



Motion No. M2021-52

Funding Agreement with City of Auburn for the Auburn Station Parking & Access Improvements project

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
System Expansion Committee	09/09/2021	Recommend to Board	Ron Lewis, DECM Executive Director
Board	09/23/2021	Final action	Jon Mihkels, Project Director- New Facilities, DECM Zac Eskenazi, HCT Development Manager, PEPD

Proposed action

Authorizes 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.

Key features summary

- 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.
- The City will complete the appropriate environmental documentation for the A Street Loop project as the SEPA lead agency, prior to receiving a contribution for the project from Sound Transit.
- The City plans to start construction of the A Street Loop project in 2023 and the improvement will be completed before Sound Transit's garage opening planned for 2025.
- The Auburn City Council is scheduled to take action on this agreement at their September 20, 2021 Council meeting.

Background

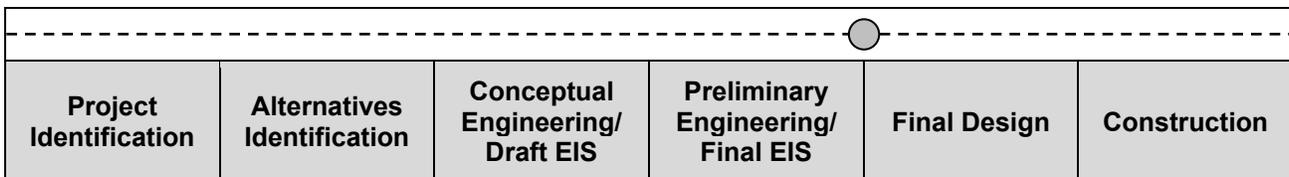
In November 2008, voters approved access improvements to the Auburn Sounder Station as part of the ST2 ballot measure to expand mass transit throughout the region. However, funding for these improvements was suspended as a result of the reduced revenue during the 2008-2009 recession. In January 2016, the Sound Transit Board approved Motion No. M2016-10, restoring funding for the Auburn Sounder Station Access Improvements project. In November 2016, Phase 1: Alternative Analysis of the Auburn Sounder Station Access Improvements project commenced.

In November 2017, the Sound Transit Board identified a parking garage with up to 675 stalls at Site 1 and access improvements to advance into environmental review and conceptual engineering. Site 1 was also recommended by Sound Transit staff and the City of Auburn. The following pedestrian, bicycle, and transit amenities are proposed adjacent to or near the project site to enhance overall access to the Auburn Station:

- Adjacent to the project site, amenities include painted crosswalks, signals, lighting, and signage.
- At the intersection of W Main Street and B Street NW, amenities would encourage pedestrian safety and traffic calming (i.e., curb extensions, roadway channelization, and installation of rectangular rapid flashing beacons, crosswalks, and ADA curb ramps).
- At the Auburn Station, planned bicycle improvements include modifications to prepare for future increased bicycle storage.
- At five existing bus stops along routes that connect with the Auburn Station, new bus shelters would be installed.

Pursuant to State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Sound Transit issued a SEPA Checklist and supporting reports and a Determination of Non-significance with Conditions on January 29, 2020. In addition, under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), FTA approved a Documented Categorical Exclusion for the project in February 2020. The environmental review documents include a description of impacts resulting from the project and proposed mitigation. In February 2020, the City of Auburn and Sound Transit signed a Letter of Concurrence regarding traffic mitigation at the 3rd Street SE/A Street SE intersection. In that letter, Sound Transit and City staff agreed that a contribution to the City’s A Street Loop project would sufficiently mitigate for the impacts to that intersection and that a subsequent funding agreement would be negotiated. In April 2020, the Sound Transit Board selected the project to be built which contains the elements outlined above. In August 2021, the Sound Transit Board identified 2025 as the target completion date for this project as part of the capital program realignment. This motion will approve the funding agreement that will address the traffic mitigation at the 3rd Street SE/A Street SE intersection.

Project status



Project scope, schedule and budget summary are located on page 131 of the July 2021 Agency Progress Report.

Fiscal information

This action is within authorized project allocation and sufficient monies remain after approval of this action to fund the remaining work in the Third Parties phase.

The authorized project allocation for the Auburn Station Parking and Access Improvements project is \$12,592,000. Within the Third Parties phase, \$524,000 has been allocated to the City of Auburn for the City's planned A Street Loop project to mitigate for forecasted traffic impacts resulting. The action would commit an additional \$340,000 to this budget line item and leave a budget balance of \$184,000.

AUBURN STATION ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS

(in thousands)

Project Phase	Baseline Budget	Board Approvals	This Action	Board Approved Plus Action	Uncommitted / (Shortfall)
Agency Administration	\$2,404	\$1,602	\$	\$1,602	\$802
Preliminary Engineering	3,409	2,838		2,838	571
Final Design	0	0		0	0
Third Parties	605	16	340	356	249
Right of Way	3,824	434		434	3,390
Construction	350	0		0	350
Construction Services	2,000	1,999		1,999	1
Vehicles				0	0
System Testing + Startup				0	0
Total Current Budget	\$12,592	\$6,889	\$	\$7,229	\$5,363
Phase Detail - Third Parties					
City of Auburn	\$524	\$	\$340	\$340	\$184
Other Third Parties	81	16		16	65
Total Phase	\$605	\$16	\$	\$356	\$249

Notes:

Amounts are expressed in Year of Expenditure \$000s.

Board Approvals = Commitment and PO Contingency Remaining as of 8/24/2021.

For detailed project information, see page 77 in the 2021 Finance Plan and Adopted Budget Book.

Disadvantaged and small business participation

Not applicable to this action.

Public involvement

Not applicable to this action.

Time constraints

A one-month delay would not create a significant impact to the project schedule.

Prior Board/Committee actions

Resolution No. R2020-08: Selects the non-motorized, transit and parking improvements to be built to improve access to the Auburn Sounder Station as part of the Auburn Station Parking and Access Improvements project.

Motion No. M2017-138: (1) Identified the Preferred Alternative for the Auburn Station Access Improvements Project to advance into environmental review, and (2) authorized the project to advance through Gate 2: Identify Alternatives and Gate 3: Identify Preferred Alternative within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process.

Resolution No. R2016-08: (1) Amends the Adopted 2016 Budget to create the Auburn Station Access Improvements Project by (a) establishing the Project Lifetime Budget through alternatives analysis in the amount of \$831,000, (b) establishing the 2016 Annual Budget in the amount of \$289,500 and (2) authorizes the project to advance through Gate 1 within Sound Transit's Phase Gate Process.

Motion No. M2016-10: (1) Restoring funding for the Kent and Auburn Access Projects in the Sound Transit 2 Finance Plan, and (2) directing staff to start work on those access projects and return with a budget amendment and Phase Gate actions when appropriate.

Environmental review – KH 8/31/21

Legal review – AJP 9/3/21



Motion No. M2021-52

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority 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.

Background

In November 2008, voters approved access improvements to the Auburn Sounder Station as part of the ST2 ballot measure to expand mass transit throughout the region. However, funding for these improvements was suspended as a result of the reduced revenue during the 2008-2009 recession. In January 2016, the Sound Transit Board approved Motion No. M2016-10, restoring funding for the Auburn Sounder Station Access Improvements project. In November 2016, Phase 1: Alternative Analysis of the Auburn Sounder Station Access Improvements project commenced.

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The Auburn City Council is scheduled to take action on this agreement at their September 20, 2021 Council meeting.

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 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.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on September 23, 2021.



Kent Keel
Board Chair

Attest:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator