



Summary Minutes

**Board Special Meeting
January 11, 2024**

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. by Chair Dow Constantine in a Virtual Meeting via telephone and video conference.

The meeting was recorded and can be found at <https://www.soundtransit.org/get-to-know-us/board-directors/livestream-video>.

Roll call of members

Chair	Vice Chairs
(P) Dow Constantine, King County Executive	(P) Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive

Board members	
(P) Nancy Backus, City of Auburn Mayor	(P) Roger Millar, WSDOT Secretary
(P) Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember	(P) Ed Prince, City of Renton Councilmember
(P) 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 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 Deputy Mayor

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

Report of the Chair

There was no Report of the Chair.

Public Comment

Chair Constantine 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:

Stephen Fesler

Michael Williams

Rachel Smooth for the Metropolitan Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and Rashma Agarwal for Economic Alliance Snohomish County

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

Alex Tsimerman

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

Joe Kunzler



Business items

Motion No. M2024-02: Appointing Goran Sparrman as the interim chief executive officer for a contract term from January 13, 2024 through January 12, 2025.

Chair Constantine briefly summarized the action and highlighted Mr. Sparrman's experience in both the transit industry and region. Chair Constantine invited Mr. Sparrman to share some additional words and comments before asking for questions and discussion by the Board.

Mr. Sparrman thanked the Chair for the introduction and stated that in his roles at the Departments of Transportation for Seattle and Bellevue, working alongside Sound Transit was a highlight in his career. He committed to continue delivery of the capital expansion program, as well as executing on the Technical Advisory Group recommendations to help speed up project delivery.

Speaking directly to his former role at HNTB Corporation, Mr. Sparrman stated that he has fully separated from his former employer, including from additional benefits such as its retirement plan. He committed to removing himself from the consultant selection process at Sound Transit to address any perceived notion of conflict.

Board member Dammeier thanked Mr. Sparrman for addressing the point regarding contractors. Board member Dammeier also highlighted key issues that need to be addressed even with before a permanent chief executive officer is hired. Mr. Sparrman stated that intends to be very active to not only advance the capital program but also to provide improvements to the rider experience.

Board member Balducci highlighted her previous experience working with Mr. Sparrman in East King County and asked him about how he sees his interim status impacting his time as chief executive officer. Mr. Sparrman responded that he intends to be active in implementing changes to aid the agency in its work and that he views himself as "permanent" in the role for one year. He also mentioned the importance of daylighting information early so the Board has the information to continue making decisions.

Vice Chair Somers thanked Mr. Sparrman for being willing to jump into the interim role and stressed the importance of the Technical Advisory Group's recommendations.

Board member Frizzell asked if Mr. Sparrman could speak to which aspects of the TAG recommendations he plans to advance. As he has not yet started at the agency nor had time to huddle with staff on the status of the recommendations, Mr. Sparrman spoke the need to work on restoring the trust between the Board and Staff as crucial.

Motion No. M2024-02 was moved by Board member Balducci and seconded by Board member Franklin.

Chair Constantine called for a roll call vote on Motion No. M2024-02.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
Claudia Balducci
Bruce Dammeier
Cassie Franklin
Christine Frizzell
Bruce Harrell

Nays

Roger Millar
Ed Prince
Kim Roscoe
Dave Somers
Dave Upthegrove
Pete von Reichbauer
Dow Constantine

It was carried by a supermajority vote of the 13 Board members present that Motion No. M2024-02 be approved as presented.

Other business - None.

Next meeting

The next regular Board meeting would be held on January 25, 2024, 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Ruth Fisher Board Room and as a virtual meeting via WebEx.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator

APPROVED on January 25, 2024, AJM.