

**Sound Transit
Finance Committee Summary Minutes**

February 4, 1999

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 by Committee Chair Greg Nickels.

Attendance

(P) Greg Nickels, Chair	(P) Rob McKenna
(P) Mary Gates	(P) Paul Miller
(P) Dave Enslow	(P) Cynthia Sullivan
(P) Ed Hansen	

Report of the Chair

None.

Finance Director Report

None

Minutes of January 21, 1999 Finance Committee Meeting

It was moved by Ms. Sullivan and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the minutes of January 21, 1999 Finance Committee meeting be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R99-2 - Establishing fare policy and establishing pricing for fares related to Sound Transit public transportation services

Ms. Barbara Gilliland, Systems Integration Program Manager, stated that she wanted to propose going through a decision tree on the issues that were outstanding at the end of the last meeting. She referenced the presentation staff put together to go through each of the issues (copy on file). She stated that the areas of concern at the end of the last meeting were zonal structure, full fare charges, youth fares, senior fares, and Route 226.

Zonal Structure

Ms. Gilliland stated that staff recommends Zonal Option 2 and pointed out the mileage comparison in the presentation.

It was moved by Ms. Sullivan that Resolution No. R99-2, Zonal Option #2, be approved as presented.

Mr. Enslow stated that he has difficulty supporting the zone boundaries with Everett having a two-zone route to Seattle, and Tacoma and Sumner areas have a three-zone route to Seattle.

Mr. Miller agreed with Mr. Enslow that it feels like an inequity, but doesn't feel there is a solution.

Following discussion, Mr. Nickels asked for a vote on the Zonal Option #2 motion.

The motion to approve Resolution No. R99-2, Zonal Option #2, was carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present.

Full Fare Charges

Ms. Gilliland directed the Committee to Page 3 of the presentation which showed the staff recommended fares for Regional Express Services and Sounder given the subarea zone boundaries.

It was moved by Mr. McKenna that Resolution No. R99-2, Full Fare Option, be approved as presented.

Mr. McKenna provided a proposed amendment on Route 226 which is a two-zone trip (copy on file). He stated that this is an existing route that would be taken over by Sound Transit with no change in service. He mentioned that because Route 226 is a two-zone trip, it would go from the current \$1.25 fare to \$2.00 for the same service. He stated that his proposed amendment would have staff develop a plan where fare changes for this route will remain at current levels until improvements in service have been made.

Ms. Gates suggested a friendly amendment to replace the word "current" with the word "applicable."

Mr. McKenna agreed to the friendly amendment to his amendment.

It was moved by Mr. McKenna and carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present that the Amendment, with the word "current" changed to "applicable," be approved as presented.

Youth Fares

Mr. Nickels brought the Committee's attention to the sheet entitled, "Potential Amendments to Resolution No. R99-2" and stated his support of the youth discount. He advised that Amendment #2 outlined a method for providing a youth discount.

It was moved by Mr. McKenna that Resolution No. R99-2, Amendment #2 providing a reduced youth fare, be approved as presented.

Mr. Don Billen, Systems Integration Project Coordinator, stated that the youth fare being proposed is consistent with the Metro youth fare, the Pierce Transit youth fare, and the Community Transit youth fare for local service.

The motion to approve Resolution No. R99-2, Amendment #2 youth fares, was carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present.

Mr. Nickels asked if there were any further amendments to Resolution No. R99-2.

Mr. Hansen questioned the difference in fares between Sounder and Regional Express and how a rider would go between the two systems.

Mr. Billen stated that the Sounder pass would be good on any of the bus routes in the region without additional payment. If the rider purchased a Regional Express pass and decided to take the Sounder commuter rail, the rider would pay the difference. The commuter rail would be a higher cost because it provides greater amenities and the operating costs are higher.

It was moved by Ms. Gates, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present that Resolution No. R99-2, as amended, be forwarded to the Board with a do pass recommendation.

Motion No. M99-7 - Authorizing the Executive Director to execute an Interim Regional Pass and Fare Reconciliation Program Agreement between the transit agencies of Pierce Transit, King County Metro Transit, Community Transit, Everett Transit, and Sound Transit

It was moved by Mr. Miller and carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present that

Motion No. M99-7, be forwarded to the Board with a do pass recommendation.

Motion No. M99-2 - Adopting policies to guide grant activities to secure funds that will augment local option tax revenues and fulfill Sound Move financial policies

Ms. Sheila Dezarn, Government Relations Manager, gave an overview of the Motion's movement through the different committees.

She stated that following the last Finance Committee meeting, staff found that Policy #4 is covered in the Financial Plan for *Sound Move* and would recommend it be eliminated from the Motion.

It was moved by Mr. Miller and carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present that Policy #4 be eliminated from Motion No. M99-2.

Mr. Miller addressed Policy #7 and stated that he had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Earling concerning this policy. Mr. Miller handed out a proposed language change which he felt addressed both Mr. Nickels' and Mr. Earling's concerns. The amending language would change the third paragraph of Policy #7 to read as follows:

“Sound Transit will seek opportunities for replacement of local revenues lost as a result of voter passage of Referendum 49, and will explore ways that the state can become a long-term funding partner in *Sound Move*. Examples of this would include full exemption from state sales taxes that would be applied to *Sound Move* construction projects, seeking funds from the High Capacity Transit Account, and/or from the Central Puget Sound Public Transportation Account.”

It was moved by Mr. Miller, that the Amendment proposing language change to Policy #7 be approved as presented for Motion No. M99-2.

Mr. Hansen expressed concern with listing State sales tax as an example in the amendment.

Mr. Nickels stated that he felt it was important to have the examples in the amendment. He stated the he felt the current approach to State funding is very passive and felt examples of directly seeking State support should be included.

Ms. Gates stated that she was in agreement with Mr. Hansen that the examples are not needed in the amendment.

It was moved by Ms. Gates that the Amendment be amended by striking the items starting with “examples” and ending with “account.” The motion was carried by the majority vote of all Committee members present with Ms. Sullivan, Mr. Nickels, and Mr. Miller voting in the minority.

Mr. Miller thanked Mr. Nickels for his attention to this matter and his willingness to work with Mr. Earling on coming up with language for the motion.

It was moved by Mr. Miller and carried by the majority vote of all Committee members present that the Amendment, ending with the word “Move” be approved as presented, with Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Nickels voting in the minority.

It was moved by Mr. Miller that Motion No. M99-2, as amended, be forwarded to the Board with a do pass recommendation. The motion was carried by the majority vote of all Committee members present, with Mr. Nickels voting in the minority.

Resolution No. R99-4 - Amending Resolution Nos. R98-47 and R98-48 which authorized the issuance of sales tax and motor vehicle excise tax bonds in order to clarify certain provisions of such resolutions and assure the highest available ratings on the bonds

Ms. Hendrickson stated that the proposed resolution would cover administrative changes.

It was moved by Ms. Gates and carried by the unanimous vote of all Committee members present that Resolution No. R99-4 be forwarded to the Board with a do pass recommendation.

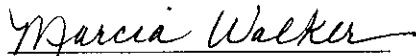
Next Meeting

Thursday, February 18, 1999 from 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. at the King County Council Chambers in the King County Courthouse, 516 Third Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

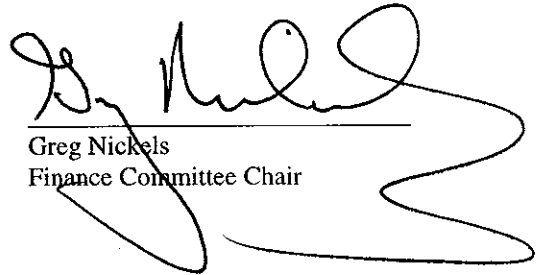
Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator



Greg Nickels
Finance Committee Chair