



SOUND TRANSIT SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes

June 2, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:11 a.m. by Chair Dow Constantine, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Chair

(P) *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*

(P) *John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor*

(P) *Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive*

(P) *Joe McDermott, King County Council Chair*

(P) *Roger Millar, WSDOT Acting Secretary*

(A) *Mary Moss, Lakewood Councilmember*

(P) *Ed Murray, City of Seattle Mayor*

(P) *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

Chair Constantine thanked Boardmembers for their time and attendance and provided an outline of the Special Board meeting agenda. The Board will continue to review plan language leading up to the June 23, 2016 Board meeting, including further review at the upcoming Capital meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ruth Perez, Renton City Councilmember

Mike Orr

Jeff Aken, Cascade Bicycle Club

Paul W. Locke

Jonathan Hopkins

Justin Leighton

Nick Woods

Joe Kunzler

John Niles

Walter Scott

Giulia Pasciuto

Shefali Ranganathan, Transportation Choices Coalition

BUSINESS ITEMS

Chair Constantine noted that staff confirmed at the May Board meeting that Boardmembers' proposed changes within each subarea to the ST3 Draft Plan are affordable within the plan. Business items today include a motion to direct the CEO to prepare documents that will make up the Sound Transit 3 plan. The changes proposed at the previous meeting are contained in Exhibit A to the motion. The focus of the Board is to confirm the final list

of projects for the ST3 plan in order to allow time for staff to develop the ST3 plan document and its appendices for consideration and final action at the June 23, 2016 Board meeting.

Motion No. M2016-60: Directing the chief executive officer to prepare regional transit system plan documents consistent with the list of projects in Exhibit A to this motion, and distribute the plan documents to the Board before June 23, 2016.

Ric Ilgenfritz, Executive Director of Planning, Environment and Project Development and Karen Kitsis, Senior Planning and Project Development Manager reviewed the changes proposed at the previous Board meeting and informed Boardmembers of resulting changes to system performance. Ms. Kitsis summarized proposed changes and schedule advancements by subarea.

Snohomish County subarea proposed changes include the Mariner to Everett portion of the Lynnwood Link extension advancing by five years, the continuation of the segment further North beyond the Southwest Everett Industrial Center, and an added provisional station at SR-99 and Airport Road. North King subarea changes include an advancement of both the West Seattle and Ballard light rail corridors by three years. The Ballard line would be fully elevated. The Graham Street infill station would advance by five years. The infill station at 130th, which was a provisional project, is now a funded project within the plan. Finally, the list of eligible early deliverable projects now includes Madison Street Bus Rapid Transit. East King subarea changes include light rail between the Redmond Technology Center and Downtown Redmond advancing by four years. The line to Issaquah will now extend from South Kirkland with additional parking. The SR 405 Bus Rapid Transit project changes include additional parking, a site change from the previous draft plan and a note for coordination with partners for potential Transit Oriented Development at that location. The project also includes an added station at NE 44th in Renton with surface parking and an early deliverable for a park-and-ride facility in North Sammamish. South King subarea project advancements include LRT between Angle Lake and Federal Way and the infill station at Boeing Access Road. Pierce County subarea changes include similar Sounder improvements, advancing Tacoma Link by two years and light rail between Federal Way and Tacoma Dome by three years. Improved service between Lakewood and Tacoma Dome and additional parking at Dupont for the Sounder Extension are now included in the eligible early deliverables project list.

Ms. Kitsis went on to describe studies added to the plan. Those additions included modifying the currently proposed High Capacity Transit study from West Seattle to Bellevue. The study would now include West Seattle to Burien connecting to Renton via Tukwila. Other studies additions include an environmental study from the Bothell to Bellevue, multiple north-south corridor options and Tacoma Mall from Tacoma Dome. Ms. Kitsis noted that environmental study provides options to get to a record of decision.

Ms. Kitsis concluded her summary with a review of proposed changes to the scope for the South Sounder improvement Program. Both 10 car platforms and additional funding for track and signal improvements are now included in the package.

Mr. Ilgenfritz summarized how elements of the ST2 system would expand through the ST3 plan. ST3 would add two additional lines and two additional Operations and Maintenance Facilities bringing the total of each to four. The light rail fleet would grow to 460 vehicles serving all five subareas on a 116-mile system with over 70 stations. Sixteen district cities will be connected with light rail, 30 cities with BRT/ST Express and 12 cities with commuter rail, with some cities having more than one mode. The size of the system will double and with the additional capacity, projected ST3 ridership increases at roughly the same percentage, reaching 175 million-215 million riders by 2040. Mr. Ilgenfritz noted that an updated system plan map showing the proposed changes is included in Boardmember packets.

Boardmember Enslow asked for instructions on how to amend the proposed changes to include additional funded or provisional projects. Chair Constantine directed Boardmembers to work directly with colleagues to define and propose any changes but noted that there are a number of additional projects wanted by each subarea that are not currently affordable. The Sound Transit Board should not include projects that in all likelihood would be neither affordable nor deliverable within this plan.

Boardmember McCarthy added that the Board wants an honest and transparent plan that provides flexibility and equity for each subarea. Ms. McCarthy expressed concern about the current negotiations with BNSF for additional Sounder service capacity and frequency and asked staff how funds would be reallocated should that negotiation fail and how it would remain transparent to voters. In response, CEO Peter Rogoff noted that funds budgeted in both the South King and Pierce subareas for the Sounder South investment would remain in those subareas should they not be needed for the Sounder project. Chair Constantine asked staff to provide relevant board policies that clarify how the agency reallocates funds from one project to another.

