

SOUND TRANSIT

RESOLUTION NO. R98-26

Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Tacoma BACKGROUND AND COMMENTS

| Meeting: | Date: | Type of Action: | Staff Contact: | Phone: |
|---|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Finance Committee Board of Directors | 6/4/98 7/23/98 | Recommend Board Approval Approval | Paul Bay, Director Link Light Rail | (206) 689-4761 |

ACTION:

Approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Tacoma. This agreement relates to joint efforts of the city of Tacoma and Sound Transit (ST) during the development of the Link Light Rail project, similar to the MOUs previously adopted with the Cities of Seattle, Tukwila and SeaTac.

BACKGROUND:

In order to develop the Link Light Rail project, agreement will ultimately be needed with the cities through which it passes, including agreement on the alignment of tracks, on the location and design of stations, and on the mitigation of any negative impacts. Agreement on these matters is essential because ST will be asking each City for construction permits and for easements or use agreements allowing construction of light rail on portions of city street rights-of-way. Accordingly, a great deal of time has been spent in discussions with staff in each of these cities on how to structure the work program, what activities should be conducted jointly, what activities will be done by each agency separately, schedule of work, and level of staffing required to reach agreement on alignments.

In addition, ST has adopted principles for station area planning, and has asked each City to undertake a thoughtful station area planning program in concert with our project development activities, and to encourage of transit oriented development. Station area planning work also needs to be coordinated with project development. Agreement is needed to put into effect the partnership concept called for in Sound Move.

RELEVANT BOARD POLICIES AND PREVIOUS ACTIONS TAKEN:

- Sound Move Plan
- "Principles to Guide RTA Station Area Programs" (Adopted by the ST Board, November 1997)
- 1998 Adopted Budget

KEY FEATURES:

This agreement has individual features unique to City of Tacoma, but is similar to those approved between Sound Transit and the cities of Seattle, Tukwila and SeaTac. These agreements share certain features, including:

- Agreement to work together to implement the project on schedule and within budget
- Agreement on a joint work effort; in an open, collaborative process
- Agreement on approach to reimbursement for services and products

- Agreement on the schedule, deliverables and compensation for the City's station area planning program
- Agreement on responding to City concerns about design, impact mitigation and community involvement.

FUNDING:

Funding for the activities and products for which each of the cities will be reimbursed under this agreement is available within the Link Light Rail Capital Budget adopted by the Board for 1998; and as presumed to be continued in 1999.

ALTERNATIVES:

ST could proceed with design and environmental activities on the Link Light Rail project without a formal agreement based only upon the good will of all parties, and hope that the city would have the staff capabilities to respond in a timely way. However, the risk of delay would be substantial.

CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY:

Delay of approval of the MOAs for another few weeks would not be critical, but indefinite postponement would clearly involve delay risks in overall project approvals, and the cost of construction inflation.

SOUND TRANSIT

RESOLUTION NO. R98-26

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Tacoma.

WHEREAS, in order to develop the Link Light Rail project, agreement will ultimately be needed with the City of Tacoma including agreement on the alignment of tracks, on the location and design of stations, and on the mitigation of any negative impacts. Agreement on these matters is essential because Sound Transit will be asking the City for construction permits and for easements or use agreements allowing construction of light rail on portions of city street rights-of-way. Accordingly, a great deal of time has been spent in discussions with Tacoma staff on how to structure the work program, what activities should be conducted jointly, what activities will be done by each agency separately, schedule of work, and level of staffing required to reach agreement on alignments; and

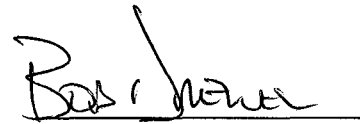
WHEREAS, in addition, Sound Transit has adopted principles for station area planning, and has asked the City of Tacoma to undertake a thoughtful station area planning program in concert with our project development activities, and to encourage transit oriented development. Station area planning work also needs to be coordinated with project development. Agreement is needed to put into effect the partnership concept called for in Sound Move; and

WHEREAS, the attached Memorandum of Agreement provides for a joint work program of Sound Transit and the City of Tacoma during Link Light Rail project

development, and further provides compensation to the City for Station Area Planning work products:

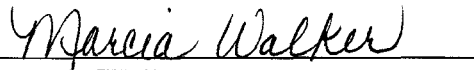
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director be authorized to sign the attached Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Tacoma.

ADOPTED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 23rd day of July 1998.



Bob Drewel
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator