

**Sound Transit
Executive Committee Summary Minutes**

May 7, 1999

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:57 p.m. by Chair Paul Miller.

Attendance

(P) Paul Miller, Chair	(P) Greg Nickels
(P) Bob Drewel, Vice Chair	(A) Paul Schell
(P) Dave Earling	(A) Ron Sims
(P) Mary Gates	(P) Cynthia Sullivan
(A) Jane Hague	(P) Doug Sutherland
(A) Richard McIver	

Report of the Chair

Mr. Miller reported that agenda item 5A, which would identify the route and station locations of the northern portion of the Tacoma Link light rail line and determine its construction schedule, has been deferred to a future meeting to allow further work with the community. Additionally, he indicated that a workshop on a Project Labor Agreement (PLA) has been scheduled for May 27, just prior to the Board meeting, with Board action expected on June 24.

Executive Director Report

Executive Director White reported that the day prior was Sound Transit's 30-month anniversary since the vote. He indicated that he would send weekly e-mails on various issues to keep Board members updated on important topics. For example, in his recent e-mail update he included a letter from business residents on Capitol Hill. He has scheduled a meeting with them and said he would keep Board members informed.

Finally, Mr. White reported that property in the vicinity of South 200th Street, which is part of four out of five alternatives under evaluation for the light rail alignment, is the subject of a development permit in the City of SeaTac. Staff is sending a letter to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) to see if Sound Transit can use protective acquisition to acquire that property.

Public Comment

Ann Donovan, Secretary of Capitol Hill Community Council and Chair of the Capitol Hill Transportation Committee, indicated that an ad hoc group of Capitol Hill neighborhood, business and community groups have released a public statement regarding the light rail alignment on Capitol Hill. The Capitol Hill community is concerned that the alternatives that are being placed on the table are going to cause unnecessary impacts to the neighborhood which have not been addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS).

Ron Amonson, owner of the Hollywood Video building and the property at 112 Broadway, spoke regarding the light rail alignment on Capitol Hill. He stated that he favors the Broadway alignment. The Post Office on Capitol Hill has been looking for a new facility for over 15 years. He indicated that he's been working with the Post Office for a year and a half on a new facility which would be located at 112 Broadway East, which

would provide the Post Office an updated facility, including a more modern retail store on Broadway and a more modern carrier facility that would be directly at Nagle Place. If the Nagle alignment is chosen, this deal is dead. The Post Office is slated for funding approval this September. They've spent to date several hundred thousand dollars on design and development, and as the property owner, Mr. Amonson indicated that it would represent a loss of the 20 year lease, which would be close to \$5 million. He stated that this would be a significant impact for him, and it would also affect the community on Capitol Hill.

Resolution No. R99-11 - Authorizing the Executive Director to acquire, dispose, or lease certain real property interests by negotiated purchase, by condemnation, by settling condemnation litigation or entering administrative settlements, and to pay eligible relocation and re-establishment benefits to affected parties as necessary for the construction and operation of commuter rail stations at Tukwila, Kent, Puyallup and Tacoma for the Tacoma-to-Seattle commuter rail project

Mr. Larry Ellington, Property Agent, provided background information on the proposed resolution (copy on file).

It was moved by Mr. Nickels, seconded by Mr. Earling and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Resolution No. R99-11 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Motion No. M99-29 - Authorizing and delegating authority to the Executive Director to execute all necessary documents to enter into a five-year lease (with a possible five-year option to extend the same) beginning July 1, 2000, at the proposed Opus West development (adjacent to Union Station) for two entire floors and a portion of a third floor consisting of 58,000 square feet, for co-location of consultants for final design of the Link light rail project, and a short-term interim lease agreement for approximately 30,000 square feet from February 23, 2000 through July 31, 2000

Mr. Paul Bay, Director of Light Rail, and Mr. Bill Houppermans, Civil Engineering Manager, presented the proposed motion to the Committee (copy on file).

Mr. Nickels requested assurance that: 1) no more space would be needed; and 2) that Sound Transit would realize savings on this because of lower overhead.

Mr. White indicated that Mr. Nickels was correct.

It was moved by Mr. Nickels, seconded by Mr. Drewel and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Motion No. M99-29 be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Sound Transit Approach to Increasing Regional Mobility for People with Disabilities and Meeting Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Requirements

Ms. Agnes Govern, Director of Regional Express, and Ms. Gloria Overgaard, Regional Express Implementation Program Manager, indicated that they were seeking the Committee's concurrence with the proposed approach to increasing regional mobility for people with disabilities:

1. With respect to complementary paratransit service, Link light rail service will fully comply with the requirements of the ADA.
2. The commitment to regional mobility for citizens with disabilities expressed in *Sound Move* and in the Regional Express budget is reaffirmed by establishing a process to develop programs, services, or projects to enhance accessibility as follows:

- Acknowledgement that Sound Transit has a responsibility to enhance regional mobility. This responsibility is separate and apart from the absence of an obligation under the ADA to provide complementary paratransit services for Regional Express and *Sounder*.
 - Direction to staff to conduct a public process to share information about Sound Transit with citizens with disabilities and solicit their input on options for enhancing regional mobility.
 - Development of criteria to evaluate and prioritize the suggested programs/projects/services such as the following:
 - Promote regional accessibility
 - Be customer focused
 - Advance Sound Transit's mission
 - Address local concerns
 - Maintain subarea equity
 - Be cost effective
3. Development of a range of options to present to the customers with disabilities so they can provide feedback. The options might include:
- Regional service
 - Regional accessibility/mobility programs
 - Technical assistance to the transit agencies
 - Customer information

Motion No. M99-31 - Establishing a performance rating for Sound Transit for 1998

Mr. Miller recommended that the agency be rated as "exceeds expected efforts with few issues," in the medium range, which would result in a lump sum award of 9%.

It was moved by Mr. Drewel and seconded by Mr. Nickels that the agency be rated as "exceeds expected efforts with few issues," in the medium range, which would result in a lump sum award of 9%.

Ms. Sullivan asked for clarification as to what "medium" means. She indicated that "medium," to her, meant "average" and does not create an incentive in performance.

Mr. Nickels indicated that he would support the motion, stating that the Board has high expectations and that staff is doing a good job. The agency has, in large part, stayed "on time and on budget." He stated that he's had concerns regarding Sound Transit's communication, however. As a Board member, Mr. Nickels stated that he did not feel that the Board has received information needed to make decisions, but that staff is working on this.

Finally, Mr. Nickels pointed out that most governmental agencies do provide cost of living increases as well as step increases; that is not the case at Sound Transit.

Ms. Gates, referring to a memorandum from Mr. Miller on the agency performance evaluation (copy on file), pointed out that a lot of good work has been done in 1998

Executive Director White explained that employees in the agency are rated by their individual performance objectives as well as being rated as an agency as a whole. Employees who rate "unsatisfactory" are not eligible for lump sum awards.

Mr. Sutherland indicated that simply managing the growth of an agency is a difficult task. He stated that the

staff is very talented and has done an outstanding job, which is not to say that there haven't been difficulties.

Mr. Earling indicated that he would support the motion, but that he would have moved the rating up to "high exceeds expectations." He agreed that more effective communication should be a priority.

Mr. Drewel indicated he'd accept an amendment to rate the agency as "high exceeds expectations," which would result in a lump sum award of 10%.

It was moved by Mr. Earling, seconded by Mr. Drewel and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the motion establishing a performance rating for Sound Transit for 1998 be amended so that the agency be rated as "high exceeds expected efforts with few issues," which would result in a lump sum award of 10%.

It was carried unanimously by all members present that Motion No. M99-31, as amended, be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Executive Session

Mr. Miller announced that the Committee would convene an executive session to discuss the performance of employees who report directly to the Board.

The Committee convened an executive session at 3:00, and reconvened its business meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Motion No. M99-30 - Authorizing the Board Chair to amend the employment agreement with the Executive Director and to amend the employment agreement with the Board Administrator

It was moved by Mr. Drewel, seconded by Mr. Earling and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that Motion No. M99-30 stating the Executive Director be brought into the 50% percentile by establishing an annual salary of \$160,000 including \$8,000 deferred compensation; and that the Board Administrator be brought into the 50% percentile by establishing an annual salary of \$89,900, be forwarded to the Board with a do-pass recommendation.

Next Meeting

Friday, June 4, 1999, from 1:30 - 3:00 p.m., at the Sound Transit 4th Floor Conference Room.

Adjourn

As there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.

Recorded by Amy Ebersole
Board Coordinator

Paul E. Miller
Chair

Marcia Walker
Board Administrator