



Summary Minutes

Board Meeting
November 17, 2022

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:01p.m. by Chair Kent Keel in a Virtual Meeting via telephone and video conference.

Roll call of members

Chair	Vice Chairs
(P) Kent Keel, City of University Place Councilmember	(P) Dow Constantine, King County Executive (A) Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive

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

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

Report of the Chair

Election of Chair Pro Tem

Chair Keel apologized that he will be unable to preside over the entirety of today's meeting. Vice Chairs Constantine and Somers were also unable to attend for the complete duration of the meeting. Chair Keel shared that Boardmember Roscoe was prepared to fill in to serve as Chair Pro Tem for the remainder of the meeting.

Boardmember Balducci moved that Boardmember Roscoe be appointed Chair Pro Tem for the meeting in Chair Keel's absence. Boardmember Backus seconded the motion. Chair Keel called for a voice vote on the motion. Boardmember Roscoe was appointed as Chair Pro Tem by voice vote.

Realignment Update

Chair Keel shared that the Board's Independent Consultant will return at the December Board meeting to review his recommendations to modify the cadence and/or content of Realignment-related reporting. Sound Transit Staff will also provide response to his recommendations and next steps.

Officer Elections in December for 2023-24

Board Chair Keel reminded Board members that the Executive Committee will develop recommendations for the next Board Chair and Vice Chairs at its December meeting, with the final election for the positions coming for consideration at the December 15 Board of Directors meeting.

Committee Review of 2023 budget

Chair Keel noted that the Executive, Rider Experience & Operations, and System Expansion Committee received presentations on their portions of the Proposed 2023 Budget. At their December meetings, the committees will consider forwarding their budget portions to the Finance and Audit Committee for final recommendation to the Board.

The Board of Directors will consider final adoption of the Proposed 2023 Budget at its December 15, 2022 meeting.

WSBLE Update on areas of further study

Chair Keel updated the Board that the System Expansion Committee had received a presentation at its November meeting regarding the areas of further study along the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions. He asked Boardmember Balducci to provide an overview of the presentation.

Boardmember Balducci noted that Board members should be reviewing and familiarizing themselves with the information and news coming from the West Seattle and Ballard Link Extensions area of further study and be prepared to expeditiously consider board actions items expected in Q1 2023. Sixteen areas of further study will be shared with the Board.

Boardmember Balducci highlighted discussion regarding the SODO station. She reminded all that the Board action in July had identified SODO-1A as the preferred Alternative, with SODO-1B as an alternative. Since that time, many Board members have visited local stakeholders and heard much public input. The project team has developed refinements to the SODO-1A station alternative that would not have a dramatic impact to local business and would provide pedestrian access to S. Lander Street. At this time, the SODO-1B alternative is unable to meet the target schedule as conversations continue with the Postal Service.

CEO Report

External Engagement Highlights

CEO Julie Timm shared a few key engagement highlights from the External Engagement Highlight report that is transmitted to the Board.

On November 8, CEO Timm attended a coffee chat with the Economic Alliance Snohomish County with the Board members from Snohomish. She was able to view portions of the Everett Link Extension project, as well.

In Pierce County, CEO Timm participated in walking and biking tours in conjunction with Downtown on the Go in Tacoma. The tours included the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension, as well as community engagement for the Sounder Access projects.

She also shared that she will be working out of the Kenmore City Hall to meeting with city managers regarding the SR522 corridor for the Stride BRT program.

Brief foreword on the Property Tax Levy Resolution

As a preface to the resolution being considered at today's meeting, CEO Julie Timm reminded Board members that any approval of the property tax levy below 1% would have a negative impact on the long-range financial plan, as it assumes we will have 1% annual increases in our funding plan.

Approval below the 1% benchmark would reduce revenue forecasts and necessitate the additional issuing of debt, lowering affordability to deliver the Agency's projects.

Update on Puyallup, Sumner, Auburn, and Kent Garages

CEO Timm shared that substantial work on the Puyallup Sounder Station garage has been completed, and pending final signal improvements, is able to potentially open as early as January 2023.

Procurement processes are underway for the Sumner, Auburn, and Kent garages, with those contract awards scheduled to be brought to the Board in Q1 and Q2 2023.

Potential for Rail Strike

CEO Timm notified the Board and public that the Agency is actively monitoring the potential for a rail workers strike in early December. Sound Transit is preparing communications to help riders know of the potential disruption and alternative transit options.

November 11-13 DSTT Closure

CEO Timm shared that she was proud of the team and partners at King County Metro and Bel-Air for handling the Link closure through the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel. While there were disruptions to our riders, CEO Timm was satisfied with both Staff helping riders, as well as seeing communal wayfinding support from other riders.

She also shared that additional closures are planned in early 2023.

Additional Link cleaning efforts

Julie Timm shared a new program to better the current rider experience. Beginning November 28th, cleaning crews will sweep and clean trains at Northgate station prior to their departure Southbound. As personnel are brought onboard and there is increased crew capacity, the Agency hopes to expand this service beyond the starting hours of 9am-5:30pm on weekdays.

Public Comment

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe stated that Chair Keel had logged-off from the meeting and that she would Chair the remainder of the meeting.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe 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:

Paula Goode, Elizabeth Krzyminski, Lorraine Bodi, and Larry Goldman

Stephen Fesler and Shane Dombrowski

Jesse Simpson, for the Housing Development Consortium of Seattle-King County, and Grace Kim, for Schemata, and Laurie Olson

Barry Blanton

Benjamin Guyer

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe asked Ms. Flores if any verbal comments were germane to Resolution No. R2022-34. After Ms. Flores stated that no individual indicated commenting on the Property Tax Levy Resolution, Chair Pro Tem Roscoe asked that the Board first consider Resolution No. R2022-34 before returning to verbal Public Comment.

Business items

Resolution No. R2022-34: (1) Authorizing a 1.0 percent statutory increase in the property tax levy for 2023, (2) certifying the total property tax levy amount inclusive of levy increases per RCW 84.55.010, and (3) authorizing the preparation of the levy certification forms.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe called on Ryan Fisher, Deputy Executive Director of Financial Analysis & Budget, to begin the Staff Presentation. She reminded Board members that this Resolution requires a supermajority of 12 affirmative votes to pass.

It was moved by Boardmember Franklin and seconded by Boardmember Backus that Resolution No. R2022-34 be approved as presented.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe asked Board members if there was any further questions or comments.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe called for a roll call vote on Resolution No. R2022-34.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
Claudia Balducci
Dow Constantine
Cassie Franklin
Christine Frizzell
Bruce Harrell
Debora Juarez

Nays

Joe McDermott
Roger Millar
Ed Prince
Dave Upthegrove
Pete von Reichbauer
Kim Roscoe

It was unanimously carried by the vote of 13 Boardmembers that Resolution No. R2022-34 be approved as presented.

Public Comment (continued)

The following people provided in-person verbal public comment to the Board.

Bob Gillespie
Ryan Glant
Cathy Reines

The following people provided virtual verbal public comment to the Board:

Mike Stewart
Lorri Bodi
Tracy Furutani
Izzy Gryko
Gretchen Swanson
Vicki Scuri
Kristie Kisbye

Consent Agenda

Voucher Certification: October 2022

Minutes of the October 27, 2022 Board Meeting

Motion No. M2022-86: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a Master Agreement with ACG Kinect Shoreline Owner LLC, to (1) establish terms and operational stipulations relating to construction coordination and mutual access between planned private transit-oriented development project located on the west side of 8th Avenue NE between NE 185th Street and NE 189th Street in Shoreline, WA and the adjacent Shoreline North/185th Street Link station; (2) convey to the developer a portion of Sound Transit owned property that has been declared surplus in exchange for a fair market value payment; and (3) grant temporary easements to support transit-oriented development project.

