

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes
January 28, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.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) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

(P) Marilyn Strickland, City of Tacoma Mayor

Boardmembers

(P) Nancy Backus, City of Auburn Mayor

(P) Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember

(P) Fred Butler, City of Issaquah Mayor

(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Mayor

(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Mayor

(P) Rob Johnson, Seattle Councilmember

(A) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor

(P) Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive

(A) Joe McDermott, King County Council Chair

(P) Mary Moss, Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Ed Murray, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) Amy Scarton, WSDOT Assistant Secretary of
Community and Economic Development

(A) Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive

(P) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember

(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County
Councilmember

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

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Vice Chair Marilyn Strickland announced that Chair Constantine was unable to attend the meeting and she would be presiding.

Boardmember's Requests to Participate via Teleconference

Boardmember Balducci has asked to participate in the 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 McCarthy, and carried by unanimous vote that Boardmember Balducci be allowed to participate in the Board meeting by telephone.

New Boardmembers

Vice Chair Strickland welcomed three new Boardmembers: Auburn Mayor Nancy Backus, Seattle City Councilmember Rob Johnson, and Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers.

Motion No. M2016-09: Appointing committee chairs and members for one-year terms.

Vice Chair Strickland stated that Chair Constantine asked her to present his recommendations for committee appointments. The work of the committees is significant and is an important part of the Board's decision-making process.

It was moved by Boardmember Earling, seconded by Vice Chair Roberts, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2016-09 be approved as presented.

Addition to the Agenda: Pacific Northwest Ballet

Vice Chair Strickland noted that based on Chair Constantine and Boardmember Balducci's request, Ellen Walker, Executive Director for the Pacific Northwest Ballet, has been invited to provide comments on a Sound Transit property transaction. She stated that Ms. Walker would be speaking prior to the Reports to the Board.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

University Link Opening

Mr. Rogoff stated that the light rail extension to the University of Washington will open to the public on Saturday, March 19, 2016. This addition to Sound Transit service will change the operating profile of the agency given the extraordinary growth of passengers on the extension.

Pacific Northwest Ballet

Mr. Rogoff commented that efforts are being made to come to an agreement with the Pacific NW Ballet to ensure they will have a facility that meets their needs. He met with Ellen Walker, Executive Director of the Pacific Northwest Ballet (PNB), to discuss the challenges. He also met with David Hadley, PNB Chair, and Peter Horvitz, Foundation Chair. All parties are committed to reaching an agreement that will allow the ballet to continue to make cultural contributions to the community within the confines of Sound Transit's abilities under law to compensate them for their facility.

Management Excellence Program

Mr. Rogoff announced that they would be acknowledging the second class of Sound Transit's Management Excellence Program or MEP. The program is designed based on best practices from Ivy League Executive education programs and the Eno Center for Transportation Leadership.

Mr. Rogoff stated that the program was developed by Sound Transit to provide opportunity for managers and other employees with leadership roles, to expand and deepen their skills in supervising staff and leading teams. Twenty-two Sound Transit employees participated in the program this year and completed over 110 hours of training. Vice Chair Strickland and Peter Rogoff presented each MEP graduate with a plaque to acknowledge their hard work and dedication.

2015 SOUND TRANSIT MILESTONES

Mike Harbour, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, reported on the 2015 milestones. There were 33 milestones set for 2015 and of those, 23 were met. The remaining 10 milestones are underway or were completed in the first month of 2016.

A key measure of Sound Transit's success in 2015 was ridership, which met its goal with 35 million boardings on trains and buses. The capital construction program was strong in 2015. The East Link Extension was baselined and significant progress was made on University Link, South 200th Link, and Northgate Link Extensions. Sound Transit received its first five double-decker buses that are operating on the Everett to Seattle route. Sounder Commuter Rail celebrated 15 years in service and experienced increases in ridership for both the north and south lines. Work was done to mitigate mudslides on the north line and has resulted in fewer canceled trips.

ST3 continues to move forward toward the November 2016 ballot. There were a number of significant milestones reached on the ST2 program. The Federal Way Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was published and the Board selected a preferred alignment. The Lynnwood Final EIS, the Tacoma Link environmental analysis, and the OMSF Final EIS were all published. Sound Transit's transit-oriented development and environmental milestones were met in 2015.

