

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

MOTION NO. 98-21 Service Implementation Planning BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS

Meeting:	Date:	Agenda Item:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Finance Committee	3/19/98	Finance Director Report No. 7	Agnes Govern, Director, Regional Express	684-1673
Executive Committee	4/3/98		Veronica Parker, Program Manager, Regional Bus	684-3533

ACTION:

Executive Committee authorization to execute a contract with Manuel Padron & Associates, in an amount not to exceed \$330,000, for the purposes of service implementation planning.

BACKGROUND:

The primary purpose of the Service Implementation Plan (SIP) is to design regional express bus services and recommend options to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of current transit services, and thus position Sound Transit to meet future region-wide travel needs. This study is meant to include both policy level planning activities and detailed operations planning.

The SIP is charged with moving Sound Transit toward the goals established in the Ten-Year Regional Transit System Plan, also known as *Sound Move*, by focusing on opportunities for implementing integrated regional service through the use of the HOV lanes, park-and-ride lots, transit centers, and feeder routes. In fact, the goals and objectives in the *Sound Move* are the basis for the more specific goals and objectives required of the Service Implementation Plan.

Requests for Qualifications/Proposals were due at Sound Transit offices February 11, 1998 and interviews of the final candidates occurred February 20, 1998. Negotiations for best and final offers have been completed. The Steering Committee is made up of staff from the partnering transit agencies and Sound Transit.

Manuel Padron & Associates, Inc. specializes in all facets of transit operations and systems planning and analysis. This includes bus service restructuring studies, comprehensive operations analyses (COA), start-up and implementation plans, feasibility studies, ridership modeling and estimates, operating and maintenance cost modeling and estimation, financial evaluation, and alternatives analysis. MPA's clients include public agencies, municipalities, and national as well as international consulting and engineering firms. MPA, a Hispanic-owned business, is certified with over sixty agencies and municipalities as a DBE, including the RTA.

RELEVANT BOARD POLICIES AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN:

- Adoption of Resolution 78 grants the Executive Committee authority to execute contracts up to \$5,000,000.
- Funding for the Service Implementation Plan is included in the 1998 adopted budget.

KEY FEATURES:

1. Enhance the area's transit system by evaluating and refining the Regional Express Bus component of *Sound Move* and creating a phased implementation plan for the proposed Regional Express Bus Service and supporting facilities.
2. Maximize integration between the regional and local transit services. Evaluate opportunities to improve connectivity between current transit systems and the Regional Express Bus Service.
3. Analyze plans to construct 33 Community Connections projects and 14 sets of HOV access ramps. Identify base and projected capacities of transit centers and park and ride lots. Determine if any conflicts exist between the timing of the construction of these facilities and the implementation of the Regional Express Bus Service routes and recommend ways to mitigate these conflicts.
4. Develop a detailed multi-year implementation plan identifying when each phase of the Regional Express Bus Service is to begin operating and the steps leading to it. This implementation plan must reflect a large number of factors including fiscal restraints, capital improvement schedules, existing and projected demand, and a gradual building of service to their ultimate levels.

FUNDING:

\$330,000 has been allocated as a part of the 1998 budget under the Regional Express Program to complete the Service Implementation Plan.

CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY:

Delay of hiring a consultant could result in a delay in implementation alternatives for Regional Express service. Coordination of the SIP and bus procurement is required to properly cycle into the local agencies' service planning processes.

Regional Transit Authority
Motion No. 98-21

A motion of the Executive Committee of the Regional Transit Authority for the Pierce, King, and Snohomish Counties region authorizing the Executive Director to execute the contract for the Service Implementation Plan.

Background:

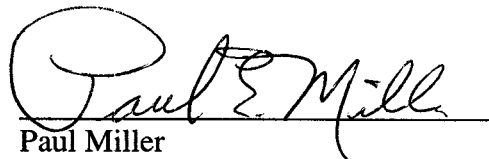
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Motion:

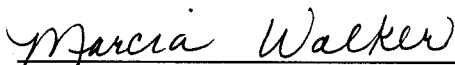
It is hereby moved by the Executive Committee of the Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director is authorized to execute the contract with Manuel Padron & Associates in an amount not to exceed \$330,000 for the Service Implementation Plan.

Approved by the Executive Committee of the Regional Transit Authority for the Pierce, King, and Snohomish Counties region at a regular meeting thereof on the 2nd day of April, 1998.



Paul Miller
Board Vice-Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator