

## SOUND TRANSIT

### MOTION NO. M98-70

#### Service Redeployment Guidelines BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Executive	9/18/98	Discussion	Agnes Govern, Director,	684-1673
Executive	10/2/98	Discussion/Recommend	Regional Express	
		Board Approval	Veronica Parker, Program	689-3533
Board	10/22/98	Board Action	Manager, Regional Bus	

#### **ACTION:**

A Motion to adopt service redeployment guidelines developed by the region's transit agencies to guide the investment of service resources that are freed up as a result of the implementation of *Sound Move*. The Service Redeployment Guidelines (Attachment A of Motion No. M98-70) describes the proposed plan and process.

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The implementation of Sound Transit rail and bus services will replace, in whole or in part, existing bus routes. Transit agencies will then have the opportunity to redeploy resources that are currently used to operate those routes. The resources consist of the vehicles and funding sources that are used for those routes. There may not be a one-to-one replacement of service hours, but these guidelines confirm the assumption that Sound Transit services are meant to add to, rather than replace, the existing services provided by transit agencies in the region.

These guidelines are based on the regional goal of improving mobility and increasing transit ridership and the commitment to providing the region's residents with a "seamless" regional transit system. They were developed in partnership with the region's transit agencies for use in determining the best uses of redeployed resources, those resources freed up as a result of the implementation of *Sound Move*.

#### **RELEVANT BOARD POLICIES AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN:**

- Adoption of *Sound Move*, the Ten-Year Regional Transit System Plan (May 31, 1996). *Sound Move* calls for coordinating with other transportation providers and creating important regional connections. *Sound Move* noted that: "New regional transit services will free up significant bus service hours now provided by local transit agencies. The RTA will work with local transit agencies to identify local service and/or community connections such as park-and-ride lots that support the regional transit system. These local resources will be distributed to subareas based on the investment each makes in the regional service responsible for freeing local bus service hours."

## **KEY FEATURES:**

- ◆ Establishes priorities for the investment of redeployed resources by the region's transit agencies including:
  - Maintain local service in those portions of corridors served by Sound Transit where riders would otherwise experience a net loss in transit service.
  - Service improvements that connect with regional service to enhance service integration.
  - Service improvements that do not directly connect with Sound Transit service but enhance transit service.
- ◆ Recognizes the need that resource investments must be consistent with transit agencies' adopted plans and policies.
- ◆ Establishes a guideline that redeployed resources will not be used for service that duplicates any Sound Transit service, or competes for the same travel market, unless Sound Transit and the partner agency agree to jointly improve service levels along a corridor.
- ◆ Outlines a process for on-going monitoring and review to include:
  - Transit Operators' Committee of PSRC will review service changes.
  - Sound Transit will prepare a final report on use of redeployed hours at full service implementation of Regional Express, Sounder, and Link connected to redeployment for consistency with the guidelines
  - Annual report will be submitted to PSRC Transportation Policy Board and the governing boards of the region's transit agencies.

## **FUNDING:**

Funding for this work is included in the provision of Sound Transit services and through the resources freed up within individual transit agencies as a result of the implementation of those services.

## **ALTERNATIVES:**

- Do not support the development of guidelines for the use of redeployable resources and allow individual transit agencies to determine the best use of those resources.
- Suggest alternative guidelines or approaches to be used in addressing redeployable resource allocations.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY:**

Policy guidance from all the transit agencies is necessary in order to address the investment of these freed-up resources. It is important to resolve this issue in order to begin planning how the system of transit services will change with the implementation of Sound Transit services by the end of next year.

## **LEGAL REVIEW:**

- Upon review of the background and comments and the motion, the Legal Department finds both documents to be legally acceptable.

## SOUND TRANSIT

### MOTION NO. M98-70

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority to adopt service redeployment guidelines to guide the reinvestment of resources freed up as a result of the implementation of Sound Transit services.

