

SOUND TRANSIT

RESOLUTION NO. R98-23

Reallocation of \$2.5 million from the Lynnwood Transit Center/Park and Ride Connector project to the SR 99 Improvement Project for HOV lane construction BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Executive Committee	5/1/98	Recommend Board Approval	Barbara Gilliland,	684-1630
Finance Committee	5/7/98	Recommend Board Approval	Program Manager,	
Board Meeting	5/28/98	Approval	Systems Integration Agnes Govern, Director, Regional Express	684-1673

ACTION:

Approve the reallocation of \$2.5 million from the Lynnwood Transit Center/Park and Ride Connector project to the SR 99 Improvement Project for HOV lane construction and revise *Sound Move* by adding the SR 99 HOV Lane Improvement project to the Snohomish County subarea list of projects.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Lynnwood has recently completed the funding package for the construction of the connector project that reduces, and could possibly eliminate, the need for Sound Transit funds. This was accomplished through a combination of a Transportation Improvement Account grant, multiple Federal ISTEA grants, City funds, and a local improvement district. While funding for the connector project is secured, the City has requested that some Sound Transit funds remain associated with this project pending the work Sound Transit is currently undertaking surrounding the analysis of the Lynnwood grouping of projects. The siting decision for the Lynnwood Transit Center, and the overall transit circulation within Lynnwood affects the level of investment Sound Transit would make in the connector project. Given the status of the connector project and Sound Transit's work, any Sound Transit funding for the connector project would be limited to the dollars remaining for this project and would reduce the overall LID costs.

As a result of the increased local funding, the City has requested that the SR 99 Improvement Project be added to the list of projects outlined in *Sound Move*. This project would add HOV emphasis lanes to SR 99 through Lynnwood as a part of a larger SR 99 Improvement project between Edmonds and SR 526 in Everett. The funding for this project would come from the savings in the Connector Project.

RELEVANT BOARD POLICIES AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN:

- Resolutions 73 and 75 adopting *Sound Move – The Ten-Year Regional Transit Plan* and its Appendices and the request for voter approval.
- Major Decisions: System plan amendments shall require a favorable vote of two-thirds of the entire membership of the Board.
- Subarea Benefits: Sound Transit is committed to investing revenues to benefit the areas where they are raised.
- System Expansion: Any second phase capital program, which continues local taxes for capital financing, will require voter approval within the Sound Transit District.

KEY FEATURES:

- Adds a project to *Sound Move*.
- Reallocates resources from an existing *Sound Move* project to a new project.
- Constructs two projects for the same dollars as set aside in *Sound Move*.

Because of additional local funding, this request provides the opportunity to do more with the funds allocated as a part of the *Sound Move* Plan. *Sound Move* specifies that Community Connection projects should “improve access to the regional system while improving connections to local transit centers.”

The SR 99 corridor is identified in *Sound Move* for regional bus service. Including the following elements in the SR 99 widening project would address transit goals in the corridor including improving regional and local transit speeds:

- Acquisition of ROW and shelters, construction of shelter pads, and installation of shelters at Community Transit and Sound Transit bus zones.
- Implementation of the regional signal priority project, including activation of pre-emption equipment.
- Development of transit lanes in perpetuity.
- Development of a strategy for enforcing arterial HOV lanes along the Highway 99 corridor.
- Development of an access management strategy.

This project has received a Documented Categorical Exclusion dated October 11, 1994 and is covered as a part of Sound Transit's Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.

FUNDING:

Total costs associated with the Connector project amount to \$5 million in 1995 dollars (\$6.1 million based on schedule year of expenditure dollars). The nominal request of \$2.5 million (\$2.2 million in 1995 dollars) for the SR 99 Improvement project is less than half of the total

connector project costs. Given the current status of funding for the connector project, this leaves \$2.7 million (1995 dollars) associated with the Lynnwood Transit Center/Park and Ride Connector project.

The proposed timing for these projects is consistent with the implementation schedule and will not affect the financial cash flow assumptions.

ALTERNATIVES:

- Do not fund the SR 99 Improvement project and leave the project savings from the Connector project in reserves to cover unanticipated costs for other Snohomish subarea *Sound Move* projects.
- Move the entire \$5 million funding for the Connector project to the SR 99 project and keep the savings in reserves to cover unanticipated costs for other Snohomish subarea *Sound Move* projects.

CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY:

No action on this proposal will result in dollars remaining associated with the connector project. Any project savings would be held in reserves to cover future funding needs. The SR 99 Improvement project will take longer to construct as it competes for the additional funding required to complete the project.

SOUND TRANSIT

RESOLUTION NO. 98-23

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority to revise *Sound Move* by adding the SR 99 HOV Lane Improvement project to the Snohomish County subarea list of projects and to reallocate \$2.5 million (YOE) from the Lynnwood Transit Center/Park and Ride Connector project to the SR 99 Improvement Project for HOV lane construction.

WHEREAS, Sound Transit may undertake the SR 99 Improvement for HOV lane construction Project (hereinafter referred to as the "Project") pursuant to statutory authority to implement a high capacity transportation system in Chapters 81.104 and 81.112 RCW; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee has reviewed the project and finds it to be compatible with Sound Transit's overall funding requirements and priorities; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has found that the results of the analysis confirm that the Project is consistent with the adopted goals, commitments, projects, and corridors served in *Sound Move*; and

WHEREAS, the Project has received a Documented Categorical Exclusion dated October 11, 1994 and is within the range of environmental impacts evaluated in the final Environmental Impact Statement adopted by Sound Transit for the Regional Transit Plan; and

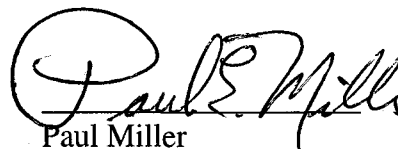
WHEREAS, the City of Lynnwood has submitted a letter of request for the project dated September 3, 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Project proposal and request for Sound Transit funding has been reviewed and is supported by the Lynnwood community, local jurisdiction and Snohomish County subarea;

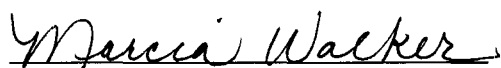
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that 1) *Sound Move* be revised to add the SR 99 HOV Lane Improvement

project, and associated costs, to the Snohomish County subarea list of projects and 2) \$2.5 million (YOE) be reallocated from the Lynnwood Transit Center/Park and Ride Connector project to the SR 99 Improvement Project for HOV lane construction.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 28th day of May, 1998.


Paul Miller
Board Vice-Chair

ATTEST:


Marcia Walker
Board Administrator