



## Summary Minutes

**Board Meeting  
September 24, 2020**

### Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m. by Board 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 (P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

Board members	
(P) Nancy Backus, City of Auburn Mayor	(P) Ed Prince, City of Renton Councilmember
(P) David Baker, City of Kenmore Mayor	(P) Kim Roscoe, City of Fife Mayor
(P) Claudia Balducci, King County Council Chair	(P) Nicola Smith, Lynnwood Mayor
(P) Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County Executive	(P) Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive
(P) Jenny Durkan, Seattle Mayor	(P) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember
(P) Debora Juarez, Seattle Councilmember	(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember
(P) Joe McDermott, King County Council Vice Chair	(A) Victoria Woodards, City of Tacoma Mayor
(P) Roger Millar, Washington State Secretary of Transportation	

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

### Report of the Chair

Virtual Meeting - Chair Keel requested a roll call vote for each action and asked staff to confirm each vote so that Board members know their vote was heard.

Program Realignment – At the September Board workshop the Board discussed each of the actions that were paused earlier in the year at the onset of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Chair Keel noted that there will be further discussion later in this meeting.

### CEO Report

CEO Rogoff provided the report.

Construction shutdowns due to poor air quality - During the hazardous air quality over the last couple weeks, Sound Transit contractors either partially or fully suspended work. The contractors kept the agency informed of any temporary work suspensions, and also supplied workers with N95 masks when resuming work. All projects are now back up and running.

Rail Grinding, Noise, Vibration, and Wayside Noise – Earlier this month, the Rider Experience and Operations Committee authorized a contract for a consolidated Rail Grinding Program. This new contract will support the big changes coming to the system as Sound Transit expands light rail service over the next decade. The comprehensive Rail Grinding Program would allow the agency to customize

rail grinding intervals and techniques for different types of rail wear and damage. Sound Transit is also integrating the grinding and inspection service reports into an onboard noise diagnostic system and database. The database currently used helps inform locations for rail grinding and to proactively manage wayside noise and vibration. In September the System Expansion Committee also approved an action to extend a noise diagnostic system and database contract by three years. This comprehensive approach of a long-term grinding program guided by a custom noise tool will allow us to maintain the light rail track system in a state of good repair and to manage lower noise and vibration levels.

New Executive Director of Operations – CEO Rogoff announced that Suraj Shetty has been named as the Executive Director for Operations. Mr. Shetty has 20 years of experience as a strategic operations leader with experience across multiple industries. His history includes a number of leadership positions in manufacturing and supply chain roles in automotive, construction equipment and consumer goods industries. His deep experience will serve Sound Transit as the agency greatly expands service, including more than doubling the reach of our light rail system by 2024 and continuing to develop new Stride bus rapid transit services. CEO Rogoff expressed his deep appreciation for the job that Paul Denison has done filling the Executive Director role on an interim basis. Mr. Denison stepped up to the challenge to lead Operations while the agency was going through an unprecedented time facing COVID-19.

Departure of Jackie Martinez-Vasquez – Mr. Rogoff also announced that Chief Civil Rights, Equity and Inclusion Officer, Jackie Martinez-Vasquez, is resigning from Sound Transit to accept a Vice President role at a local institution. Since the agency created this crucial role and office nearly three years ago, Jackie has led a growing team in the development and implementation of Sound Transit's equity strategies and, more recently, civil rights programs. Under her leadership, the agency formed several employee resource groups that give meaningful voice to our staff and their communities. Jackie also invested tireless effort in creating a strong foundation and knowledge of institutional racism across the agency, launching Sound Transit's racial equity toolkit, equitable engagement and other equity committees. Her insights have been especially helpful in informing the agency's two-year interdisciplinary effort to create more equitable fare enforcement practices. Deputy Director for Civil Rights, Jonté Robinson, will serve as Acting Chief while we launch a search for Jackie's replacement.

External Engagement - The September external engagement report summarizing the work taking place with jurisdictions and stakeholders across the region was distributed to Board members.