#### Background:

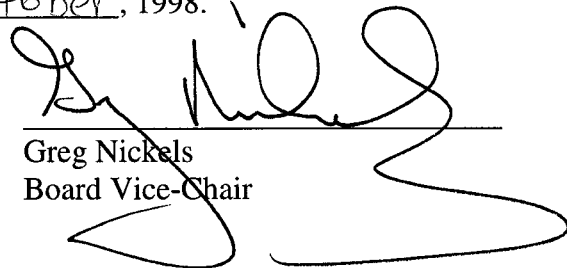
These guidelines are based on the overall regional goal of improving mobility and increasing transit ridership and the commitment to providing the region's residents with a "seamless" regional transit system. They have been developed by the region's transit agencies for use in determining the best uses of redeployed resources, those resources freed up as a result of the implementation of *Sound Move*.

Many of the proposed Sound Transit rail and bus services will replace, in whole or in part, existing bus routes. Transit agencies will then have the opportunity to redeploy resources that are currently used to operate those routes. The resources consist of the vehicles and funding sources that are used for those routes. There may not be a one-for-one replacement of service hours, but this confirms the assumption that Sound Transit services are meant to add to, rather than replace, the existing services provided by transit agencies in the region.

#### Motion:

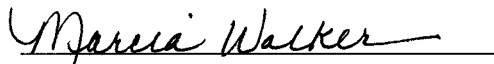
It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that service redeployment guidelines to guide the reinvestment of resources freed up as a result of the implementation of Sound Transit services be adopted substantially in the form as outlined in Attachment A.

Approved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof on the 22 day of October, 1998.



Greg Nickels  
Board Vice-Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator

## ATTACHMENT A SERVICE REDEPLOYMENT GUIDELINES

These guidelines are based on the overall regional goal of improving mobility and increasing transit ridership and the commitment to providing the region's residents with a "seamless" regional transit system. They have been developed to determine the best uses of redeployed resources, those resources freed up as a result of the implementation of *Sound Move*.

Many of the proposed Sound Transit rail and bus services will replace, in whole or in part, existing bus routes. Transit agencies will then have the opportunity to redeploy resources that are currently used to operate those routes. The resources consist of the vehicles and funding sources that are used for those routes. There may not be a one-for-one replacement of service hours, but this confirms the assumption that Sound Transit services are meant to add to, rather than replace, the existing services provided by transit agencies in the region.

It is understood that the service decisions that will be made once we are in the position to reallocate hours must recognize that we develop seamless services and also respect the local input process. Service planning and allocation decisions involve community input, participation by affected jurisdictions, as well as current bus patrons among others. Agency governing boards have the final authority where, when, and how services are operated.

The following priorities should guide the use of redeployed resources by the region's transit agencies:

1. Maintain local service in those portions of corridors served by Sound Transit where riders would otherwise experience a net loss in transit service.
2. Service improvements that connect with regional service, to enhance service integration. Examples include:
  - New feeder or circulator routes.
  - Improved frequencies and/or spans of service on existing connecting routes, especially improvements that increase the consistency of headways and/or service spans between local and regional service.
3. Service improvements that do not directly connect with Sound Transit service, to enhance transit service. Examples include:
  - Additional service to meet ridership growth.
  - Expansion of service to new areas.
  - Longer spans of service.
  - Limited stop or express service in corridors other than those identified as Sound Transit corridors.

Additional guidelines for redeployed resources are as follows:

- The use of redeployed resources should be consistent with each operating agency's Six-Year Plan and service guidelines.
- Redeployed resources should not be used for service that duplicates any Sound Transit service, or competes for the same travel market, unless Sound Transit and the partner agency agree to jointly improve service levels along a corridor.

### **PROPOSED PROCESS**

After review by the Regional Transit Executives' group, the guidelines will be presented to each of the transit agency's governing boards for approval. The following monitoring process is suggested to ensure adherence to the approved guidelines.

Service changes, in connection to the redeployment of hours, will be reviewed for consistency with the adopted guidelines by the Transit Operators' Committee of the PSRC. This will occur annually as redeployment takes place and will not need to be revisited thereafter. A report outlining how the guidelines have been followed will be prepared by the Transit Operators' Committee and presented to the PSRC Transportation Policy Board and the governing boards of each transit agency. Sound Transit, in cooperation with the other transit agencies, will prepare a final report on the use of redeployed hours at full service implementation of Regional Express, Sounder, and Link.