

RESOLUTION NO. R2016-30  
**2017 Service Implementation Plan**

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:
Operations and Administration Committee	12/01/2016	Recommend to Board	Bonnie Todd, Executive Director of Operations
Board	12/15/2016	Final Action	<b>David Huffaker, Deputy Executive Director of Operations Support Services</b> <b>Michael Couvrette, Service Planning Manager</b>

PROPOSED ACTION

Adopts the 2017 Service Implementation Plan and authorizes the chief executive officer to implement recommended service changes in 2017.

KEY FEATURES SUMMARY

- The Draft 2017 Service Implementation Plan (SIP) describes Sound Transit service changes proposed for implementation during 2017, and preliminary service plans for 2018 through 2022. This action authorizes implementation of the 2017 service changes only. Preliminary bus and rail service concepts shown in the SIP for 2018-2022 are for planning and forecasting purposes only.
- Board approval of the 2017 SIP would authorize the chief executive officer to implement two new weekday round trips on the Sounder south line and respective ST Express Sounder connector service, as well as implementation of 15,000 additional annual service hours across the ST Express system to improve schedule reliability and service quality. There are no service changes for Link or Tacoma Link in 2017.

BACKGROUND

Each year, Sound Transit prepares the SIP, an annual update on the development of the agency's light rail, commuter rail, and express bus services. The Draft 2017 SIP includes several administrative service enhancements and changes which are summarized below. No major service changes are proposed for 2017.

**Administrative Service Changes**

*New Sounder South Line Round Trips*

Under a 2010 agreement between Sound Transit and BNSF Railway, four new Sounder south line weekday round trips are being phased into service between 2013 and 2017. Additional service is needed to accommodate ridership growth and provide new schedule options for commuters. The first new trip under this agreement was implemented in 2013, and the second round trip was implemented during the midday in 2016. The third and fourth ST2 approved south line round trips are proposed to be implemented in September 2017. The 2017 round trip would operate during the A.M. and P.M. peak periods, providing new opportunities for commuters to travel during rush hours.

### *ST Express Schedule Reliability and Service Quality Investment*

Despite schedule reliability and on-time performance investments made in 2015 and 2016, the ST Express system continues to fall below service quality standards. Congestion along major highway corridors continues to reduce on-time performance of the system.

In 2017, an additional 15,000 annual platform hours for ST Express service are proposed to improve schedule reliability and service quality. In early 2017, Sound Transit service planners will conduct a detailed analysis, using guidelines from the Sound Transit's *Service Standards and Performance Measures* to identify the route specific investments needed throughout the system. The additional hours will be implemented across the ST Express system beginning in September 2017. In general, the additional 15,000 service hours are planned for implementation by subarea in approximate proportion to each subarea's existing share of ST Express service hours.

### *ST Express Sounder Connector Service*

Additional trips on ST Express Routes 567, 580, and 596 are planned for September 2017, providing connecting service to the new Sounder south line round trips.

### FISCAL INFORMATION

The 2017 SIP is funded from the service delivery annual operations budgets for each mode: Sounder, ST Express, Link, and Tacoma Link. The total of 2017 operating budget is \$287 million. Budget authority will be granted with the adoption of the 2017 budget in December 2016.

ST Express	129,975
Sounder	54,486
Tacoma Link	4,550
Link	98,477
Total	<b>287,488</b>

The modal budgets can be found on page 29 of Proposed 2017 Budget book.

### SMALL BUSINESS/DBE PARTICIPATION APPRENTICESHIP UTILIZATION

Not applicable to this action.

### TITLE IV COMPLIANCE

Staff analyzed the potential impact of the proposed service changes on Title VI populations in the Sound Transit district, based on the Board adopted *Service Standards and Performance Measures*. The proposed service changes do not meet the definition for a major service change and do not have a disparate or disproportionate impact on Title VI populations in the Sound Transit district. The proposals are service enhancements that provide more mobility options or improve the quality of existing service.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Draft 2017 SIP and its public information document, "Regional Transit News," were posted on the Sound Transit website November 1, 2016. A link to the SIP was emailed to persons who

signed up to receive Sound Transit reports and service planning alerts. The “Regional Transit News” contains explanations of the service changes proposed in the SIP and encourages riders and the general public to contact Sound Transit with their comments.

A public open house is scheduled in the Union Station’s Great Hall on December 1, 2016.

#### TIME CONSTRAINTS

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

#### PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Resolution No. R2015-28: Adopted the 2016 Service Implementation Plan and authorized the chief executive officer to implement recommended service changes in 2016.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

JI 11/17/2016

#### LEGAL REVIEW

JW 11/22/2016

## **RESOLUTION NO. R2016-30**

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority adopting the 2017 Service Implementation Plan, and authorizing the chief executive officer to implement recommended service changes in 2017.

WHEREAS, the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority, commonly known as Sound Transit, was formed under chapters 81.104 and 81.112 RCW for the Pierce, King, and Snohomish Counties region by action of their respective county councils pursuant to RCW 81.112.030; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit is authorized to plan, construct, and permanently operate a high-capacity system of transportation infrastructure and services to meet regional public transportation needs in the Central Puget Sound region; and

WHEREAS, in general elections held within the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority district on November 5, 1996, November 4, 2008, and November 8, 2016, voters approved local funding to implement a regional high-capacity transportation system for the Central Puget Sound region; and

WHEREAS, express bus, commuter rail and light rail service will be implemented in phases, providing a program for route implementation and service increases over time which meet the commitment in Sound Move and Sound Transit 2; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 Service Implementation Plan includes additional information on future service plans for 2018-2022 including preliminary service changes to be used for planning and forecasting purposes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed service changes included in the 2017 Service Implementation Plan are consistent with the proposed 2017 Agency Budget and Long-Range Financial Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the 2017 Service Implementation Plan is adopted, and the chief executive officer is authorized to implement the 2017 service changes included in the plan as described below:

### **Sounder commuter rail**

Implement two new weekday Sounder commuter rail round trips between Lakewood and Seattle that will operate during the A.M. and P.M. peak periods.

### **ST Express bus**

**Schedule reliability and service quality investment:** Implement 15,000 annual platform hours to improve schedule reliability, service quality, and on-time performance of the ST Express system. The additional hours will be implemented across the ST Express system beginning in September 2017. In general, the additional 15,000 service hours are planned for implementation by subarea in approximate proportion to each subarea's existing share of ST Express service hours.

**Additional Sounder connector service:** Implement additional trips on ST Express Routes 567, 580, and 596 to provide connecting service to the two new Sounder south line round trips.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on December 15, 2016.



Dow Constantine  
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator