

RESOLUTION NO. R2016-13
Selecting the Sumner Station Improvements Project

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:
Capital Committee	05/12/2016	Recommend to Board	Ric Ilgenfritz , PEPD Executive Director Don Billen, HCT Project Development Director
Board	05/26/2016	Final Action	Ken Lee, Senior Project Manager

PROPOSED ACTION

Selects the bicycle, pedestrian, lighting, and parking access improvements to be built for the Sumner Station Improvements project.

KEY FEATURES SUMMARY

- This action defines and selects the bicycle, pedestrian, lighting, and parking access to be built for the Sumner Station Access Improvements project.
- In August 2014, the Board identified Package E: Small Transit Center Garage and Washington Tractor Surface Lot, as the preferred alternative for environmental review. The Washington Tractor Surface Lot may be utilized as temporary parking for commuters during construction of the garage.
- The August 2014 Board motion also supported a funding partnership with WSDOT and the Cities of Sumner and Puyallup to fund multi-modal improvements to the Traffic Avenue/SR410 Interchange project.
- Working with project stakeholders, Sound Transit developed the preferred improvements through conceptual engineering. In March 31, 2016, environmental review was completed on the following potential access improvements:
 - A new approximately 623 stall parking garage at the current Sound Transit parking site (623 stalls -118 existing displaced surface stalls=505 additional stalls) and retaining approximately 234 existing surface parking stalls in 3 spots: South of Maple (116), North of Maple (68), and Red Apple (50). The total number of parking stalls at completion of the project would be 857. The estimated cost of the parking garage is \$44.8 million. (2015\$)
 - A pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks at the station with an estimated cost of \$8.6 million. (2015\$)
 - Sidewalk improvements in the station area with an estimated cost of \$2.1 million. (2015\$)
 - Lighting improvements in the station area with an estimated cost of \$0.45 million. (2015\$)
- Building all of the improvements evaluated in the environmental review along with a potential \$5.0 million contribution to Traffic Avenue/SR 410 Interchange project for non-motorized improvements will cost approximately \$61.0 million (2015\$) and exceed the ST2 plan representative project scope and the ST2 finance plan by approximately \$17 million (2015\$). The Traffic Avenue/SR 410 Interchange project is a separate project led by the City of Sumner in partnership with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Sound Transit. The Traffic Avenue/SR410 Interchange project would provide better access for motorized and non-motorized users of Sumner Station.
- Staff recommends selecting for the project to be built all improvements evaluated in the environmental review except the pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks. This bridge has the least access benefits, is the lowest priority of the City of Sumner, and would be better constructed if/when the Sounder station platform is extended. The estimated cost of the staff recommendation is \$52.4 million as compared to the ST2 finance plan of \$44.1 million. A review of the Pierce subarea capacity concludes there is sufficient subarea capacity in the Pierce subarea to fund the recommended project.

BACKGROUND

The Sumner Station Improvements project will build bicycle, pedestrian, lighting, and parking access improvements at the Sumner Station.

In November 2008, the voter-approved ST2 Plan included funding for access improvements to the Sumner Sounder Station. During the process of refining the projects included in the ST2 plan, the Sound Transit Board responded to community concerns by calling for a Sounder Access and Demand Study. The Study evaluated potential access improvements to eight existing Sounder stations including Sumner. The study provided a range of potential access improvement projects that Sound Transit could implement in full or in part, that would allow riders to use alternative modes of travel to the Sumner Station.

The Sumner Station Improvements project builds on the results of the Sounder Station Access and Demand Study. The initial phase of the Sumner Station Improvements project evaluated parking, traffic, pedestrian and bicycle access improvements that could be made to improve rider access to the Sumner Station. The study of various packages of parking and access improvements led to the Board identification in August 2014 of Package E: Small Transit Center Garage and Washington Tractor Surface Lot with modifications as the preferred alternative for environmental review.

The project completed environmental review in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) with approval of a NEPA Documented Categorical Exclusion on May 4, 2016, by the Federal Transit Administration and a SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance issued by Sound Transit on March 31, 2016.

The environmental review evaluates a package of access improvements from which the Board may select some or all to build. The scope evaluated exceeds the ST2 representative project scope as shown below in response to public and stakeholder feedback to analyze additional access improvements.

Access Improvements	ST2 Representative Scope	SEPA/NEPA Review
Additional parking	400 new stalls	505 permanent new stalls (above the 352 existing surface stalls for a total of 857 stalls)
Pedestrian and bike improvements in the station area	To be evaluated	Sidewalk and curb ramps, and bike storage
Bike/pedestrian bridge(s)	Bridge over BNSF tracks and Traffic Street	Bridge over BNSF tracks

The pedestrian and bike improvements evaluated in the station area will enhance non-motorized access to the station, which in the last on-board survey constituted approximately 10 percent of Sumner station ridership. The pedestrian and bike bridge evaluated increased passenger convenience within the station by facilitating crossing over the BNSF tracks between the station platforms. Surface crossing of the BNSF tracks would continue to be used by many patrons and would also be improved regardless of whether the bridge is built. The August 2014 Board motion also identified that Sound Transit will support a partnership with WSDOT and the cities of Sumner and Puyallup to fund multi-modal improvements to the Traffic Avenue/SR410 Interchange project.

PROJECT STATUS

Project Identification	Alternatives Identification	Conceptual Engineering	Preliminary Engineering	Final Design	Construction
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Projected Completion Date for Construction: 2020

Project scope, schedule, and budget summary located on page 137 of the December 2015 Agency Progress Report.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Although there is no current fiscal action associated with this proposed action, the eventual design and construction of the selected improvements will have fiscal impacts. Those impacts will be addressed during future actions as they are presented.

Currently, the total of the proposed Sumner Station improvements and the proposed separate contribution to the Traffic Avenue/SR410 Interchange project is approximately \$61.0M (2015\$). The current ST2 cost estimate is \$44.1M (2015\$). To ensure consistency of comparison, constant year dollars are used. Assuming all station improvements were approved, there is a potential shortfall of \$16.9M (2015\$) against the ST2 cost estimate.

A review of the Pierce subarea capacity concludes there is sufficient subarea capacity in the Pierce subarea to fund the project in its entirety, if all options were selected.

SMALL BUSINESS/DBE PARTICIPATION

Not applicable to this action.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Outreach activities have included meetings with adjacent property owners, businesses, stakeholders, local jurisdictions, and agencies.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

A one-month delay would not significantly impact the timing of this project.

PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Motion No. M2014-63: (1) Identifies the Preferred Alternative for the Sumner Station Access Improvement Project to advance into environmental review, and; (2) approves Gate 2: Identify Alternatives and Gate 3: Identify Preferred Alternative within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

JI 5/5/2016

LEGAL REVIEW

LA 10 May 2016

RESOLUTION NO. R2016-13

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority selecting the bicycle, pedestrian, and parking access improvements to be built for the Sumner Station Improvements project.

WHEREAS, the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority, hereinafter referred to as Sound Transit, has been created 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 and November 4, 2008, voters approved local funding to implement a regional high-capacity transportation system for the Central Puget Sound region, known respectively as Sound Move and Sound Transit 2 (ST2); and

WHEREAS, ST2, the plan for expanding high-capacity transit in the Central Puget Sound includes funding for improving access at Sumner Sounder Station by building expanded surface parking, a multi-level parking structure and non-motorized improvements; and

WHEREAS, Sounder service between Sumner and Seattle continues to experience growth in demand. Over 1,000 people each day ride a Sounder train or ST Express bus from the Sumner Station and about a 70 percent increase in ridership is predicted by 2035; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Motion No. M2014-63, the Sound Transit Board identified for environmental review and preliminary engineering: Package E: Small Transit Center Garage and Washington Tractor Surface Lot; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Transit Administration approved the Sumner Station Improvements project Documented Categorical Exclusion on May 4, 2016, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit issued a Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS) on March 31, 2016, in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act; and

WHEREAS, the DNS was distributed to the public, affected local jurisdictions, regional, state and federal agencies; Native American tribes, community organizations and other interest groups and individuals; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit provided a 14-day comment period on the DNS, which closed April 14, 2016. The comment period included an open house meeting and a drop-in session; and

WHEREAS, the DNS and comment summary report, and other relevant documents and materials were provided to the Board for review and consideration before the Board's decision on the Sumner Station Improvements project; and

WHEREAS, after due consideration of the environmental, social, economic, and other relevant factors and information, the Board finds that it is in the best interest of and will best serve the people in the Sound Transit district to select and implement the Sumner Station Improvements project described below.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority as follows:


SECTION 1. The parking and non-motorized improvement features of the Sumner Station Improvements project are described as follows:

- A new approximately 623 stall parking garage at the current Sound Transit parking site (623 stalls -118 existing displaced surface stalls = 505 additional stalls) and retaining approximately 234 existing surface parking stalls in 3 spots: South of Maple (116), North of Maple (68), and Red Apple (50). The total number of parking stalls at completion of the project would be 857.
- Sidewalk improvements in the station area.
- Lighting improvements in the station area.
- \$5.0M contribution for non-motorized improvements to the Traffic Avenue/SR 410 Interchange project, a separate project led by the City of Sumner in partnership with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and Sound Transit.

Staff is directed to work with the City of Sumner to identify the most cost effective means of constructing the sidewalk and lighting improvements in the station area. In addition, staff is directed to work with the City of Sumner to negotiate a development agreement or other land use permit with reasonable conditions of approval and that would provide certainty and predictability for the project.

SECTION 2. Sound Transit will implement the Sumner Station Improvements project consistent with Board policy, and will involve local jurisdictions, businesses, community groups, affected institutions, and the public in its implementation.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on May 26, 2016.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator