



Summary Minutes

System Expansion Committee Meeting September 9, 2021

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 1:34 p.m. by Committee Chair Claudia Balducci virtually on WebEx.

Roll call of members

Chair	Vice Chair
(P) Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember	(P) Kim Roscoe, Fife Mayor

Board Members	
(P) Nancy Backus, Auburn Mayor	(P) Kent Keel, University Place Mayor
(P) David Baker, Kenmore Mayor	(P) Nicola Smith, Lynnwood Mayor
(A) Jenny Durkan, Seattle Mayor	(P) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember

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

Report of the Chair

Monthly Contract Report and Agency Progress Report – The meeting packet included the monthly contract report and the July agency progress report.

CEO Report

Deputy Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Farley provided the CEO Report in CEO Rogoff's absence.

OMF-South Preferred Alternative

Ms. Farley began the report with the Operations and Maintenance Facility South preferred alternative identification. The OMF South project team is preparing for identification of the preferred alternative. As a reminder, staff have evaluated two sites in Federal Way and one at the Midway Landfill in Kent.

Since the conclusion of the 45-day Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) comment period earlier this year, staff have been working to summarize the comments received. The DEIS Comment Summary Report will be released with other materials for the Board and public's consideration prior to the SEC meeting in November. This will give the Board time to digest the report and the DEIS in full before the Board action.

As a reminder, the preferred alternative is not the final project decision. A preferred alternative is an indicator of which way the Board is leaning based on currently available information. The Board decision on the project to be built is anticipated in late 2022, following the release of the Final EIS.

A timely decision is important to keep the regional light rail expansion on the schedules the Board identified in the realignment. The OMF South is required for receiving and storing new vehicles needed to support TDLE and West Seattle light rail openings in 2032 and other regional light rail operation's needs. Further delay to the OMF South could delay these light rail extension openings.

Realignment Next Steps

Staff from multiple departments are collaborating to plan in detail how to implement the realignment resolution. Staff will share more details with the Board throughout September and October, to ensure implementation is as the Board intended.

Pride Place TOD Groundbreaking

Ms. Farley reported that the Pride Place project is breaking ground near the Capitol Hill Station. The project is part of the agency's increasingly active Equitable Transit Oriented Development (TOD) program, and includes 118-unit affordable housing units targeting LGBTQ seniors and a 4,400-square foot health and community services center.

In 2019, Sound Transit and Seattle Central College agreed to swap surplus property in the Capitol Hill Station area, exchanging an agency station-adjacent property for two college-owned properties further South near the intersection of Broadway and East Pine Street. Thanks to this exchange, Sound Transit was able to help facilitate this equitable transit oriented development project with an \$8 million discount.

With additional support from the Seattle Office of Housing, King County, the State Housing Trust Fund, and philanthropic support, Pride Place was developed by Community Roots Housing to help ensure that elder members of the LGBTQ community continue to thrive in the neighborhood they helped create. Pride Place will be Seattle's first affordable housing project catering specifically to LGBTQ seniors. Residency is not restricted to LGBTQ, but all units are set aside for seniors and the project hopes to attract LGBTQ residents.

The community and health center will be operated by GenPRIDE, a nonprofit that serves mid-life and older LGBTQ adults, along with another LGBTQ-focused provider. The building will open in 2023.

Sound Transit Letter to Congressional Delegation

Finally, Ms. Farley let the Committee know that Chair Keel and Vice Chairs Constantine and Roberts sent a letter yesterday on behalf of the Board to the Congressional delegation asking them to continue to support a provision in the reconciliation legislation that Congress is currently working on. If enacted, this provision would boost the Federal share of Sound Transit's existing Full Funding Grant Agreements for Federal Way and Lynnwood. Earlier this year, Senators Murray and Cantwell introduced a similar provision as a stand-alone bill, and the House has passed a similar provision twice in the last two years.

Public comment

Chair Balducci announced that public comment would be accepted via email to emailtheboard@soundtransit.org and would also be accepted verbally.

The following people provided written public comment:

Daron Walker

The following people provided verbal public comment:

None.

Business items

For Committee Final Action

Minutes: August 12, 2021 System Expansion Committee meetings

It was moved by Boardmember Backus, seconded by Boardmember Baker, and carried by unanimous voice vote that the minutes of the August 12, 2021 meeting be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2021-50: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a two-year contract with CBRE to provide preventative maintenance and other services for facilities along the East Link Extension in the amount of \$2,404,602, with a 20 percent contingency of \$480,920 for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$2,885,522, plus applicable taxes.

