided stakeholders, jurisdictional partners, and transit agencies with information about the naming process and the variety of methods used to obtain feedback. Methods included distribution of hardcopy surveys to open house attendees, postings on social media inviting public comment on stations design and names, and the mailing of electronic newsletters with a survey link to over 5,500 subscribers on the project email distribution list.

Regular project communications about potential permanent station names identified the Board as the final authority in determining permanent station names.

After extensive consultation with the local jurisdictions of Seattle, Mercer Island, Bellevue, and Redmond the permanent station names are recommended as follows:

<b>Temporary Working Station Name</b>	<b>Proposed Permanent Station Name</b>
Rainier Station	Judkins Park Station
Mercer Island Station	Mercer Island Station
South Bellevue Station	South Bellevue Station
East Main Station	East Main Station
Bellevue Transit Center Station	Bellevue Downtown Station
Hospital Station	Wilburton Station
120 <sup>th</sup> Station	120 <sup>th</sup> /Spring District Station
130 <sup>th</sup> Station	130 <sup>th</sup> /Bel-Red Station
Overlake Village Station	Overlake Village Station
Overlake Transit Center Station	Redmond Technology Center Station

#### FISCAL INFORMATION

There is no financial impact for this action, as signage costs are included in the baseline budget. This action results in no change to signage production throughout the link system as these costs are anticipated and fabrication has not yet occurred. Proper planning will allow for updated materials to be scheduled during traditional re-orders minimizing the fiscal impact.

#### SMALL BUSINESS/DBE PARTICIPATION

Not applicable to this action.

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Sound Transit and local communities have been working together on station planning and design for eight years.

Sound Transit began scoping for East Link in 2006. Environmental review and preliminary design completed in 2011. During the environmental review phase Sound Transit conducted extensive community outreach by gathering community input on 24 project alternatives at 28 open houses, public hearings and workshops as well as from project stakeholders and property owners at briefings. Since 2011, Sound Transit has hosted three open houses focusing on cost savings in the City of Bellevue and 17 Final Design phase open houses, in addition to numerous stakeholder and property owner briefings. To make information about East Link widely available, Sound Transit regularly updates a variety of communication tools and materials, including a website, social media, fact sheets, e-newsletter, press releases, project animations, and graphic displays.

Information about the proposed station names and a request for feedback on permanent names was e-mailed to Sound Transit's project mailing lists (approximately 5,500 people) at design milestones for each station. The information included a link to an internet-based survey on permanent names for East Link Extension stations. The survey was available for public and stakeholder input for a minimum of two weeks after each notification. Mailed postcards, e-newsletters and press releases contained information about the naming process and the proposed permanent names. Many local neighborhood blogs and newsletters carried articles about the potential permanent station and facility names and how to provide input. To capture a wider audience, East Link outreach staff attended local fairs and festivals and encouraged attendees to submit their station naming comments. Local online news sources published articles about the potential permanent station names and how to provide input. Sound Transit received a total of 820 station naming comments through the public and stakeholder process. Sound Transit has received letters for permanent station name recommendations from the City of Seattle (Council and Mayor), Mercer Island City Council, Bellevue City Council, and Redmond City Council.

## TIME CONSTRAINTS

A one month delay would not create a significant impact to the schedule.

## PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Resolution No. R2015-04: (1) Adopted the East Link Extension baseline schedule and budget, which constitutes Board approval of Gate 5 within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process by (a) amending the project Lifetime Budget from \$798,346,894 to \$3,677,150,000, and (b) amending the project 2015 Annual Budget from \$142,944,766 to \$165,636,000; (2) approved Gate 6 within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process to allow the project to proceed to construction; (3) confirmed that the alignment selected by the Board in 2013 includes a 120<sup>th</sup> Avenue Station in a retained cut; (4) incorporated the Overlake Village Bridge project into the East Link Extension by (a) amending the Lifetime budget from \$5,185,585 to \$0 and (b) amending the annual budget from \$1,163,000 to \$0 to reflect the transfer of budget to the East Link Extension; and (5) established a project revenue service date of June 2023.

Resolution No. R2012-02: Established a policy for naming all Sound Transit facilities, including stations, maintenance bases, portals and other facilities and the Link system lines and extensions.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

JI 3/13/2015

LEGAL REVIEW

SS, 6/4/15

## **MOTION NO. M2015-58**

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority adopting the permanent station names for East Link Extension.

### **BACKGROUND:**

East Link extends light rail to East King County via I-90 from Downtown Seattle to Downtown Bellevue and the Overlake area of Redmond, with 10 stations. Revenue service between Seattle and the Overlake Transit Center is forecast for June 2023.

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The proposed permanent station names meet the naming criteria established by the Board in the Facility and Link System Naming Policy. The policy states that station names should:

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120 <sup>th</sup> Station	Spring District/120 <sup>th</sup> Station
130 <sup>th</sup> Station	Bel-Red/130 <sup>th</sup> Station
Overlake Village Station	Overlake Village Station
Overlake Transit Center Station	Redmond Technology Center Station

**MOTION:**


It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the permanent station names for East Link Extension are adopted as follows:

Station Name:
Judkins Park Station
Mercer Island Station
South Bellevue Station
East Main Station
Bellevue Downtown Station
Wilburton Station
Spring District/120th Station
Bel-Red/130th Station
Overlake Village Station
Redmond Technology Center Station

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on June 25, 2015.

  
 Dow Constantine  
 Board Chair

ATTEST:

  
 Kathryn Flores  
 Board Administrator