2016 SOUND TRANSIT MILESTONES

Mr. Rogoff, Chief Executive Officer, discussed the milestones for 2016. In 2016, Sound Transit will be expanding north, east, and south. Sounder Commuter Rail service will be expanded with additional frequency. With the addition of University Link Extension, South 200th Link Extension, and ridership growth on Sounder and ST Express, the projected ridership for 2016 is 42 million.

The Northgate Link Extension tunnels will be completed and construction will begin on the elevated station at Northgate Station. The East Link Extension will begin construction in 2016. The Lynnwood Link Extension is on track to receive a Federal Full Funding Grant Agreement. The Federal Way Link Extension will complete the Final EIS and Tacoma Link Expansion will begin final design.

CITIZEN OVERSIGHT PANEL ANNUAL REPORT

Philip Lovell, Chair, Citizen Oversight Panel (COP), presented the panel's annual report. The COP recognized five major accomplishments in 2015: Capital Programs, Operating Costs, Ridership Increases, Public Involvement, and Agency Coordination. Areas of concern included Local Transit Service to Sound Transit Park-and-Ride Lots, Sounder North Benchmarks, I-90 Track Attachment Design, Robustness of the Data Network, and Subarea Equity.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Pacific Northwest Ballet

Ms. Ellen Walker, Executive Director of the Pacific Northwest Ballet (PNB), spoke on behalf of the PNB, the PNB School, and the 600 children who take classes at the center in Bellevue. The school must be closed on August 1, 2016, so that the building can be demolished as part of the East Link Extension project. For the past two years, the PNB has conveyed to Sound Transit why replacing the school matters. There is a delta between the compensation offered and the cost to build a new school as well as a debate about fair market value for the school. Ms. Walker stated that the school is supportive of mass transit but also stressed the importance of the PNB's continued presence on the eastside. She urged the Board to support work to resolve this crisis for PNB and the community served by the school.

Boardmember Balducci stated that building a major transit facility through communities has been challenging. It takes a lot of hard work and caring for the communities in order to make Sound Transit's mission work for everyone. This will be a challenging discussion, but she stated her support and asked for the Board's support.

ST3 Jurisdictional Feedback and Project Priorities Discussion

Ric Ilgenfritz, Executive Director of Planning, Environment & Project Development, and Karen Kitsis, Senior Planning and Project Development Manager, presented the update on ST3. In early December 2015, Chair Constantine sent a letter to jurisdictions and transit partners requesting input on the candidate projects.

Sound Transit received 50 letters including 2 multi-jurisdiction letters and 10 letters from organizations. In general, the comments included support for the opportunity to expand high-capacity transit service; acknowledgement of projects being considered; opinions and comments, both positive and negative, for specific projects; and importance of system access and opportunities for development. The letters also provided additional information to help in the consideration of projects.

Snohomish County jurisdictions highlighted the importance of connecting the light rail spine particularly serving the southwest Everett Industrial Center/Paine field; support for jurisdiction-specific projects; and support for connections with Community Transit and projects that could help Community Transit services.

King County jurisdictions had a wide variety of comments. Highlights of the letters included completing the light rail spine; the SR522/523 corridor; comments on I-405 bus rapid transit; high-capacity transit options via the eastside rail corridor; support for Sounder improvements and expansions; and connections to SeaTac Airport.

Within the projects that contained a variety of options, there were opinions on which alignments would best serve areas, particularly Ballard and West Seattle. There were also comments regarding locations not included in ST3 candidate projects.

Pierce County jurisdictions highlighted support for building out the light rail spine; Sounder improvements and expansion; contributions to Pierce Transit projects; protecting freight and maritime industries while expanding transit service; and parking and access. The letters also provided questions and clarifications to specific projects.

A letter was received from the Washington Division of Federal Highways Administration that provided some information on highways, particularly Interstate-5, where there may be options that could utilize right-of-way within federal highways.

The Board will be provided with a letter from the Expert Review Panel covering an overview of issues being discussed and poses additional questions on new topics.

University Link Extension Briefing

Joe Gildner, Executive Project Director, briefed the Board on the University Link Extension. Pre-revenue testing began early in January and in February the project is scheduled to transition to Sound Transit's Operations Department.

