

MINORITY REPRESENTATION OF SOUND TRANSIT PLANNING AND ADVISORY BODIES

Sound Transit Body	Description
Citizens Accessibility Advisory Committee (CAAC)	Founded in 1999, the Citizens Accessibility Advisory Committee (CAAC) provides feedback regarding challenges and solutions for people with disabilities and older adults using Sound Transit buses and trains. The work of this committee enhances other public involvement groups and activities through its crucial focus on ADA compliance and accessibility best practices. It is an important part of the process that helps Sound Transit provide regional transportation that is accessible to everyone. Membership consists of Sound Transit riders who have a disability, are 65 or older, family members or caregivers of people with disabilities or older adults, or professionals or volunteers in the field of disability and aging services. Sound Transit encourages committee members to spread the word regarding the CAAC to their respective organizations.
Community Oversight Panel (COP)	Created in 1997, the Community Oversight Panel (formerly the Citizen Oversight Panel, or COP) independently monitors Sound Transit and its commitment to build and operate the region's high-capacity transit system. The COP is represented by at least two members from each of the five subareas. The recruitment process follows Board direction to: (1) establish a process to incorporate input from Board members within the subarea where recruitment is taking place, and (2) provide a process that is inclusive and allows for a diverse COP. In March 2022, the panel revised its procedures to attract applicants from a wider array of backgrounds. The Community Oversight Panel has also switched to evening meetings once a month and introduced the use of hybrid meetings (with individuals having the option to join in-person or virtually) to become more accessible to a broader group of participants. Vacancies on the panel are advertised to a wide audience by posting on the Sound Transit website and via social media; news release to media outlets, including community groups serving diverse populations, and blogs and forums; and flyers to jurisdictions, agencies, colleges and libraries within the subarea. Sound Transit staff also inform Sound Transit Board members and the Sound Transit Diversity Oversight Committee of vacancies.
Diversity Oversight Committee (DOC)	The DOC reports to the CEO and Board of Directors regarding Sound Transit's compliance with its guiding principles for small and disadvantaged business employment and contracting opportunities. The DOC is composed of members from throughout the Sound Transit District, and includes representatives from small businesses, trade and craft organizations, and community organizations in impacted neighborhoods, and other such interested parties as deemed appropriate by the CEO. Committee members are independent of Sound Transit, meaning they have no contracts with Sound Transit and no plan to compete for bid on Sound Transit contracts or subcontracts. The committee reflects the diversity of the communities in the Sound Transit District.