



## Motion No. M2026-12

### Community Oversight Panel Appointments

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:
Board	3/26/2026	Final Action

Staff name:	Staff title:
Calli Knight	Chief of Staff
Adam Montee	Senior Program Manager – Board Support Services

### Proposed action

Appointing Thomas Hingson and Fred Jarrett to the Community Oversight Panel to serve a term of three years beginning April 1, 2026 and expiring on March 31, 2029.

### Key features summary

- Throughout 2025, several Community Oversight Panel (COP) members reached the end of their terms and chose not to seek an additional term, resulting in four vacancies. A member of the panel also chose to resign their position in December 2025, leading to a fifth vacancy.
  - Currently there is one vacancy in Snohomish County, one vacancy in North King County, one vacancy in East King County, and two vacancies in South King County
- Recruitment to fill these vacancies began in late 2025 and early 2026; this action would fill two of those vacancies.
- This would be the first term for each of the appointees. If willing, they would be eligible to serve two additional three-year terms.
- Thomas Hingson lives in the Snohomish County subarea. Fred Jarrett lives in the East King County subarea.
- Recruitment continues for the vacancies in the North King County and South King County subareas.

### Background

The Sound Transit Community Oversight Panel is a 15-member advisory committee of community volunteers appointed by the Sound Transit Board to monitor and report on Sound Transit's performance in delivering on the commitments it made in Sound Move, ST2, and ST3. The COP is charged with an annual review of Sound Transit's performance and financial plan and provides reports and recommendations to the Board.

The current responsibilities include monitoring Sound Transit's performance in the following areas:

- Community engagement activities
- Project planning and alignment decisions

- Budget and financial plan
- Project schedule and budget adherence
- Agency performance audits
- Passenger experience

COP candidate qualifications include:

- Residing and/or working in King County, Pierce County, or Snohomish County within the Sound Transit district boundary.
- Having experience, skills, or insight in one or more of the Community Oversight Panel's responsibilities - community engagement activities, project planning and alignment decisions, budget and financial plan, project schedule and budget adherence, agency performance audits, and passenger experience.
- Ability to attend meetings once each month in the evening, either in person or via a virtual meeting platform.

Thomas Hingson is retired and brings more than 40 years of experience in transit, including serving as the director of Everett Transit. He has previously worked with Sound Transit in his professional capacity and has a deep understanding of the importance of good passenger experience, and how disappointing it can be when expectations are not met. Thomas has experience or insight in community engagement activities, project planning and alignment decisions, budget and financial planning, project schedule and budget adherence, agency performance audits, and passenger experience.

Fred Jarrett has been involved in regional transit for decades, having served as a Metro councilmember, chair of the Metro Transit Committee, and co-chair of the Joint Regional Planning Committee for High Capacity Transit. In addition, Fred represented Mercer Island as a city councilmember, served as a Washington State Representative and Senator, all before acting as King County Deputy Executive. Fred has experience or insight in project planning and alignment decisions, budget and financial planning, project schedule and budget adherence, agency performance audits, and passenger experience.

## **Fiscal information**

Not applicable to this action.

## **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 Community Oversight Panel.

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**Environmental review** – KH 3/20/26

**Legal review** – DLM 3/20/26



## Motion No. M2026-12

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority appointing Thomas Hingson and Fred Jarrett to the Community Oversight Panel to serve a term of three years beginning April 1, 2026 and Expiring on March 31, 2029.

### Background

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The current responsibilities include monitoring Sound Transit's performance in the following areas:

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- Passenger experience

Throughout 2025, several Community Oversight Panel (COP) members reached the end of their terms and chose not to seek an additional term, resulting in four vacancies. A member of the panel also chose to resign their position in December 2025, leading to a fifth vacancy. Currently there is one vacancy in Snohomish County, one vacancy in North King County, one vacancy in East King County, and two vacancies in South King County.

Recruitment to fill these vacancies began in late 2025 and early 2026. This action would fill the Snohomish County and East King County subarea vacancies. Recruitment continues for the vacancies in the North King County and South King County subareas.

COP Candidate qualifications include:

- Residing and/or working in King County, Pierce County, or Snohomish County within the Sound Transit district boundary.
- Having experience, skills, or insight in one or more of the Community Oversight Panel's responsibilities - community engagement activities, project planning and alignment decisions, budget and financial plan, project schedule and budget adherence, agency performance audits, social justice and equity, and passenger experience.
- Ability to attend meetings once each month in the evening, either in person or via virtual meeting platform.

Thomas Hingson is retired and brings more than 40 years of experience in transit, including serving as the director of Everett Transit. He has previously worked with Sound Transit in his professional capacity and has a deep understanding of the importance of good passenger experience, and how disappointing it can be when expectations are not met. Thomas has experience or insight in community engagement

activities, project planning and alignment decisions, budget and financial planning, project schedule and budget adherence, agency performance audits, and passenger experience.

Fred Jarrett has been involved in regional transit for decades, having served as a Metro councilmember, chair of the Metro Transit Committee, and co-chair of the Joint Regional Planning Committee for High Capacity Transit. In addition, Fred represented Mercer Island as a city councilmember, served as a Washington State Representative and Senator, all before acting as King County Deputy Executive. Fred has experience or insight in in project planning and alignment decisions, budget and financial planning, project schedule and budget adherence, agency performance audits, and passenger experience.

This would be the first term for each of the appointees. If willing, they would be eligible to serve two additional three-year terms.

**Motion**

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that Thomas Hingson and Fred Jarrett are appointed to the Community Oversight Panel to serve a term of three years beginning April 1, 2026 and Expiring on March 31, 2029.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dave Somers  
Board Chair

**Attest:**

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Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator