



## Motion No. M2019-108

### ST Express Bus Service Operations and Maintenance Agreement with King County Metro

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
Rider Experience and Operations Committee	11/07/2019	Recommend to Board	Bonnie Todd, Executive Director of Operations
Board	11/21/2019	Final action	<b>Robin Braziel, Director, Commuter Rail, Bus and Paratransit</b> <b>Brian Scott, Operations Business Manager</b>

### Proposed action

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute an agreement with King County Metro to provide ST Express bus operations and maintenance services for a five year term ending on December 31, 2024 with one additional three-year option to extend (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2027) followed by one additional two-year option to extend (January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2029).

### Key features summary

- The agreement continues Sound Transit's partnership with King County Metro, providing Express bus service originating in King County.
- This agreement's scope of services include bus operations, service supervision, scheduling, vehicle maintenance and storage, fuel, training, safety, security, insurance, and administrative functions.
- The current agreement with King County Metro for ST Express bus service expires December 31, 2019. King County Council is considering approval of this agreement at its meeting on November 5, 2019.

### Background

King County Metro has been providing King County-based ST Express bus service since the start of Sound Transit's regional express bus system in 1999. King County Metro operates seven ST Express routes using 119 Sound Transit buses. The buses are stored and maintained at King County Metro's East Base.

The new agreement is similar to past agreements with King County Metro; Sound Transit used the new agreement as an opportunity to negotiate the following additional changes:

- Enhances data sharing, transparency, and reporting requirements for better oversight. This includes data for safety, security, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), planning, operations and maintenance.
- Adds language for Title VI and ADA requirements to ensure compliance with federal guidelines.
- Improves and clarifies important responsibilities such as financial reconciliation, service planning, and monthly meetings.
- Identifies King County cost pool exemptions to reduce costs consistent with the recently approved exemptions in the ST Link IGA with King County Metro.

- Formalizes the existing practice to charge Sound Transit a pro-rated share of King County Metro's depreciation expense for capital investments in system and bus base improvements.
- Implements periodic review of financial performance to identify cost drivers and collaborate on mitigations and solutions.

## **Fiscal information**

Funding for 2020 under this agreement is included in the Purchased Transportation category within the Operations department's annual operating budget. The proposed 2020 Purchased Transportation category budget is \$203,425,480, of which \$55,384,940 is budgeted for King County Metro for ST Express.

Funding for future years under this agreement will be included in the annual budget development process based on negotiated estimated costs as provided by King County in conformance with the proposed agreement and the service assumptions provided in the Service Implementation Plan for that year.

## **Disadvantaged and small business participation**

Disadvantaged and small business participation are not applicable to this agreement.

## **Public involvement**

Not applicable to this action.

## **Time constraints**

A one month delay will not have a significant impact. A longer delay could require an extension of the current agreement which expires December 31, 2019.

## **Prior Board/Committee actions**

Motion No. M2015-103: Authorized the chief executive officer to execute an agreement with King County Metro to provide ST Express operations and maintenance services for the period of January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2019 with two additional one-year options to extend.

Motion No. M2015-60: Authorized the chief executive officer to extend the ST Express Bus Service Agreement with King County through December 31, 2015.

Motion No. M2014-82 Authorized the chief executive officer to extend the existing interagency service agreement with King County Metro through June 30, 2015.

Motion No. M2009-106: Authorized the chief executive officer to execute an agreement with King County to provide ST Express bus operations and maintenance services for the period of January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2012, with two additional one-year options to extend.

Resolution No. R99-30: Authorized the Executive Director to execute an agreement for operation and maintenance with King County Metro related to implementation of ST Express bus service.

Resolution No. R98-31: Authorized negotiation of governmental agreements with existing transit agencies in the Pierce, King and Snohomish County region for operation and maintenance of Regional Express bus service.

---

**Environmental review** – KH 10/30/19

**Legal review** – JW 10/31/19



## Motion No. M2019-108

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an agreement with King County Metro to provide ST Express bus operations and maintenance services for a five year term ending on December 31, 2024 with one additional three-year option to extend (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2027) followed by one additional two-year option to extend (January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2029).

### Background

King County Metro has been providing King County-based ST Express bus service since the start of Sound Transit's regional express bus system in 1999. King County Metro operates seven ST Express routes using 119 Sound Transit buses. The buses are stored and maintained at King County Metro's East Base.

This agreement's scope of services include bus operations, service supervision, scheduling, vehicle maintenance and storage, fuel, training, safety, security, insurance, and administrative functions.


The new agreement is similar to past agreements with King County Metro; Sound Transit used the new agreement as an opportunity to negotiate the following additional changes:

- Enhances data sharing, transparency, and reporting requirements for better oversight. This includes data for safety, security, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), planning, operations and maintenance.
- Adds language for Title VI and ADA requirements to ensure compliance with federal guidelines.
- Improves and clarifies important responsibilities such as financial reconciliation, service planning, and monthly meetings.
- Identifies King County cost pool exemptions to reduce costs consistent with the recently approved exemptions in the ST Link IGA with King County Metro.
- Formalizes the existing practice to charge Sound Transit a pro-rated share of King County Metro's depreciation expense for capital investments in system and bus base improvements.
- Implements periodic review of financial performance to identify cost drivers and collaborate on mitigations and solutions.

**Motion**

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the chief executive officer is authorized to execute an agreement with King County Metro to provide ST Express bus operations and maintenance services for a five year term ending on December 31, 2024 with one additional three-year option to extend (January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2027) followed by one additional two-year option to extend (January 1, 2028 – December 31, 2029).

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on November 21, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John Marchione  
Board Chair

**Attest:**

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