

*02/14/2025 Executive Committee Special  
Meeting Written Public Comment  
Submissions*

Submissions

<i>Joe Kunzler</i> .....	2
<i>Betty Lau</i> .....	3
<i>Comments received after the meeting's written public comment deadline</i> .....	3
<i>Chad Newton</i> .....	3
<i>Ben Broesamle on behalf of Seattle Subway</i> .....	4

*Joe Kunzler*

Hi Sound Transit Board;

I endorse for CEO of Sound Transit... one of the heroes of ST3, and since the best one has sadly decided to be the Deputy the Commish counts on in the East Coast... and the second best one is healing a troubled Community Transit...

**MR. GO SOUND TRANSIT ENDORSES DOW CONSTANTINE FOR CEO OF SOUND TRANSIT.**

Bring back the spirit of 2016!

We need to go back to what we believe-why we believe-win we believe.

We need to go back to an agency that is a beacon of hope.

We need to go back to a time when we reached for the stars.

We need Sound Transit to focus on growing and supporting a fan base.

We need Sound Transit to have trains that work, and operate not just on-time but safely.

We need Sound Transit to be a winner, every day and in every climate. The opposition has money for car shows, car whores and hours of misinformed content to push back against.

Dow Constantine is that man to continue Sound Transit's Golden Age. Dow Constantine caught the game-winning TD pass from Karen "Russ" Kitsis and hauled it in to get ST3 to the voters - and stayed to get ST3 *passed*. Same Dow Constantine that has been there for Sound Transit and King County Metro all this time.

Now who should replace Dow as King County Exec? There is only one correct choice: Claudia Badassuchi. Boardmember Zahilay has carried on the legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen in fighting Tsimerman on the King County Council, and that's where he belongs.

Let's get on with this. TOUCHDOWN ON TWO. GO SOUND TRANSIT!

*JOE SENDS*

## Betty Lau

Written Public Comment to Sound Transit Executive Committee, Friday, February 14, 2025, 1 PM, at Union Station, by Betty Lau

I'm Betty Lau, co-founder of Transit Equity for All and Board member of the Chong Wa Benevolent Association.

You are about to choose a new Sound Transit CEO, yet an important stakeholder group has been left out of the Stakeholder Feedback loop—non-English speaking residents, business owners and organizations not only in the Chinatown International District but also throughout the light rail Region.

Those whose responsibility it was to point K&A Partners to impacted language community groups, need speaking to. It's a serious omission, given the thousands of non-English speakers in the Puget Sound Light Rail Ridership Region.

One of the most important qualities the new CEO should have is successful experience with collaborating with communities of color. The CEO must have a passion for racial, social, and economic justice for the historically marginalized, who have been continuously harmed by past infrastructure projects that benefitted "society," except marginalized communities of color in the path of "progress." That's it in a nutshell. Please ensure Sound Transit CEO applicants not only have technical expertise in Engineering and Transportation projects, but can also demonstrate cultural competency and successful experience collaborating with communities of color, especially those who are particularly vulnerable due to age, poverty, physical challenges and language barriers.

Thank you.

## Comments received after the meeting's written public comment deadline

### Chad Newton

Dear Boardmember:

I am providing brief comment on the CEO selection process.

It is highly unethical and in breach of board/staff independence for a current ST Board Member to be selected as the Agency CEO. Additionally, any current Board Member must recuse themselves in the CEO selection vote, if they have themselves been appointed to the Board by a CEO candidate.

Ignoring these ethical standards and hiring one of your own as CEO will only further erode public trust in Sound Transit's direction and ability to effectively serve the public.

Chad Newton  
West Seattle resident

## *Ben Broesamle on behalf of Seattle Subway*

**The letter mentioned in this comment has been included at the end of this document.**

Dear Members of the Sound Transit Board,

On behalf of the Seattle Subway, please find a letter concerning Sound Transit's Chief Executive Officer Selection Process attached. I am happy to coordinate any follow up discussions you might like to have.

Thank you.

Dear Sound Transit Board Administrators ([@Meeting Comments](#)),

Kindly include this letter as official written public comment for the next meeting regarding the Sound Transit Chief Executive Officer Selection Process. Thank you.

Kind regards,

**Ben Broesamle**

COO, Treasurer

**Seattle Subway**

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February 17, 2025

Board Administrator  
Sound Transit  
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Seattle, WA 98104

via email: [emailtheboard@soundtransit.org](mailto:emailtheboard@soundtransit.org)

**RE: Ensuring Transparency and Public Trust in the Sound Transit Chief Executive Officer Selection Process**

Dear Members of the Sound Transit Board,

On behalf of Seattle Subway's Board of Directors, we are writing today to express that Seattle Subway recognizes the significant responsibility of the Sound Transit Board in selecting the agency's next Chief Executive Officer (CEO). This decision will define the agency's leadership for years to come, and we strongly believe that the selection process should be transparent, accountable, and prioritize the needs of transit riders.

Public trust in Sound Transit hinges on a transparent selection process that ensures strong, independent leadership with a proven ability to deliver transit projects efficiently and effectively. The next CEO must have a proven record of successfully managing and delivering large-scale transit projects while maintaining public trust and operational efficiency. Given the complexity of Sound Transit's long-term expansion goals, it is essential that this selection reflects a commitment to independent, effective governance that is free from potential conflicts of interest.

Seattle Subway urges the Board to take specific steps to ensure a more transparent selection process, including:

- Publicly disclosing the list of final candidates before a hiring decision is made.
- Hosting at least one public hearing on the final candidates, allowing transit riders to voice concerns and expectations.
- Establishing a structured public feedback process, such as a formal comment period or direct stakeholder consultation, ensuring accountability to transit riders before a final decision is made.

Transit riders across the region are closely watching this decision, and many have expressed concerns about the importance of appointing a CEO with a fresh perspective and the ability to navigate Sound Transit's challenges without undue political influence. While we are not endorsing or

opposing specific candidates, we strongly encourage the Board to consider how this selection will be perceived in terms of public confidence and accountability.

Seattle Subway looks forward to actively engaging in this process and urges the Board to prioritize transparency, public accountability, and leadership independence in its final decision. We welcome the opportunity to discuss how Sound Transit can ensure the strongest leadership for its future.

Best regards,

Ben Broesamle  
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