

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

**RESOLUTION NO. 98-5
BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS**

Meeting:	Date:	Agenda Item:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Executive Committee	3/6/98	No. 6	Sheila Dezarn, Government Relations Manager	206-684-1730
Board	3/12/98	9D-3		

ACTION:

Board approval of Resolution No.98-5 authorizing the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishing a cooperative relationship for regional transportation planning and coordination with the:

- Puget Sound Regional Council (Regional Council)
- Snohomish County Public Transportation Benefit Area Corporation (Community Transit)
- City of Everett Transportation Services (Everett Transit)
- King County Department of Transportation (King County Metro)
- Kitsap County Public Transportation Benefit Area Authority (Kitsap Transit)
- Pierce County Public Transportation Benefit Area Authority (Pierce Transit).

BACKGROUND:

- *Sound Move* policies emphasize cooperation and coordination with other service providers in the region and emphasize the importance of regionally integrated transportation planning.
- Satisfies federal regulations that require an agreement specifying cooperative procedures for conducting transportation planning and programming between the Regional Council, in its role as the region's metropolitan planning organization (MPO), and the region's local and regional public transit agencies.
- Satisfies requirements set forth in RCW 81.104.080(5) which provides for the Regional Council, the RTA, the cities and counties to participate in a "right of way preservation review process" with the Regional Council serving as the coordinator of that process.
- Builds upon and broadens a previous agreement between the Regional Council and the RTA which -- adopted in 1994 -- which is still in effect.

RELEVANT BOARD POLICIES AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN:

- Memorandum of Understanding for Planning, Coordination and Cooperation between the Puget Sound Regional Council and the Regional Transit Authority (August 26, 1994)

- Adoption of System Plan (May 31, 1996)

KEY FEATURES:

- Authorizes the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the agencies noted above pertaining to how the agencies will coordinate and cooperate on regional transportation planning and programming.
- Authorizes the Executive Director to review the implementation of the MOU to ensure the MOU is being administered effectively and satisfies the needs of respective parties.
- Provides a framework for cooperative transportation planning among and between the region's transit agencies and with the regional transportation planning organization to support growth management policies and objectives. [More specific agreements (i.e., project-level) are being negotiated with transit agencies, two of which are already in effect (one with Community Transit for the Ash Way Park & Ride and one with Pierce Transit for Seattle-Tacoma Regional Express bus service)]. Framework includes:

System planning coordination-- parties will consult and coordinate in the development and modification of transit system and financing plans – and in the development of the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) – to assure that they are consistent.

Roles -- the Regional Council's is generally responsible for multimodal comprehensive system planning; the RTA and the local public transit agencies are responsible for developing and implementing transit system and operation plans.

Major investment studies - the parties agree to cooperate on the conduct and completion of appropriate major metropolitan transportation investment studies (MIS).

Programming – the Regional Council is responsible for developing an approved multi-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) of all projects approved and programmed by the Regional Council for federal funding, including those that do not involve regionally competitive federal or state grants (e.g., New Starts funds). The transit agencies submit applications for consideration of funding and/or inclusion in the TIP.

Cooperative right-of-way preservation review process – in cooperation with the RTA, WSDOT and other local transit agencies, the Regional Council will develop a right-of-way (ROW) preservation review process to support transit and roadway system corridor developments consistent with state and federal requirements.

FUNDING:

There are no budget effects associated with this interlocal agreement (PSRC dues are already incorporated in the RTA's adopted budget).

ALTERNATIVES:

The interagency coordination activities outlined in the agreement can be accomplished through an extension of the existing interlocal agreement with the Regional Council rather than through this single, multi-party agreement.

Because all federally funded plans and projects must be consistent with the region's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) -- and projects included in the region's Transportation Improvement

Program (TIP) -- the RTA must establish a cooperative relationship with the Regional Council for comprehensive transportation planning.

CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY:

There are no consequences of delay to the RTA as the existing agreement between the RTA and the Regional Council would remain in effect.

REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 98-5

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Regional Transit Authority for the Pierce, King and Snohomish Counties region authorizing execution of an interlocal agreement with the Puget Sound Regional Council, the Snohomish County Public Transportation Benefit Area Corporation; City of Everett Transportation Services; King County Department of Transportation; Kitsap County Public Transportation Benefit Area Authority and Pierce County Public Transportation Benefit Area Authority for planning, coordination and cooperation.

WHEREAS, A Regional Transit Authority (“RTA”) has been created for the Pierce, King and Snohomish County region by action of their respective county councils pursuant to RCW 81.112.030; and

WHEREAS, on November 5, 1996, Central Puget Sound area voters approved local funding for *Sound Move*, the ten-year plan for regional high capacity transit in the Central Puget Sound Region; and

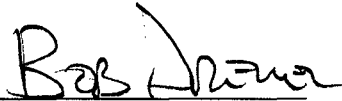
WHEREAS, the Puget Sound Regional Council (“Regional Council”) was established among member agencies as provided by various state and federal statutes to be responsible for development and maintenance of the following: (a) the regional growth and transportation strategy referred to as VISION 2020; (b) the multicounty planning policies (RCW 36.70A.210(e)(7)); (c) the state mandated regional transportation plan (RCW 47.80.030); and (d) the federally mandated multimodal Metropolitan Transportation Plan as prescribed in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA) (23 CFR Part 450 and 49 CFS Part 613); and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and consistent with the federal and state requirements to formalize the RTA’s involvement in the metropolitan transportation planning and programming process and ensure that its public transportation services and facilities that are deemed regionally


significant are consistent with the Regional Council's Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) and included in the region's Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) in order to remain eligible for federal funding;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to execute, administer and implement the interlocal agreement on behalf of the RTA.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 3 day of March 1997.


Bob Drewel
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator