



## Summary Minutes

**Board Meeting  
December 16, 2021**

### Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:32 p.m. by Board Vice Chair Paul Roberts in a Virtual Meeting via telephone and video conference.

Vice Chair Roberts announced that Chair Keel was not able to attend the meeting and he would act as Chair.

### Roll call of members

Chair	Vice Chairs
(A) Kent Keel, City of University Place Councilmember	(P) Dow Constantine, King County Executive (P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

Board members	
(P) Nancy Backus, City of Auburn Mayor	(A) Ed Prince, City of Renton Councilmember
(P) David Baker, City of Kenmore Mayor	(P) Kim Roscoe, City of Fife Mayor
(P) Claudia Balducci, King County Council Chair	(P) Nicola Smith, Lynnwood Mayor
(P) Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County Executive	(P) Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive
(A) Jenny Durkan, Seattle Mayor	(P) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember
(P) Debora Juarez, Seattle Councilmember	(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember
(P) Joe McDermott, King County Council Vice Chair	(P) Kristina Walker, City of Tacoma Councilmember
(P) Roger Millar, WSDOT Secretary	

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

### Report of the Chair

CEO Selection Process – Vice Chair Roberts reported that the committee held its first meeting on December 2nd to review the planned process and timeline for the CEO Search, and to provide direction on a CEO Search firm to contract with for this work. The committee’s next meeting will be held with the CEO Search firm in January to discuss the qualities and skills to look for in a new CEO and review the recruitment advertising and outreach strategy.

Recognition of Nicola Smith and Jenny Durkan – Mr. Roberts recognized Boardmembers Smith and Durkan for their time and contributions while serving on the Sound Transit Board. They both would be leaving the Board at the end of 2021.

Boardmember Smith thanked the Board and hoped that Mayor Elect Christine Frizzell might represent Lynnwood on the Board in the future.

### Recognition of Paul Roberts

Vice Chair Constantine remarked that today would be the last meeting as well for Vice Chair Paul Roberts, currently serving as chair for this meeting. Mr. Roberts has been on the Sound Transit Board for over fourteen years, having joined the Board in 2007. Mr. Constantine continued that Mr. Roberts

has been an incomparable advocate for transit, a champion of regional perspective, and an adamant supporter of environmental sustainability and creating green transit.

Vice Chair Roberts thanked the Board for its dedication to the good work it does for the region.

Boardmember Somers thanked Boardmembers Roberts and Smith for their representation of the people of Snohomish County.

Boardmember Dammeier thanked Boardmembers Smith, Durkan, and Roberts for their work and embracing a regional approach. He advised that the newly appointed member from Everett would fill his seat, but nobody could replace Vice Chair Roberts.

Boardmember Balducci thanked Boardmember Roberts for all the work he did on behalf of the region while also advocating for the system in his part of the region.

## **CEO Report**

CEO Peter Rogoff provided the report. He thanked Boardmembers Smith, Durkan, and Roberts for their work and collaboration on the Board. He thanked Vice Chair Roberts for his leadership on the Rider Experience and Operations Committee as the agency shifted focus to the passenger experience.

### Concrete Strike Update

Mr. Rogoff noted that the Board has been made aware that the agency is experiencing significant impacts from the ongoing concrete driver strike, with impacts to the Federal Way Link Extension project, Downtown Redmond Link Extension project and Lynnwood Link Extension projects. As a result of the strike and the stalled negotiations, projects have already missed 500 concrete truck deliveries and will continue to experience delays to contract milestones.

An additional impact of this strike is the possible lay-off of other craft workers from Sound Transit projects. Workers such as Cement Masons, Iron Workers, Carpenters and Laborers who are all involved in the forming and placement of concrete could be laid off if there is no concrete delivered to the projects. At this time negotiations have stalled between the unions, drivers, and businesses, and staff will be keeping the Board apprised of any updates to the situation.

### Federal Update

Mr. Rogoff noted that he will be brief, having given an extensive Federal Update at the Executive and System Expansion Committee meetings earlier in the month. Congress has reached an agreement to fund the government through February 18, 2022, ahead of the expiration of existing appropriations.

The Continuing Resolution is “clean,” and features almost no changes to existing spending, save for an extra \$7B to cover the cost of resettling Afghan refugees who were evacuated after the U.S. withdrawal last September. With the agency’s existing Full Funding Grant Agreements for Lynnwood Link and Federal Way Link, the agency is expecting to receive \$100 million for each project, pending final resolution of FY 22 spending.

### State Update

Senator Marko Lias will be the incoming chair of the Senate Transportation Committee in Olympia when the session starts in January. Senator Lias, who represents the 21st Legislative District, has been the Floor Leader in the Senate, a position that will likely now go to Senator Jamie Pedersen from the 43rd. Lias replaces Steve Hobbs who was appointed to fill the vacant Secretary of State position.

Last week, Senator Pedersen pre-filed SB 5528, which would allow Sound Transit to increase regional taxes within an “enhanced service zones to generate additive project funding within a localized area inside the RTA, much like a local improvement district. Staff are doing a full analysis of the legislation and Mr. Rogoff noted he would update the Board as more information becomes available.

## External Engagement

The external engagement report was distributed for Boardmember review earlier in the day.

## What's Ahead

Finally, CEO Rogoff provided a summary of some of the Board priorities ahead for 2022 after a very busy 2021 wrap up. Some of these items included:

- Independent consultant review of realignment actions taken
- TOD Annual Report and new initiatives such as the Revolving Loan Fund
- Review of Sound Transit's Disadvantaged Business Strategy
- Critical agreements with the Washington State Department of Transportation to enable the Bus Rapid Transit Program
- New options for the Board to consider on fare compliance and fare-related topics such as Link fare structure, reduced fare options and setting fares for Hilltop Tacoma Link
- Review of Sound Transit's efforts to become an anti-racist organization
- A deeper dive on System Access including daily paid parking
- Regular updates on ridership and the start of service for Hilltop Tacoma Link
- Actions and briefings to advance the Sounder station parking and access projects in Sumner, Kent, and Auburn
- Partnering agreements for Everett Link Extension, and
- Briefings to prepare for later Board action to identify the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions preferred alternative.

## **Public Comment**

Chair Keel announced that the Board was accepting public comment via email and verbally through the virtual meeting platform.

The following people provided written public comment to the Board:

Federal Way Council President Susan Honda  
Harold G.  
Anna Patrick  
Jeannie VanVleet  
Jeanne Burbidge  
Peggy Burton  
Federal Way Councilmember Lydia Assefa-Dawson  
Philip Eng  
Jared Huyett  
Peter Barbin  
Brit Etzold  
Dave Kingstone  
Peter Broda  
Hughes Allen  
Brian Lawler  
Paula Baerenwald  
Richard Gilbert  
D. Martin  
Joyce Hengesbach  
John Niles  
Ken Broyles

The following people provided verbal public comment to the Board:

- Federal Way Mayor Jim Ferrell
- Brian Lawler, on behalf of the Christian Faith Center
- Dano Rystrom
- Joyce Hengesbach
- Brad Thorson
- Brian Nash
- Peter Barbin
- Mia Franklin

## Consent Agenda

Voucher Certification: November 2021

Minutes of the November 18, 2021 Board Meeting

Motion No. M2021-76: Reappointing Dr. James Peyton to the Citizen Oversight Panel to serve a second term of four years beginning December 1, 2021, and expiring November 30, 2025.

**It was moved by Boardmember Balducci, seconded by Boardmember Smith, and approved by the unanimous consent of the 15 Boardmembers present to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.**

## Business items

Motion No. M2021-82: Supplementing the Board's rules to allow a one-year term for the Board Chair and Vice Chairs in 2022. Two-year terms for the Board chair and vice chairs would resume after December 31, 2022.

**It was moved by Boardmember Constantine and seconded by Boardmember Roscoe that Motion No. M2021-82 be approved as presented.**

Boardmember Constantine explained that King County would normally be due for service, but in the interest of continuity through a busy year, he would support the motion with the intent to nominate Kent Keel to serve another year as Chair.

**Vice Chair Roberts called for a roll call vote.**

### Ayes

- Nancy Backus
- David Baker
- Claudia Balducci
- Dow Constantine
- Bruce Dammeier
- Debora Juarez
- Joe McDermott

### Nays

- Roger Millar
- Kim Roscoe
- Nicola Smith
- Dave Somers
- Dave Upthegrove
- Pete von Reichbauer
- Kristina Walker
- Paul Roberts

**It was carried by the vote of 15 Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2021-82 be approved as presented.**

Motion No. M2021-83: Electing the Sound Transit Board Chair and two Vice Chairs for a two-year term each, beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2023.

Vice Chair Roberts advised that the Board's Rules and Operating Procedures specified that the Washington State Secretary of Transportation must chair the meeting for the purposes of elections.

Boardmember Millar explained that the Board Rules call for the Executive Committee to develop nominations for the Board Chair and the two Vice Chair positions. Board Officers are selected by majority vote of all members of the Board and all three positions must be from a different Counties. The Executive Committee recommended Kent Keel from Pierce County as Board Chair, and Dow Constantine from King County and Dave Somers from Snohomish County as Board Vice Chairs.

Based on Motion No. M2021-82, which had just been approved, all officer positions were for a term of one year, expiring on December 31, 2022.

Boardmember Millar called for additional nominations for Board Chair and Board Vice Chair. Seeing no additional nominations Boardmember Millar called for a motion to approve Motion No. M2021-83, electing Kent Keel as Board Chair, Dow Constantine from King County as Vice Chair, and Dave Somers from Snohomish County as Vice Chair for one-year terms beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2022.

**It was moved by Boardmember Baker and seconded by Boardmember Roscoe that Motion No. M2021-83 be approved as presented.**

Vice Chair Constantine advised that he supported the motion. He noted that Chair Keel led the Board through a difficult year and there is a difficult year ahead. He stated his belief that King County would like to take the next turn as Chair, but that right now the leadership of Chair Keel would be best and would support Board unity.

Boardmember Dammeier echoed the thoughts of Boardmember Constantine and commended his recommendation at the Executive Committee. He believed that Boardmember Somers would make an excellent Vice Chair.

Boardmember Roberts supported the motion and thanked Boardmember Constantine for exhibiting regional leadership.

Boardmember Millar thanked Vice Chair Constantine and advised that he would support the motion.

**Chair Keel called for a roll call vote.**

**Ayes**

Nancy Backus  
David Baker  
Claudia Balducci  
Dow Constantine  
Bruce Dammeier  
Debora Juarez  
Joe McDermott

**Nays**

Roger Millar  
Kim Roscoe  
Nicola Smith  
Dave Somers  
Dave Upthegrove  
Pete von Reichbauer  
Kristina Walker  
Paul Roberts

**It was carried by the vote of 15 Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2021-83 be approved as presented.**

Resolution No. R2021-21: Adopting an annual budget for the period from January 1 through December 31, 2022 and adopts the 2022 Transit Improvement Plan (TIP).

**It was moved by Boardmember Backus and seconded by Boardmember Roscoe that Resolution No. R2021-21 be approved as presented.**

Boardmember Backus advised that the Finance and Audit Committee forwarded the action with a recommendation to approve earlier in the day. She thanked the Board Committee's for each recommending their respective portions of the Board and the staff for its work.

Ryan Fisher, Deputy Executive Director of Financial Planning, Analysis, and Budget provided a staff presentation. He reviewed the 2022 budget priorities which include maintaining long term financial stability, resource allocation consistent with the Board’s adopted realignment documents, adequate resourcing to support new service and assets, and consistent planning and service levels to meet current ridership needs. Mr. Fisher reviewed how the annual budget adoption fits in with the long-range financial plan.

Jenny Stephens, Director of Financial Planning, Analysis, and Budget reviewed the high-level revenue sources and expenditures for 2022, before reviewing System Expansion projects, and Non-System Expansion projects budgets. Finally, she outlined the updated Transit Improvement Plan, and noted the forecast for Board approved costs for active projects.

**Vice Chair Roberts called for a roll call vote.**

**Ayes**

Nancy Backus  
David Baker  
Claudia Balducci  
Dow Constantine  
Bruce Dammeier  
Debora Juarez  
Joe McDermott

Roger Millar  
Kim Roscoe  
Nicola Smith  
Dave Somers  
Dave Upthegrove  
Pete von Reichbauer  
Kristina Walker  
Paul Roberts

**Nays**

**It was carried by the vote of 15 Boardmembers present that Resolution No. R2021-21 be approved as presented.**

Motion No. M2021-81: Identifying a preferred alternative and other alternatives for study in the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Operations and Maintenance Facility South.

**It was moved by Boardmember Balducci and seconded by Boardmember Backus that Motion No. M2021-81 be approved as presented.**

Boardmember Balducci advised that the System Expansion Committee forwarded the motion with a recommendation to approve. The action identified a preferred alternative and other alternatives for review in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

Chelsea Levy, South Corridor High-Capacity Transit Development Director, reviewed the action. Curvie Hawkins, Project Director, Operations and Maintenance Facility South (OMFS) outlined the three alternatives for the Operations and Maintenance Facility South and project milestones in step with the realignment schedule. Mr. Hawkins reviewed the key points taken from the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and its supporting documents and provided a synopsis of key variables for each of the sites.

Boardmember Balducci explained that as is practice with preferred alternatives, staff did not bring a recommendation to the Board. She explains that as with the Operations and Maintenance Facility East, none of the options were an easy decision.

The Committee’s recommendation was to select the South 336th Street site. The South 344th Street site was enthusiastically lobbied against by local homeowners, and business owners. Selection of the site would remove some of the only local light industrial zoned land in the city. The Midway Landfill site would require mitigations for settling which would greatly impact the cost and timeline of the project, although the environmental impacts were desirable.

The South 336th Street had its own complications including negotiations with business and property owners, and environmental mitigations. The Committee asked that staff work with the Christian Faith Center and mitigate any ecological impacts adequately if the site is ultimately selected for the facility.

Vice Chair Roberts thanked Boardmember Balducci for the System Expansion Committee’s work and the community members for their input throughout the selection process.

Boardmember Millar advised that he would support the motion but suggested that staff be asked to connect the 480 jobs created by the facility with the community. CEO Rogoff supported Boardmember Millar’s suggestion.

Boardmember Walker expressed her gratitude to Boardmember Balducci and the System Expansion Committee and staff for the work they did in reaching this decision.

Boardmember von Reichbauer recognized Chelsea Levy and Curvie Hawkins for their work in conducting outreach in the South King County community. He advised that his vote against this motion was to represent his community, because the option appeared to be the least harmful, and not the most beneficial. He thanked Boardmember Balducci for all the work she did and assured all those with concerns that she would be the best leader to ensure that this project was developed appropriately.

Boardmember Upthegrove explained that when work on this project began, he challenged many of the assumptions asserted by staff. After working with the staff, he concluded, despite wanting the Midway Landfill site to work, that the South 336th Street site was the right choice. He had concerns about the ecological impacts of the site and hoped staff would aggressively mitigate those, and he asked staff to work proactively with the Christian Faith Center in the future.

**Vice Chair Roberts called for a roll call vote.**

**Ayes**

Nancy Backus  
David Baker  
Claudia Balducci  
Dow Constantine  
Bruce Dammeier  
Debora Juarez  
Joe McDermott

Roger Millar  
Kim Roscoe  
Nicola Smith  
Dave Somers  
Dave Upthegrove  
Kristina Walker  
Paul Roberts

**Nays**

Pete von Reichbauer

**It was carried by a majority vote of the 14 Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2021-81 be approved as presented, with Boardmember von Reichbauer voting in the minority.**

**Reports to the Board**

CEO Rogoff advised that work with the FTA had progressed concerning the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions Projects and release of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement was likely in January. Since Staff would return the following month, CEO Rogoff asked if the Board would allow the report to be delayed until a future Board meeting.

West Seattle and Ballard Link Extension Update

Postponed to 2022.

Diversity Oversight Committee Presentation – Mark Martinez, Chair

Mark Martinez, Chair of the Diversity Oversight Committee (DOC), provided the presentation. He outlined the committee’s mission statement and goals and provided a quick review of the committee’s membership.

Mr. Martinez reported that the mission of the DOC is to work with Sound Transit as partners to represent the concerns of the community relating to contracting jobs for minority populations, and thereby to assist in facilitating change that result in healthier community. The DOC strives to create policies, procedures, and programs that support the utilization and participation of local, small, and minority owned disadvantaged businesses. Mr. Martinez reported that Sound Transit was meeting or exceeding its current goals for the utilization and hiring of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises.

Boardmember Backus expressed her appreciation for Mr. Martinez's work over his career.

Boardmember Dammeier echoed Boardmember Backus's comments, and added that Mr. Martinez was a great leader in the region, advocating for family wage jobs and careers. He added that he was proud of the work Sound Transit was doing.

Vice Chair thanked Mr. Martinez and the Diversity Oversight Committee for their work.

### Update on Sound Transit's Anti-Racist Strategy

Jonté Robinson, Chief Civil Rights, Equity, and Inclusion Officer provided the presentation. She introduced Alison Smith, Chief of Staff of the Office of Civil Rights, Equity, and Inclusion. Ms. Robinson reviewed the notable events and milestones of the office to that point, beginning in 2017. She advised that the process began in 2017, but the agency had continued to expand and emphasize the priorities of the office through 2020 when the commitment to become an anti-racist organization was officially made.

She explained that the agency must become an anti-racist organization to adequately carry out its mission. Black, Indigenous, and people of color had not had historical opportunities and racism was stitched into the fabric of the country. While Ms. Robinson clarified that staff and the Board were not the people that built the racist institutional barriers, it was their responsibility to dismantle them. Ms. Robinson clarified that Sound Transit recommitted to this work in 2020 in the wake of large societal upset and is now working towards organizational transformation.

Ms. Smith outlined the vision and framework and provided an overview of the 2022 work plan.

Boardmember Backus thanked Ms. Robinson and Ms. Smith for the work the office was conducting, and noted she was thankful for the invitation for Boardmembers to take part in the Antiracism workshop.

Boardmember Somers thanked Ms. Robinson and voiced excitement about an opportunity to participate in the workshop.

Vice Chair Roberts advised that he would not be on the Board, but he would happily take part in the workshop if an invitation was extended. He also noted that some of the details outlined in the Operations and Maintenance Facility South project were the direct impact of the office of Civil Rights Equity and Inclusion.

CEO Rogoff advised that Everett Link was the first project that baked this work into the project from the very beginning.

Labor Liaison Mark Riker commended the agency for the work of the Diversity Oversight Committee and the anti-racist strategy. The work required aggressive intentionality and was making differences to lives in the region.

## **Other business**

None.


## **Next meeting**

Next meeting



## Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

  
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Kent Keel  
Board Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator

APPROVED on January 27, 2022, AM.