

**SOUND TRANSIT
STAFF REPORT**

MOTION NO. M2001-116

Regional Transit Technology Plan and Assessment Report Contract

Meeting:	Date:	Type of Action:	Staff Contact:	Phone:
Finance Committee	11/1/01	Discussion/Possible Action	Nick Marquardt, Acting Project Manager Policy & Planning Barbara Gilliland, Program Manager	(206) 689-4903 (206) 398-5051

OBJECTIVE OF ACTION

- To authorize the Executive Director to execute a contract with Parsons Brinkerhoff Faradyne.

ACTION

- Authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract with Parsons Brinkerhoff Faradyne in the amount of \$325,850 with a 5% contingency of \$16,293, for the development of a five-year, agency-wide and regional transit technology plan and the completion of an Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$342,143.

KEY FEATURES

Highlights of Action:

- Authorizes the Executive Director to execute a contract with Parsons Brinkerhoff Faradyne Corporation for \$325,850 with 5% contingency of \$16,293, for the development of a five-year, agency-wide and regional transit technology plan and completion of Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$342,143.
- Provides Sound Transit's three lines of business and transit partner agencies with a five-year plan for the development and implementation of transit technology to improve transit services and operating functions. Also, it will provide an assessment of alternative modal technologies that may be implemented in future phases of Sound Move. The Transit Technology Plan and Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report will identify proposed allocations of Research and Technology funds for the year 2002-06 time period.

BUDGET

Total R&T Budget⁽¹⁾	Budget for this task (A)	Expenditures to Date⁽²⁾ (B)	Total Amount Requested (C)	Budget Remaining (A-[B+C])
\$38,736,000	\$567,000	\$224,000	\$342,143	\$857

All figures shown are in YOES\$.

- (1) Lifetime budget amount for Research & Technology project. Reference page 249 of the 2002 Proposed Budget document, project number 410.
- (2) Life-to-date expenditures and outstanding commitments for this task through September 30, 2001, excluding this proposed action.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS

Impact on Current Year Budget: N/A

Impact on Sound Move Budget: N/A

Impact on Cost-to-Complete: N/A

Impact on Subarea(s) Budget(s): N/A

HISTORY OF PROJECT

Sound Move, approved by the voters in 1996, called for an innovation fund to “evaluate and fund innovative ways to provide transit service, reduce dependency on single occupancy vehicles, improve public transportation’s cost-effectiveness, and better respond to customer needs.” This program, now the Research and Technology fund program, evaluates technological innovations such as alternative fuels and propulsion systems, quieter equipment, lighter vehicles, and ways to improve passenger information and comfort.

The Sound Transit Board approved Research and Technology funding for 11 projects for \$1,342,000 on February 24, 2000. Approximately 80% of the total went to seven projects that were to enhance bus systems, Sounder Commuter Rail, and Link Light Rail, and transit agency partners. Sound Transit services and its partner agencies identified these projects. The remaining three projects are for evaluating new technologies that could be applied in future phases of Sound Move. These projects are to be funded by the balance of funds and were identified through a competitive grant process.

On September 17, 1999, the Executive Committee discussed the process for selecting and funding projects. It was recommended that a technology plan be developed to provide a better framework for strategically and effectively identifying projects that meet transit agency goals and objectives for a five-year timeframe, or the balance of the Sound Move plan.

The comprehensive agency-wide and regional transit technology plans will provide for the creation of a five-year strategic array of critical projects that will help the region introduce new technology for bus, commuter rail and light rail systems. The Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report will highlight promising modal technologies that may be introduced and operated by Sound Transit in future phases of Sound Move. The report will identify which

technologies should receive high priority for Research and Technology funding and detailed analysis.

In October of 2000, pursuant to Executive Committee direction to develop a transit technology plan, the Finance Committee approved Motion No. M2000-98 approving a scope of services with the consulting firm of Bucher, Willis and Ratliff (BWR) Corporation. Since this last motion, BWR has been replaced with Parsons Brinkerhoff (PB) Faradyne, the second proposer from the original Request for Proposal submittals. The reasons for this change stem from problems with contract negotiations and the inability to come to agreement for a finalized contract. Staff opted to continue with Parsons Brinkerhoff (PB) Faradyne to provide a five-year plan for developing and implementing transit technology to improve transit services and operating functions for Sound Transit's three lines of business and its transit partner agencies. However, tasks completed by a limited notice to proceed under the original motion did provide the following products:

- A draft Alternative Transit Technology study
- A draft High Capacity Transit Technology Options study, specifically for the Trans-Lake Project
- Initial scoping work for the development of a five-year, agency-wide and regional transit technology plan

The above products will be leveraged into the new tasks to complete under the new contract with PB Faradyne. A recent task completed by PB Faradyne under a Limited Notice to Proceed was the "Trans-Lake Washington Project: High Capacity Transit Technology Options" study. This study is part of the higher level Trans-Lake Washington Project, which is evaluating transit operations along State Route 520 and Interstate 90.