It was moved by Boardmember Balducci, seconded by Boardmember Backus, and approved by the unanimous vote of the 13 Board members present to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Business items (continued)

Resolution No. R2022-31: (1) Approving the chief executive officer's declaration that the U District 45th & Roosevelt TOD Site is surplus; (2) declares the TOD Site as suitable for development as housing; (3) authorizes staff to offer the TOD Site first to qualified entities to create affordable housing; (4) authorizes staff to offer the TOD Site at below market value to facilitate affordable housing outcomes.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe stated that the Executive Committee had considered the Resolution No. R2022-31 at its November meeting and forwarded the Resolution with a do-pass recommendation.

It was moved by Boardmember Juarez and seconded by Boardmember Balducci that Resolution No. R2022-31 be approved as presented.

Boardmember Juarez thanked the agency staff and Seattle leaders for making this action possible.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe called for a roll call vote on Resolution No. R2022-31.

Ayes

Nancy Backus	Joe McDermott
Claudia Balducci	Roger Millar
Cassie Franklin	Dave Upthegrove
Christine Frizzell	Pete von Reichbauer
Debora Juarez	Kim Roscoe

Nays

It was unanimously carried by the vote of 10 Boardmembers present that Resolution No. R2022-31 be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2022-32: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire certain real property interests, contingent on receipt of any necessary federal approvals, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary in order to secure a potential site for construction, operation, and maintenance of the Everett Link Extension project.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe asked SEC Chair Balducci to provide a brief overview.

Resolution No. R2022-32 was moved by Boardmember Frizzell and seconded by Boardmember Balducci.

Boardmember Balducci shared that the System Expansion Committee had reviewed the Resolution at its November meeting and unanimously recommended its approval by the Board.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe called for a roll call vote on Resolution No. R2022-32.

Ayes

Nancy Backus	Joe McDermott
Claudia Balducci	Roger Millar
Cassie Franklin	Dave Upthegrove
Christine Frizzell	Pete von Reichbauer
Debora Juarez	Kim Roscoe

Nays

It was carried by the majority vote of 10 Board members present that Resolution No. R2022-32 be approved as presented. Pete von Reichbauer clarified later in the meeting that his 'aye' vote was not heard when this vote was taken.

Resolution No. R2022-33: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for the SR 522 Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Chair Pro Tem asked SEC Chair Balducci to provide a brief overview.

Resolution No. R2022-33 was moved by Boardmember Balducci and seconded by Boardmember Roscoe.

Boardmember Balducci shared that the System Expansion Committee had considered the Resolution at its November meeting and unanimously recommended its approval by the Board. She introduced Faith Roland, Real Property Director, to speak to process changes made to the property acquisition process.

Ms. Roland introduced Bernard van de Kamp, Stride BRT Executive Project Director, who will be available to answer questions as well. Ms. Roland shared with the Board that the Real Property Team is improving their communications with affected property owners, including earlier notifications as well as more information regarding Board and Committee meetings and how to participate. She also noted that of the 36 affected property owners, only one was not reached by the Real Property team, even after driving and attempting to meeting the owner at their property.

Boardmember Balducci asked if Bernard van de Kamp, Bus Rapid Transit Executive Project Director, to respond to some of the comments heard during Public Comment from Lake Forest Park residents.

Mr. van de Kamp explained that the project was approved in 2016 as a part of the ST3 referendum, and work on the project began in 2018. Lobbying in favor of the SR522 BRT project came after from municipalities along the corridor to ensure high-capacity transit service. Following approval from the Board on the project to be built, refinements were made to shift a portion of the route westward to avoid impacts to the residential community. The refinement resulted in several partial acquisitions needed to construct a Business Access and Transit lane along SR522. He also shared that in response to public feedback, the project team accelerated their release of the 60% design plan. Additional Open Houses and outreach events are planned in Q1 2023. Mr. van de Kamp also stressed that staff have regular meetings with city managers along the corridor.

Boardmember Balducci thanked Mr. van de Kamp for his detailed answer and urged fellow Board members to support the Resolution.

Boardmember Upthegrove noted that after receiving a letter from Lake Forest Park community representatives, he may be rethinking portions of the project decisions. He asked staff to respond to the point being made that the project improvements would only account for 1-2 mins of reduced travel time along a specific segment of the route.

Mr. van de Kamp stated that he doesn't have those time figures in front of him, but that the location being referenced regularly becomes congested. The inclusion of the dedicated lane should help to reduce congestion and provide travel time savings. He also stated that the commonly studied metric is time savings and reliability along the entire corridor.

Boardmember Upthegrove also inquired regarding the estimated total cost of acquiring the affected properties as mentioned in Public Comment being \$35-50 million.

Ms. Roland shared that the figure being presented was new to her ears. For the roughly 80 affected Lake Forest Park properties, most will see temporary construction easement impacts, some will require sliver acquisitions, and 4-5 may result in full acquisitions. From her knowledge, those wouldn't total the claimed cost. She also reminded Boardmember Upthegrove that of the 36 properties in this action, only 4 are in Lake Forest Park

Mr. van de Kamp reminded the Board that the BRT program is one project that was accelerated after Realignment to provide an early deliverable project.

Boardmember Millar inquired about any alternative course of actions to the Business and Transit Lane planned for the SR522 corridor.

Mr. van de Kamp stated that scope of the project in light of the ST3 referendum and input from the municipalities along the corridor during the planning process, no other alternatives were developed. Through discussions with the Washington State Department of Transportation and the local communities, it was deemed that the converting of an ordinary lane along SR522 would have a severe traffic impact.

Mr. Balducci cautioned that changing course would amount to backing away from the 60% design milestone and delay project delivery.

Mr. Upthegrove explained his intention to vote in the negative on this Resolution.

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe called for a roll call vote on Resolution No. R2022-33.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
Claudia Balducci
Cassie Franklin
Christine Frizzell
Debora Juarez

Joe McDermott
Roger Millar
Pete von Reichbauer
Kim Roscoe

Nays

Dave Upthegrove

It was carried by the majority vote of 10 Board members present that Resolution No. R2022-33 be approved as presented.

Boardmember von Reichbauer noted his affirmative vote on Resolution No. R2022-32.

Reports to the Board

Update on Link projects in construction

Chair Pro Tem Roscoe asked Deputy CEO Kimberly Farley to begin the Report. Deputy CEO Farley introduced Ron Lewis, Executive Director of Design, Engineering, and Construction Management, and Eric Beckman, Executive Director of the Portfolio Services Office, as fellow presenters. She began by reminding the Board that this report is a follow-up to the construction issues brought to the Board's attention in August.

Beginning with the East Link Extension, Ms. Farley shared that work had progressed on demolition of faulty concrete plinths along the affected segments, and that plinth reconstruction was expected to begin November. Additionally, work on replacing nylon inserts and fasteners has begun. The contractor is working 6 days a week and around the clock, and Sound Transit has increased its presence of quality oversight staff.

Regarding the Federal Way Link Extension, the agency has been working with the contractor to develop a solution to the unstable conditions from the liquifiable soil layer along the alignment. The affected slope has been stabilized with a buttress of heavy rocks, and the design-builder is advancing the concept of a long-span bridge to carry light rail vehicles over the risk area. Staff are working with the contractor to evaluate the concept and mitigate schedule impacts.

As the Downtown Redmond and Lynnwood Link Extension projects were primarily affected by pandemic-related impacts and the concrete delivery strike, no further risks have been identified and work has progressed on the projects. A possible electrical issue for the Downtown Redmond Link Extension was addressed and is no longer a potential issue.

As a preview of next steps and reports coming to the Board in December, Deputy CEO Farley shared that staff are completing their Programmatic Risk Assessment to develop new opening dates for the projects. The Agency is also conducting a feasibility analysis regarding running service on the Eastside of Lake Washington as the issues on the I-90 segment are remedied, in response to the idea from Boardmember Balducci.

Other business

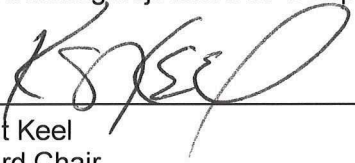
None.

Next meeting

The next regular Board meeting would be held on December 15, 2022, 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Ruth Fisher Board Room and as a virtual meeting via WebEx.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.



Kent Keel
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator

APPROVED on December 15, 2022, AJM.