Mike Bell, Senior Executive Project Director of East Link, introduced the new Deputy Project Director of East Link, Chad Brown and Randy Kroum, Operations Transition Manager. Mr. Brown and Mr. Kroum provided the staff report. Mr. Brown advised that maintenance services were required for the constructed East Link Extension facilities while the project was completed in order to keep them in a state of good repair.

Motion No. M2021-50 was moved by Boardmember Backus and seconded by Boardmember Smith. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Motion No. M2021-50 be approved as presented.

For Recommendation to the Board

Resolution No. R2021-07: Selecting the route, roadway improvements, and station locations for the SR 522/NE 145th Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Bernard van de Kamp, Director of HCT Corridor Development, provided the staff report. Mr. van de Kamp reminded the Committee of the actions taken in the previous month and previewed the actions coming before the committee in the meeting and future meetings. Paul Cornish, Bus Rapid Transit Project Director outlined the project.

The SR 522/NE 145th BRT Project establishes Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service along the corridor, primarily operating in business access and transit (BAT) or bus queue bypass lanes for 9 miles between Shoreline and Bothell, with separate, connecting service options to Woodinville. Funding for the SR522/NE 145th BRT project was approved by voters in the ST3 Plan.

Project development involved planning and preliminary design of BRT elements, including routing, roadway and sidewalk improvements; 12 BRT station pairs between the termini; and parking facilities. The analysis during the Preliminary Engineering phase confirmed the station locations and identified speed and reliability project elements.

Boardmember Baker voiced concern that the parking facilities were delayed for the project. Mr. Baker also commented that the NE 130th Street Station was functionally approved when the area surrounding the station didn't show any signs of increased density to make the station worthwhile. That station was more expensive than the whole BRT program.

Chair Balducci advised that discussions about the target schedule and affordable schedule would be quickly addressed as more decisions came to the Board. She asked if concerns about the corridor width, specifically around the Yakima Fruit Market, had been resolved. Mr. Cornish explained that staff worked with the City of Bothell following concerns from the community to find a solution that did not impact the market or the project.

Resolution No. R2021-07 was moved by Boardmember Baker and seconded by Boardmember Roscoe. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Resolution No. R2021-07 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Resolution No. R2021-08: Selecting the route, and station locations for the I-405 Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Paul Cornish, Bus Rapid Transit Project Director provided the staff report. He outlined the key components of the project, and noted that much of this project was possible due to a close partnership with WSDOT, as it expanded I-405 toll lanes. The I-405 BRT Project establishes BRT service within the I-405 corridor, primarily operating in managed lanes for 37 miles between Lynnwood and Burien.

Boardmember Balducci asked what the scheduled opening dates were. Mr. Cornish explained that the I-405 South was scheduled to open by 2026. The I-405 North project was reliant on WSDOT's expansion projects, and staff targeted 2027. Boardmember Balducci asked for staff to follow up with WSDOT to verify its plans. She offered an option to phase the project beginning with the Bellevue to Kirkland leg if the toll lane expansion was delayed.

Resolution No. R2021-08 was moved by Boardmember Backus and seconded by Boardmember Baker. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Resolution No. R2021-08 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Motion No. M2021-51: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a Task Order with the Washington State Department of Transportation to provide professional services for project development for the Tukwila International Boulevard Inline Station for the I-405 Bus Rapid Transit Project in the amount of \$5,297,727, with a 10 percent contingency of \$529,773, for a total authorized task order amount not to exceed \$5,827,500.

Blake Jones High Capacity Transit Project Manager, provided the staff report on the action. He outlined the Tukwila International Boulevard Station, noting that a change to inline stations along SR 518 allowed for the busses to remain on the highway, reducing travel times. He also reviewed the task order scope with WSDOT.

Board Chair Keel asked if cost savings measures outside of the two previously presented to the Board had been investigated. Mr. van de Kamp advised that staff looked for additional cost savings in development but did not identify any further concepts for this project, and that the project was currently within budget.

Chair Balducci advised that she supported the approach to not advance the cost savings concepts for the I-405 BRT stations, noting that if necessary, scope reductions could be a tool used in the future to open up financial capacity for other projects.

Motion No. M2021-51 was moved by Boardmember Baker and seconded by Boardmember Backus. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Motion No. M2021-51 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Resolution No. R2021-09: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire or lease certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for the SR 522/NE 145th Bus Rapid Transit project.

Amy Pinneo, Real Property Project Manager, provided the staff report on the action. The action authorizes the acquisition of all or a portion of 44 parcels. These parcels are located in the cities of Seattle, Shoreline, Lake Forest Park and Kenmore for the Stride Bus Rapid Transit program (BRT) SR 522/NE 145th Project. One of the parcels is owned by King County. The properties are required to construct the build out of the transit queue bypass lanes, Business Access and Transit (BAT) lanes, sidewalks and planting strips, and BRT station platforms. Parking facilities have also been identified in preliminary design, however due to realignment, have not advanced in design, beyond 10% due to the adjustment in delivery date specific to these parking garages. Ms. Pinneo continued that meetings with property owners have begun, and that advanced notice of this action was provided to media as in accordance with policy.

Resolution No. R2021-09 was moved by Boardmember Smith and seconded by Boardmember Baker. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Resolution No. R2021-09 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Motion No. M2021-52: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a funding agreement with the City of Auburn for Sound Transit to contribute to the City's A Street Loop project to mitigate forecasted traffic impacts resulting from the Auburn Station Parking and Access Improvements project, in an amount not to exceed \$340,000.

Zac Eskenazi, Sounder South Development Manager, provided the staff report on the action. He reviewed the Auburn Parking and Access Improvements Project. He outlined the agreement with Auburn and the budgetary impact. Melvin Hamilton, Real Property Project manager reviewed the property acquisitions requested in Resolution No. R2021-10.

The purpose of this funding agreement is for Sound Transit to provide a contribution to the City of Auburn's A Street Loop project to mitigate traffic impacts related to Sound Transit's Auburn Station Parking and Access Improvements project in lieu of adjusting signal timings at the 3rd Street SE/A Street SE intersection. Sound Transit's capped contribution of \$340,000 will support the design and construction of the City of Auburn's A Street Loop project which is near the project site. Sound Transit and the City agree that the A Street Loop project is sufficient to mitigate forecasted traffic impacts resulting from Sound Transit's project.

Motion No. M2021-52 was moved by Boardmember Backus and seconded by Boardmember Keel. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the six Board members present that Motion No. M2021-52 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Resolution No. R2021-10: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for the Auburn Station Parking and Access Improvements project.

Chair Balducci advised that the committee had already received a presentation on the action during the previous staff presentation. This action would authorize the acquisition of all or portions of property rights from 10 parcels located in the City of Auburn. Acquisitions consist of temporary, permanent or crane swing easements for the Auburn Station Parking and Access Improvements project.

Resolution No. R2021-10 was moved by Boardmember Backus and seconded by Boardmember Baker. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the six Board members present that Resolution No. R2021-10 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Resolution No. R2021-11: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire or lease certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for the Federal Way Link Extension.

Mike Bulzomi, Deputy Director Real Property, provided a staff report on the action. The proposed action would authorize the acquisition of a temporary construction easement over a portion of the property for the Federal Way Link Extension. The single parcel is located in the City of Federal Way and owned by the City of Federal Way.

Chair Keel asked how the property acquisition was proceeding. Mr. Bulzomi advised that the city of Federal Way partnered with Sound Transit to identify the property.

Resolution No. R2021-11 was moved by Boardmember Backus and seconded by Boardmember Baker. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Resolution No. R2021-11 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Motion No. M2021-53: (1) Authorizing the chief executive officer to (a) grant permanent easements to the City of Bellevue to construct, operate, and maintain water and drainage facilities, traffic signals and sidewalks on Sound Transit owned property and (b) authorizes the conveyance of fee and easement rights to the City of Bellevue for right-of-way, sidewalks and slopes, traffic signals, landscaping, and utilities that Sound Transit acquired as part of the East Link Extension, at no cost to the City and (2) ratifying certain permanent easements and fee and easement rights conveyed to the City of Bellevue pursuant to the 2015 Memorandum of Understanding between Sound Transit and the City of Bellevue.

Rhonda Thomsen, Real Property Project Manager, provided the staff report on the action. This action will grant permanent easements, shown in Exhibit A of the Board materials, to the City of Bellevue comprising air, surface, and subsurface rights on portions of the Sound Transit owned properties located in Bellevue, WA. These property conveyances are necessary to relocate or create City of Bellevue infrastructure that was displaced by or required for construction of the East Link Extension.

This action will also authorize and ratify the conveyance of fee and easement rights, shown in Exhibit B of the Board materials, to the City of Bellevue for right-of-way, sidewalks and utilities along the East Link alignment. These property conveyances were within the intent of the 2015 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Sound Transit and the City of Bellevue, but were designed into the project after execution of the MOU or inadvertently omitted.

Boardmember Balducci asked what staff would do in the future to avoid ratifying past easements. Faith Roland, Director of Real Property advised that certain easements were not understood to be needed when the original memorandum of understanding was signed in 2015. Staff was working on language for future actions to streamline this process in the future.

Chair Keel was encouraged by the efforts by staff to avoid future instances, in the interest of project speed.

Motion No. M2021-53 was moved by Boardmember Keel and seconded by Boardmember Smith. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Motion No. M2021-53 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Motion No. M2021-54: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute funding agreements with the City of Shoreline and King County in the amount of \$100,000 each, for a total contribution amount of \$200,000, to support the construction of the Shoreline North / 185th Station pedestrian connection as part of the Lynnwood Link Extension.

Barbara Hinkle, Project Manager, provided the staff report on the action. This proposed action provides for third-party funding contributions to the Lynnwood Link Extension for improvements to the Shoreline North / 185th Station and Garage from the City of Shoreline and King County. Both third parties have the necessary approvals to execute these agreements.

The funded scope is a pedestrian connection between the station and adjacent parking garage, and represents an enhancement of Sound Transit standard design criteria. The improvements are in keeping with agency strategic priorities to enhance station access.

Motion No. M2021-54 was moved by Boardmember Roscoe and seconded by Boardmember Keel. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Motion No. M2021-54 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Motion No. M2021-55: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a Master Service Agreement and sub-agreements with AAA Management, LLC to (1) establish terms and operational stipulations and (2) grant temporary and permanent easements for the planned private development at 333 NE 149th Street in Shoreline, WA adjacent to the Shoreline South/148th Station as part of the Lynnwood Link Extension.

Megan McIntyre, Deputy Project Director, Lynnwood Link Extension, provided the staff report on the action. She reviewed the transit oriented development property planned north of the 148th Street Station along the Lynnwood Link Extension. The proposed agreement establishes terms and operational stipulations for the residential TOD adjacent to the Shoreline South/148th Station that will interact with the station, bus loop, and parking garage areas. The residential TOD will replace a portion of the noise wall on the north side of the bus loop that is currently part of the Lynnwood Link Extension (LLE) scope

of work. Eliminating the noise wall from the LLE will result in a cost savings for the Lynnwood Link project.

The agreement will grant temporary and permanent easements as well as outline specific requirements relative to noise and vibration mitigation within the development to meet the FTA's Record of Decision (ROD) commitments for the LLE. Approval of these agreements furthers the development of a TOD to be built on privately-owned property adjacent to the Shoreline South/148th Station, creating a project that enhances the passenger experience and improves station access to potential passengers within the TOD development.

Motion No. M2021-55 was moved by Boardmember Smith and seconded by Boardmember Baker. Chair Balducci called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Nancy Backus
David Baker
Kent Keel
Kim Roscoe
Nicola Smith
Dave Upthegrove
Claudia Balducci

Nays

It was carried by unanimous vote of the seven Board members present that Motion No. M2021-55 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Reports to the Committee

Northgate Link Extension – State of Readiness

Rick Capka, Deputy Project Director of Northgate Link, provided an overview of the Northgate Link Extension. He advised that this would be the final project update prior to the beginning of revenue service on October 2. Staff was finalizing all safety certifications, pre-revenue service was underway and Seattle Fire Department Inspections were complete. Transition to the Operations Department had been completed as well. The project was on schedule and on budget, with an estimated savings of more than \$52 million.

Simulated Revenue service began on September 1, 2021. Final system integrated testing was ongoing and would occur after service hours. All vibration and electromagnetic interference mitigation testing was complete, and an updated operating agreement with the University of Washington was approved by the Board.

Mr. Capka reviewed passenger experience oriented actions and events, like an ADA familiarization event which took place on September 1, 2021. He reviewed the two transit oriented development projects along the alignment, noting that the University of Washington expected to move into the University District project in 2025 after it was constructed.

Mr. Capka reviewed the marketing efforts for the extension opening. Experiential installations would be placed throughout all three stations. Staff would be onsite throughout the month to assist with passenger transitions. The agency would also be handing out ORCA and ORCA Lift cards with \$10 preloaded to encourage people to try the new alignment.

Executive session - None.

Other business - None.

Next meeting

Thursday, October 14, 2021
1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Virtually via WebEx

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

ATTEST:

Claudia Balducci
System Expansion Committee Chair

Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator

APPROVED on _____, AM.