The consultant change will result in no additional budget for the remaining tasks under the prior Motion approved by the Finance Committee. Tasks to complete under the new contract will move forward in two phases with the goal of providing a majority of the tasks by February of 2002 and the final phase of tasks completed in the summer of 2002. In the first phase, PB Faradyne will compile a list of priority technology projects and related costs for those identified projects which will provide a more educated discussion regarding the Research and Technology fund in early 2002.

**Prior Board or Committee Actions
and Relevant Board Policies**

Motion or Resolution Number	Summary of Action	Date of Action
M2000-98	A motion of the Finance Committee to execute a contract with Bucher, Willis and Ratliff Corporation for the agency-wide and Regional Transit Technology Plan and Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$567,000	October 19, 2000

CONSEQUENCES OF DELAY

Postponing action will further constrain an already tight schedule for identifying possible Research and Technology funds for Sound Transit's transit partner agencies in time to meet their respective FY2002 budget deadlines and affect the completion for the Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report.

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION

Staff members from Community Transit, Everett Transit, King County Metro, and Pierce Transit will assist in the Transit Technology Plan development process. The general managers from the transit partner agencies have approved the Plan Purpose Statement and Goals.

Project staff members have been working with the Trans-Lake Washington team to evaluate technology options that cross Lake Washington as part of the Alternative Transit Technology Assessment report process.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Although public input has not been secured up to this point, project staff will place updates on the Regional Transit Technology Group web site to disseminate information on activities and products produced during the project.

LEGAL REVIEW

JDW 10/22/01

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M2001-116

A motion of the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract with Parsons Brinkerhoff Faradyne in the amount of \$325,850 with a 5% contingency of \$16,293, for the development of a five-year, agency-wide and regional transit technology plan and the completion of an Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$342,143.

Background.

In October of 2000, pursuant to Executive Committee direction to develop a transit technology plan, the Finance Committee approved Motion No. M2000-98 approving a scope of services with the consulting firm of Bucher, Willis and Ratliff (BWR) Corporation. Since this last motion, BWR has been replaced with Parsons Brinkerhoff (PB) Faradyne, the second proposer from the original Request for Proposal submittals. The following tasks were completed by a limited notice to proceed under the original Motion and did provide the following products:

- A draft Alternative Transit Technology study
- A draft High Capacity Transit Technology Options study, specifically for the Trans-lake Project
- Initial scoping work with the transit agencies for the development of a five-year agency-wide and regional transit technology plan

Staff opted to continue with Parsons Brinkerhoff (PB) Faradyne to complete the final tasks related to the approved scope of work. The above products will provide the basis to complete the contract as originally outlined. A recent task completed by PB Faradyne under a limited notice to proceed was the "Trans-Lake Washington Project: High Capacity Transit Technology Options" study. This study is part of the larger Trans-Lake Washington Project, which is evaluating transit operations along State Route 520 and Interstate 90.

The consultant change will be completed within the original budget authorized by the Finance Committee on October 19, 2000, in Motion No. M2000-98. The remaining tasks to complete will move forward in two phases. In the first phase, PB Faradyne will compile a list of priority technology projects and related costs for those identified projects which will provide a more educated discussion regarding the Research and Technology fund in early 2002. The second phase will take that Board direction and complete the plan and begin the process for future disbursements of Research and Technology funds.

Motion:

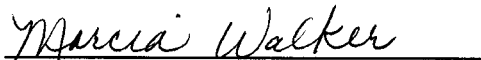
A motion of the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to execute a contract with Parsons Brinkerhoff Faradyne in the amount of \$325,850 with a 5% contingency of \$16,293, for the development of a five-year agency-wide and regional transit technology plans and the completion of an Alternative Transit Technology Assessment Report for a total authorized amount not to exceed \$342,143.

APPROVED by the Finance Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 1st day of November, 2001.



Rob McKenna
Finance Committee Vice Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator