

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MOTION NO. 18

A MOTION of the Board of the Regional Transit Authority of Pierce, King and Snohomish counties committing to the timely establishment of a citizen oversight panel.

WHEREAS, on May 31, 1996, the Board of the Regional Transit Authority adopted Sound Move, the Ten-Year Regional Transit System Plan; and

WHEREAS, the RTA Board's commitment to public accountability is a predominant theme in the principles and policies described in the plan; and

WHEREAS, the plan includes a specific commitment of the RTA Board to appoint a citizen oversight panel to monitor RTA performance in carrying out its ten-year commitments; and

WHEREAS, the plan includes the RTA's commitment to provide the resources and support necessary to involve the public at all levels of planning; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a citizen oversight panel is not intended to delegate any of the RTA Board's legislative powers or policy responsibilities or to replace other planned public involvement processes; and

WHEREAS, the RTA Board is developing a comprehensive program to involve citizens in regional, subarea and community issues and projects;

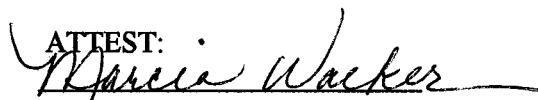
WHEREAS, the implementation of the Ten-Year Plan is contingent upon and has received voter approval of a ballot proposal on the November 5, 1996 election;


NOW, THEREFORE BE IT MOVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY AS FOLLOWS:

1. The RTA Board reiterates its commitment to assuring public accountability in the exercise of its authorities in carrying out the commitments of the ten-year plan, including effective citizen involvement in major capital investments.
2. The RTA Board will begin immediately to define and implement a process for establishing and appointing the citizen oversight panel. The RTA Board commits to having the panel in place by the end of February 1997.
3. The RTA Board will consult with community leaders in defining the specific mission, responsibilities and composition of the citizen oversight panel and in developing an overall citizen participation program.

4. In general terms (to be further defined by the RTA Board), the citizen oversight panel will be an independent body, charged to review RTA performance against its commitments to the public to deliver the services and facilities in Sound Move on time and within budget. The citizen oversight panel will report to the RTA Board.
5. The citizen oversight panel will monitor and provide recommendations concerning the RTA's performance in meeting its public commitments in the following policy areas:
 - Public participation in plan implementation
 - Evaluation of project alternatives and recommendations
 - Annual capital and operating budget and plan of finance
 - Regional fund management
 - Equity, subarea budgets and financial reporting
 - Schedule and budget adherence
 - Annual performance review audits
6. Appointments to the citizen oversight panel may be for rotational terms of two to three years. Appointments will include a minimum of two persons from each of the five geographic subareas in the RTA District and representation from a variety of interests.
7. The RTA Board will provide an annual budget to support the citizen oversight panel, including planning and facilitation for panel meetings

PASSED by the Board of the Regional Transit Authority for the Pierce, King and Snohomish region at a regular meeting thereof held on the 6th day of December, 1996.

ATTEST:

Marcia Walker
Board Administrator



Bob Drewel
Chair of the Board