Boardmember Marchione commented that after the passage of the ST2 package, the region went into a recession and reminded Boardmembers that this plan has a long life and the potential for economy fluctuations over this period is unknown. Boardmembers expressed the importance of the public trust and an honest and real plan that accurately manages expectations. Boardmember Roberts added that a plan with built-in incentives for efficiency and innovative funding and resourcing could help to expand the system in better and faster ways. Boardmember McDermott commented that he is working with other Boardmembers on language related to TOD and affordable housing impacts and looks forward to sharing it with the full Board.

Boardmember Balducci noted the importance Boardmembers' action today in giving the staff direction to complete the significant detail work needed for the Board to take a final vote on the package that goes to the voters. Ms. Balducci stressed that substantial work and hard discussions around the region provided the project list. Boardmember Earling commented that Snohomish County worked hard on their projects and look forward to support from the full board. Mr. Earling recalled a number of conversations about adding additional project ideas to the Sound Move plan at the last minute and asked Boardmembers to be conscious about setting expectations with these discussions.

Boardmember Butler commented that today's momentous occasion is a generational opportunity. Mr. Butler expressed his appreciation for a plan that is reasonable, realistic, bold and transformational and is mindful about what Sound Transit can deliver and what voters are willing to approve. Mr. Butler believed that most voters would embrace the current package with existing proposed amendments.

Chair Constantine noted that the motion before the Board would direct staff to create the template for the growth and development of this region for the next several generations.

It was moved by Boardmember McCarthy seconded by Boardmember Earling, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2016-60 be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2016-15: Amending Sound Transit's existing legal boundary description to include annexations to the cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Renton, and Sammamish, and clarifying certain boundary references.

Mike Strong, GIS Administrator provided the staff report. This action updates the legal description approved by the Board in 2013 to incorporate minor annexations in the cities of Bellevue, Issaquah, Renton, and Sammamish. The update also clarifies some geographic references such as street name corrections.

The revised legal description incorporates recent statutory annexations that have occurred when a city inside the RTA annexes an area outside the RTA. Under state law, that area automatically annexes to the RTA as well as the City. The areas annexed to the RTA add approximately 78 acres, and do not add new residences. For example, the area annexed in Bellevue includes only street right of way, and the area annexed in Issaquah includes only City-owned property.

Additionally, some of the boundary references have been clarified based on recommendations from the King County Elections and Assessor departments, Pierce County Elections and the Snohomish County Assessor. The areas annexed to the RTA in Bellevue and Issaquah include publicly owned property only.

It was moved by Boardmember Strickland, seconded by Boardmember Backus, and carried by unanimous vote that Resolution No. R2016-15 be approved as presented.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Review Draft ST3 Plan Language

Chair Constantine noted that based on direction from the Board, staff has prepared the draft ST3 plan document to reflect the changes proposed by each subarea at the May Board meeting. The plan will also include four appendices. Staff will present appendices A, B and D at the June 9 Capital Committee meeting. Appendix C will take longer for staff to prepare and will be distributed closer to the June Board meeting date.

Chair Constantine reiterated that the plan narrative and the appendices, if approved by the voters, would serve as the regional transit plan for the next 25 years and should include an appropriate level of detail to ensure the endurance of the documents over time. The Chair reviewed the process for Boardmembers to propose changes

to the language in the plan document and future appendices. Proposed language changes should be submitted to the Board Administrator, Katie Flores by Monday, June 13, 2016 for legal compliance review.

There will be a general discussion at next week's Capital Committee meeting of the amendments submitted to find consensus where possible. On areas where consensus cannot be reached, Boardmembers will have the opportunity to debate and vote on proposed changes at the June 23, 2016 Board meeting. Finally, Boardmember packets include the environmental information needed to inform the Board's decision on whether to approve the ST3 plan. Boardmembers need to review and consider the information as part of the decision to approve the ST3 plan.

Chair Constantine asked Ric Ilgenfritz, Executive Director of Planning, Environment and Project Development, and Karen Kitsis, Senior Planning and Project Development Manager, to review the draft ST3 Plan document. Boardmembers are encouraged to ask questions and identify any areas for proposed language changes. Chair Constantine reminded Boardmembers that no changes to the text of the plan would be made today but would be considered at the June 23 Board meeting. CEO Peter Rogoff invited Boardmembers to submit proposed amendments as they are available.

Mr. Ilgenfritz reported that state law prescribes the form and content of the plan and requires that the plan accomplish certain things. Mr. Ilgenfritz noted that the ST3 draft plan resembles and follows the same framework as the ST2 plan. The plan provides context in terms of regional growth and transportation as adopted by the Board in the long-range plan and is presented in sections. It includes a section with descriptions of each of the projects by mode and by corridor with timelines for all projects, a section providing detailed descriptions of the high capacity transit planning studies and the future system planning resources, and a section summarizing the benefits of the system plan benefits, the financial plan, and provides a system map.

To adopt the plan and call for the election, staff will present three action items to the Board. The first is a resolution that adopts the plan and the appendices, the second is a resolution that calls for the election and establishes the ballot measure, and the third will be a motion appointing pro and con committees to provide ballot materials for the election guide. In closing, Mr. Ilgenfritz noted that the Boardmembers would receive an additional copy of the supplemental environmental impact statement conducted as part of the long-range plan. The statement covers all projects under consideration by the Board. Finally, the Expert Review Panel (ERP) is meeting for the final time on Monday June 6, 2016 where Sound Transit staff will present the detailed financial plan in draft form, and walk through the capital program, operating program, and strategies contemplated for mobilizing the agency to deliver the program. The ERP plans to present a report to the Board at the June 23, 2016 meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 23, 2016
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom


ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 10:23 a.m.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator

APPROVED on June 23, 2016, LM