The project's estimated final cost is trending under budget by \$150 million. The last remaining construction work is to complete testing and commissioning and working on punch list items at both stations. A maintenance-of-way building is included in the project and will complement the ongoing operations at the Operations and Maintenance Facility.

The top five risks include completing systems commissioning and testing; completing safety certification; completing state safety oversight and FTA readiness review; state L&I elevator and occupancy permits; and completing the remaining light rail vehicle fix.

Sounder Yard & Shops Project Briefing

Don Billen, HCT Project Development Director; Melissa Saxe, Senior Project Manager; and Michael Perry, Deputy Executive Director of Transportation and Maintenance provided an update on the Sounder Yard & Shops project. The facility will service Sounder's 81-vehicle fleet.

Early in the project development phase, sites were looked at near Everett, the SODO area (south of Seattle), and down in the Lakewood corridor. Ultimately, the Lakewood corridor was determined to be the best location for the facility in terms of costs and operations. Sites within Pierce County were explored and were narrowed down to the preferred alternative, which expands the existing layover facility. The location draws heavily on property owned by Sound Transit and is compatible with the adjacent land uses in the area.

In 2013, the Board split the work into two separate projects. The first project is the Sounder South Expanded Service to expand the yard to support the additional Sounder service being added over the next two years. The second project is the Sounder Yard & Shops Facility project that will build the maintenance shop.

Next steps include two actions before the Capital Committee today; an environmental review on the Sounder Yard & Shops Facility; additional community outreach; and a final Board decision on the project in April.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Zimmerman, Stand-UP America
Queen Pearl
Mike Curran
Dennis Higgins, City of Kent
Patrick Pierce

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the November 18, 2015, CEO Search Committee Meeting.

Minutes of the November 19, 2015, Board Meeting.

Minutes of the December 4, 2015, Board ST3 Workshop.

Motion No. M2016-03: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract with Motor Coach Industries to manufacture and deliver twelve 45-foot over-the-road, compressed natural gas buses in the amount of \$8,804,486, with a 5% contingency of \$440,224, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$9,244,711.

Motion No. M2016-06: Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contingency for the construction services contract with Johansen Excavating, Inc. for the Station Area Roadways and Surface Parking work within the South 200th Link Extension in the amount of \$1,800,000, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$11,069,040.

Motion No. M2016-07: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a design-build contract with Shimmick Construction to provide design and construction services for the Sounder Yard Expansion project in the amount of \$12,005,000, with a 10% contingency of \$1,200,500, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$13,205,500.

Motion No. M2016-08: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract through December 31, 2021, with five additional one-year options with Four Nines Technologies, Inc. for Second Generation Regional Fare Collection System Consulting Services in the amount of \$8,366,489, with a 20% contingency of \$1,673,298, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$10,039,787.

Resolution No. R2016-01: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire or lease certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for the Sounder Yard & Shops Facility Project.

Resolution No. R2016-02: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire or lease certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for the Tacoma Link Expansion Project.

Resolution No. R2016-03: Approving the Chief Executive Officer's declaration that certain real property acquired for the Initial Segment of the Central Link Light Rail project is surplus and is no longer needed for a transit purpose

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Earling, and carried by unanimous vote that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Motion No. M2016-10: (1) Restoring funding for the Kent and Auburn Access Projects in the Sound Transit 2 Finance Plan, and (2) directing staff to start work on those access projects and return with a budget amendment and Phase Gate actions when appropriate.

Vice Chair Strickland stated that at the January Executive Committee and Capital Committee meetings, briefings were given on the status of ST2 suspended projects. Based on those discussions, staff was asked to prepare an action for the Board to advance the access improvement projects in Kent and Auburn.

Brian McCartan, Executive Director of Finance and IT, presented the staff report. In 2010, due to the recession, some ST2 Capital Projects were suspended. The economic situation and the financial plan have improved and the Board directed staff to look at the suspended projects and determine what can be funded.

Motion No. M2016-10 follows up on the Board's request. The motion restores funding to the Kent and Auburn Access Projects and directs staff to begin development work for both projects.

It was moved by Boardmember Moss, seconded by Boardmember Backus, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2016-10 be approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 25, 2016
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator

APPROVED on March 24, 2016, JE