Federal Update - Although efforts on another COVID relief package appear stalled, the agency continues to engage with its Congressional delegation and allies on the revenue loss due to the pandemic and to help underscore the need for alternative revenues. CEO Rogoff spoke with Congressman Adam Smith about the tremendous impact a House provision would have on Sound Transit by authorizing and funding increases in the federal share of our two federal partnership projects, Federal Way Link and Lynnwood Link. This region has the largest transit capital expansion underway in the country right now. There are 2000 workers on Sound Transit construction sites as the agency builds out Northgate, East Link, Federal Way, Lynnwood Link, Hilltop Tacoma Link and the East maintenance base. The agency can help with economic recovery by putting people to work, and deliver mobility options for the future.

## **Public Comment**

Chair Keel announced that due to the Governor's order and Motion No. M2020-23 approved in March, the Board would only be accepting public comment via email.

Board members received written comments submitted by 12:30pm on September 24, 2020 from the following people:

Kelsey Mesher, Advocacy Director of Transportation Choices

Lakewood City Mayor Don Anderson  
City of SeaTac  
Sharon Lee, Executive Director of the Low Income Housing Institute  
Michael Juguilon  
Kathleen Barry Johnson, Executive Director of Historic South Downtown  
Joe Kunzler  
The Cities of Bellevue, Bothell, Duvall, Lynnwood, Tukwila, and State Representative Davina Duerr

## **Consent Agenda**

Voucher Certification: August 2020

Minutes: August 27, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting

Motion No. M2020-51: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an ownership, operation and maintenance agreement with the City of Mukilteo and the Washington State Department of Transportation for storm water facilities for the Mukilteo Multimodal Transportation Center.

Motion No. M2020-52: Approving the submittal of the Transit Development Plan 2020-2025 and 2019 Annual Report to the Washington State Department of Transportation.

**The Consent Agenda was moved by Boardmember Roberts and seconded by Boardmember Prince.**

### **Ayes**

Nancy Backus  
David Baker  
Claudia Balducci  
Dow Constantine  
Bruce Dammeier  
Joe McDermott  
Roger Millar

### **Nays**

Ed Prince  
Paul Roberts  
Kim Roscoe  
Dave Somers  
Nicola Smith  
Kent Keel

**It was carried by unanimous vote of 13 Boardmembers that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented.**

## **Business items**

Motion No. M2020-54: Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase the contract contingency for the Federal Way Link Extension design-build contract with Kiewit Infrastructure West Company in order to incorporate Alternate Technical Concepts and Notices to Designers through cost-effective measures that reduce construction risk, enhance operational safety, and/or improve passenger experience in the amount of \$100,000,000 for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$1,513,720,000.

**Motion No. M2020-54 was moved by Boardmember Balducci and seconded by Boardmember Baker.**

Boardmember Claudia Balducci, System Expansion Committee Chair, spoke to this action noting that the Committee reviewed this action at its September meeting and forwarded it to the Board with a do pass recommendation.

Joseph Gildner, Acting Executive Project Director of Federal Way Link Extension, provided the staff report.

### **Ayes**

### **Nays**

Nancy Backus	Paul Roberts
David Baker	Kim Roscoe
Claudia Balducci	Dave Somers
Dow Constantine	Nicola Smith
Bruce Dammeier	Dave Upthegrove
Joe McDermott	Pete Von Reichbauer
Roger Millar	Kent Keel
Ed Prince	

**It was carried by unanimous vote of 15 Boardmembers that Motion No. M2020-54 be approved as presented.**

Resolution No. R2020-04: (1) Declaring the North and South Transit Oriented Development Sites adjacent to the Angle Lake Link light rail station as suitable for development as housing; (2) authorizing staff to offer the North Transit Oriented Development site first to qualified entities for affordable housing development; (3) authorizing staff to offer the North Transit Oriented Development Site at a discounted price to facilitate affordable housing outcomes; and (4) authorizing staff to offer the South Transit Oriented Development site to all interested parties with priority to those who can maximize development potential using Sound Transit's property.

**Resolution No. R2020-04 was moved by Boardmember Upthegrove and seconded by Boardmember Backus.**

Chair Keel stated that this item was recommended to Board at the Executive Committee's meeting in March. This item was delayed due to COVID-19 and the Board's limitations to only take action on items that are routine and necessary. It was pushed out further due to the Boards continued focus on Capital Program Realignment.

Thatcher Imboden, Deputy Director of Transit Oriented Development, provided the staff presentation.

**Ayes**

Nancy Backus	Paul Roberts
David Baker	Kim Roscoe
Claudia Balducci	Dave Somers
Dow Constantine	Nicola Smith
Bruce Dammeier	Dave Upthegrove
Joe McDermott	Pete Von Reichbauer
Roger Millar	Kent Keel
Ed Prince	

**Nays**

**It was carried by unanimous vote of 15 Boardmembers that Resolution No. R2020-04 be approved as presented.**

Motion No. M2020-55: Identifying paused projects to advance through near-term actions in 2020.

- Presentation on Capital Program Realignment near-term actions

Chair Keel reported that the COVID-19 pandemic is hitting this region hard, impacting lives and livelihoods. It is also impacting Sound Transit's revenues. In June, the Board discussed the realignment path forward and the adopted Motions M2020-37 & 38 establishing criteria and revenue scenarios to use as the Board works on full program realignment through the first half of 2021. This year the Board would consider the possibility of advancing certain paused actions on projects to keep them "shovel ready" if the recession is milder and/or additional funding becomes available. At the August Board meeting, staff

walked through each paused action in a workshop format. Following the workshop, Chair Keel asked staff to prepare a recommendation memo which was distributed to the Board earlier this month.

Staff presented their recommendation to the Executive Committee and System Expansion Committee. After considering staff's recommendations, Chair Keel prepared a motion for the Board to consider at this meeting. The motion embodies the staff recommendation with one small addendum. The staff had recommended that the Board defer improvements to King County Metro's Rapid Ride "C" and "D" lines until next year. Following that recommendation, the Board received appeals from King County and the City of Seattle, asking that we release roughly six million of that amount. The proposed motion would release 4.5 million of that amount, focusing this near term expenditure solely on improvements to the Rapid Ride "C" line serving West Seattle, given the mobility challenge posed by the closure of the West Seattle. Combined with the system expansion work already underway, this motion advances Sound Transit in all corners of the region. For the first time, the Board will be actively developing the spine from Tacoma to Everett and Redmond along with new regional capacity in Seattle and an extension to Hilltop. The agency will finish planning on the Stride BRT program while partnering with Pierce Transit and Metro on their BRT. The agency will also be adding access to the successful Sounder program at the highest ridership stations.

CEO Rogoff thanked Chair Keel and expressed his appreciation for the time Chair Keel has taken to review the staff recommendation and engage with the fellow Board members. As explained in the staff memo, the staff recommendation is very practical in nature. Their analysis was focused on: which near-term actions can help inform the Board in making realignment choices next year; which projects could benefit from waiting for more updated information to yield better informed decisions next year; avoiding any presupposing of the decisions the Board might make next year; and ensuring that none of the recommended Board actions this fall would lock the Board into any subsequent decision next year. Given the fiscal impact of COVID-19, the entire capital program will need to be reviewed as part of the realignment process next year. These proposed near-term actions will neither advantage nor disadvantage any project as part of that process. These actions will hopefully enable the agency to make better informed decisions next year. Mr. Rogoff reminded the Board that any near-term actions that are deferred will not be deferred indefinitely.

Don Billen, Executive Director of PEPD, and Karen Kitsis, Deputy Executive Director for Project Development walked through Chair Keel's motion, highlighting the differences from the staff recommendation presented at the Executive Committee and System Expansion Committee on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Motion No. M2020-55 was moved by Boardmember Keel and seconded by Boardmember Roscoe.**

Boardmember Dammeier offered an amendment to add Lakewood and South Tacoma Parking and Access Improvements to the list of projects to advance through near-term actions in 2020. He stated that South Tacoma experienced many inequities over the years and this action would be an opportunity to advance a project for that community.

**It was moved by Boardmember Dammeier and seconded by Boardmember Roscoe to amend Motion No. M2020-55 to include Lakewood and South Tacoma Parking and Access Improvements.**

Mr. Billen confirmed that the estimate for the action would be four million dollars.

Boardmember Uptegrove asked why it was not recommended for advancement. CEO Rogoff advised that reason was because the project had not yet begun, and staff didn't feel that it was the right timing to initiate the project when a full program realignment discussion was ahead. Mr. Billen advised that the improvements were at street level and advancing planning would not clarify costs as much as with larger projects.

Boardmember Keel asked if the four million was for planning or constructions process. Mr. Billen confirmed that this would be to kick off the planning process.

Boardmember Balducci asked whether advancing the action would restrict the Board later in the realignment process. Boardmember Durkan shared Boardmember Balducci's concerns and stated that she will vote in favor of the amendment.

Chair Keel called for a roll call vote on the amendment to add the South Tacoma and Lakewood Station Parking and Access Improvements project to the list of near term actions at a cost of \$4 million.

**Ayes**

Nancy Backus  
David Baker  
Claudia Balducci  
Dow Constantine  
Bruce Dammeier  
Jenny Durkan  
Debra Juarez  
Joe McDermott  
Roger Millar

**Nays**

Ed Prince  
Paul Roberts  
Kim Roscoe  
Dave Somers  
Nicola Smith  
Dave Upthegrove  
Pete Von Reichbauer  
Kent Keel

**It was carried by unanimous vote of 17 Boardmembers that Motion No. M2020-55 be amended to include the South Tacoma and Lakewood Station Parking and Access Improvements project to the list of projects to advance through near-term actions in the fall of 2020.**

Boardmember McDermott asked Mrs. Butler for clarity on how to comprehend severe recession scenario with and without a five year program delay.

Boardmember Balducci asked what would have been planned for I-405 BRT in 2020 had the COVID-19 pandemic not occurred, and what would happen in light of the motion in front of the Board. Mr. Billen advised that in 2020 staff would have brought the preliminary engineering contract to the Board to complete the preliminary engineering in that corridor as well as a general engineering consultant contract and the environmental documentation.

Boardmember Balducci expressed how critical it is for the Board to deliver the project on time along with all of the elements. She asked that the System Expansion Committee be kept apprised of the project developments. She also asked that staff ensure that outreach efforts on the realignment engage the public and include a public hearing.

Boardmember Smith asked if staff wanted assistance from Board members on communications with Olympia. CEO Rogoff advised that the legislative program discussion would be coming in the next few months. Boardmember Prince voiced similar concerns to Boardmember Smith.

Boardmember Constantine urged support for the motion. Boardmember Upthegrove voiced concerns similar to those of Boardmember Balducci and expressed support for the motion.

**Ayes**

Nancy Backus  
David Baker  
Claudia Balducci  
Dow Constantine  
Bruce Dammeier  
Jenny Durkan  
Debra Juarez  
Joe McDermott  
Roger Millar

**Nays**

Ed Prince  
Paul Roberts  
Kim Roscoe  
Dave Somers  
Nicola Smith  
Dave Upthegrove  
Pete Von Reichbauer  
Kent Keel

**It was carried by unanimous vote of 17 Boardmembers that Motion No. M2020-55 be approved as amended.**

Chair Keel announced that based on the Board's last action that recommended moving forward with the near term action for the Madison BRT project, the Board would consider the next item on the agenda to advance that project this month.

Motion No. M2020-56: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an agreement with the City of Seattle to provide a funding contribution of \$29,500,000 for bus corridor improvements in support of the City of Seattle's bus rapid transit project along Madison Street corridor, with a contingency of \$6,300,000 for a total authorized agreement amount not to exceed \$35,800,000. – Potential Action, pending decision on Motion No. M2020-55

**Motion No. M2020-56 was moved by Boardmember Dammeier and seconded by Boardmember McDermott.**

Karen Kitsis, Deputy Executive Director of Capital Project Development, provided the staff presentation. Boardmember Durkan spoke in favor of the motion.

**Nays**

**Ayes**

- |                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Nancy Backus     | Ed Prince           |
| David Baker      | Paul Roberts        |
| Claudia Balducci | Kim Roscoe          |
| Dow Constantine  | Dave Somers         |
| Bruce Dammeier   | Nicola Smith        |
| Jenny Durkan     | Dave Upthegrove     |
| Debra Juarez     | Pete Von Reichbauer |
| Joe McDermott    | Kent Keel           |
| Roger Millar     |                     |

**It was carried by unanimous vote of 17 Boardmembers that Motion No. M2020-56 be approved as presented.**

**Report to the Board**

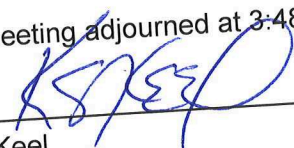
None.

**Next meeting**

The next regular Board meeting would be held on Thursday, October 22, 2020, 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. as a virtual meeting via WebEx.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

  
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Kent Keel  
Board Chair

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator

APPROVED on October 22, 2020, TW.