

November 13, 2024

Sound Transit Finance and Audit Committee
The Honorable Nancy Backus, Chair
401 South Jackson Street
Seattle, WA, 98104

Re: Community Oversight Panel Comments on 2025 Audit Plan

Dear Chair Backus:

The Community Oversight Panel (COP) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Finance and Audit Committee (FAC) regarding the 2025 Work Plan. As you know, the COP is charged with monitoring seven major areas of Sound Transit's performance, many of which coincide with the FAC's responsibilities for oversight and review:

- Community engagement activities
- Project planning and alignment decisions
- Budget and financial plan
- Project schedule and budget adherence
- Agency performance audits
- Social justice and equity
- Passenger experience

The COP was briefed on the Audit Division's work plan at its October 9, 2024 meeting. At that meeting, the COP was provided with two options for audit topics:

- Disaster preparedness
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance

The COP was also invited to suggest an alternate topic. After discussing the topics, the COP agreed to adopt disaster preparedness as its recommended topic for the 2025 Performance audit topic. This decision highlights the critical need to be prepared for potential catastrophic disasters in our region and their impact on the structural system, staff, and ridership.

Finally, the COP would like to commend and thank the Sound Transit Audit Division for their objective and diligent work, as well as their emphasis on continuous improvements.

Sincerely,



Community Oversight Panel
Tina Pierce
Community Oversight Panel Chair

Cc: Goran Sparrman, Interim CEO
Community Oversight Panel