

MOTION NO. M2017-75

**Scott White and Joni Earl Facility Naming Selections**

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:
Board	05/25/2017	Final Action	Ahmad Fazel, DECM Executive Director Ron Endlich, Deputy Project Director – Northgate Link Extension <b>Kristin Hoffman, Senior Project Manager</b>

PROPOSED ACTION

Selects the south plaza at Northgate Station to be named after Scott White and selects the Union Station Great Hall to be named after Joni Earl in response to Motion No. M2016-107.

KEY FEATURES SUMMARY

- As part of the Washington State legislation authorizing funding sources for ST3, the Sound Transit Board was required to consider the inclusion of the name Scott White into the naming convention of either the U District or Roosevelt stations. Motion No. M2016-107 directed staff to identify naming opportunities that meet selection criteria and work with stakeholders as appropriate to develop options for Board consideration by April 27, 2017. At the April 27, 2017, Board meeting, CEO Peter Rogoff advised the Board that staff would return to the Board on May 25, 2017, following additional outreach with stakeholders.
- State legislators who sponsored the ST3 bill agreed to consider a naming option at Northgate Station. Northgate Station is the only station within the Northgate Link Extension that was within Senator White’s district.
- Motion No. M2016-107 also required consideration of the name Joni Earl in the naming convention of an appropriate Sound Transit station or facility.
- Following a review of facility naming selection criteria, a review of possible naming options suggested by Board members, staff, and stakeholder outreach, the Northgate Station south plaza is the recommended option to be named after Scott White and the Union Station Great Hall is the recommended option to be named after Joni Earl.

BACKGROUND

RCW 81.104.140 requires that when a regional transit authority “imposes a motor vehicle excise tax ... a property tax, or increases a sales and use tax to more than nine-tenths of one percent, it must undertake a process in which the authority’s board formally considers inclusion of the name Scott White, in the naming convention associated with either the U District or Roosevelt stations.”

State Senator Scott White served in the Washington State House of Representatives and Washington State Senate representing the 46th Legislative District. The Northgate Station is in the 46th Legislative District, the only Northgate Link Extension station within his district. Senator White helped shape the future of transportation in the central Puget Sound region through his sponsorship and support of legislation important to achieving Sound Transit’s mission. In 2011, the Sound Transit Board recognized Senator Scott White through Resolution No. R2011-17.

The south plaza at the Northgate Station features a large, covered, public space. Signage would consist of a plaque with Senator White’s image and a brief narrative describing his worked related to regional transit. The plaque would be mounted on a highly visible wall within the plaza. This location is at a confluence of light rail passengers, bus patrons, and bike riders, all groups that Senator White supported in his work. This plaza site is on Sound Transit property and will be constructed by Sound Transit’s station contractor by 2020.

The Sound Transit Board selected Joni Earl as the Sound Transit chief executive officer in 2000 at the time the agency faced serious challenges in the effort to begin building the regional mass transit system. During her 15-year tenure, Ms. Earl established a culture of integrity, accountability, and excellence that achieved results and restored public confidence in the agency. Under her leadership, Sound Transit opened light rail service from downtown Seattle to SeaTac Airport in 2009 on the schedule and under the budget Ms. Earl proposed to the Board after becoming chief executive officer. Her retirement in 2016 coincided with the agency's under-budget and ahead-of-schedule opening of the light rail extension to the University of Washington.

The Union Station Great Hall is recommended as the facility to be named after Ms. Earl. The hall is a public space and within Sound Transit's headquarters where Ms. Earl worked for 15 years. The proposed signage would consist of a plaque with Ms. Earl's image and a brief narrative describing her contribution to Sound Transit. A plaque will be mounted on a column at the north end of the Great Hall.

#### FISCAL INFORMATION

There are some incidental costs associated with the approval of this action. The cost of fabrication and installation of the plaques and any other minor charges will be funded through the Northgate Link Extension project for Senator White and through the Union Station operating facilities budget for Ms. Earl. These costs will have no ill effect on the performance of the respective budgets.

#### SMALL BUSINESS/DBE PARTICIPATION AND APPRENTICESHIP UTILIZATION

Not applicable to this action.

#### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Sound Transit Community Outreach and Government Relations staff conducted outreach to stakeholders for both facility naming processes. The outreach confirmed the proposed locations and signage.

#### TIME CONSTRAINTS

A one-month delay would not create a significant impact to either naming selection.

#### PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Motion No. M2016-107: Approved staff to establish a process to consider inclusion of the name Scott White in the naming convention associated with the U District or Roosevelt stations and to consider including the name Joni M. Earl in the naming convention associated with an appropriate Sound Transit station or facility.

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

#### ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

JI 4/6/2017

#### LEGAL REVIEW

AJP 5/19/2017

## MOTION NO. M2017-75

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority selecting the south plaza at Northgate Station to be named after Scott White and selecting the Union Station Great Hall to be named after Joni Earl in response to Motion No. M2016-107.

## BACKGROUND:

As part of the Washington State legislation authorizing funding sources for ST3, the Sound Transit Board was required to consider the inclusion of the name Scott White into the naming convention of either the U District or Roosevelt stations. RCW 81.104.140 states that when a regional transit authority “imposes a motor vehicle excise tax ... a property tax, or increases a sales and use tax to more than nine-tenths of one percent, it must undertake a process in which the authority’s board formally considers inclusion of the name Scott White, in the naming convention associated with either the U District or Roosevelt stations.”

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**MOTION:**

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the south plaza at Northgate Station be selected to be named after Scott White and the Union Station Great Hall be selected to be named after Joni Earl in response to Motion No. M2016-107.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on May 25, 2017.



Dave Somers  
Board Chair

ATTEST:

  
Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator