

SOUND TRANSIT CAPITAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Summary Minutes
June 10, 2010

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:46 p.m. by Committee Chair Fred Butler, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

Roll Call

Chair

(P) Fred Butler, Issaquah Deputy Council President

Vice Chair

(P) Julia Patterson, King County Councilmember

Boardmembers

(P) Claudia Balducci, Bellevue Councilmember

(A) Joe Marine, City of Mukilteo Mayor

(A) Richard Conlin, Seattle Council President

(P) Mike McGinn, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) Jan Drago, King County Councilmember

(P) Larry Phillips, King County Councilmember

(P) Jake Fey, City of Tacoma Deputy Mayor

Mr. Adam Bartz, Board Coordinator, announced that a quorum of the Committee was present at roll call.

Report of the Chair

Motion No. M2010-60 was postponed to a future meeting and the Committee was working from a revised agenda.

In April 2010, the Board directed staff to study design options for 112th Avenue and Hospital Station locations for East Link. Sound Transit is engaged in a public outreach process with community workshops at Bellevue City Hall scheduled on June 15, 2010, June 29, 2010, and July 7, 2010. An open house will be held on July 14th at the Bellevue City Hall.

The July Capital Committee meeting has been rescheduled from July 8, 2010 to July 15, 2010.

CEO Report

Joni Earl, CEO, reported that during Bike to Work Month, 84 Sound Transit employees participated in the 2010 Group Health Commute Challenge completing 877 round trips and 10,796 miles. Sound Transit finished ninth in trips and tenth in miles out of 723 participating organizations. The top Sound Transit team finished in second place in trips and ninth place in miles out of 1,600 teams. Fourteen Sound Transit employees biked every day during the competition, including Board Coordinator, Adam Bartz.

On June 11, 2010, the Korean Women's Association (KWA) will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony for its senior center mixed-use building, Sound Transit's first transit oriented development (TOD) project. The development is adjacent to the Federal Way Transit Center and features 61 low-income residential rental units, a manager's unit, and office space for KWA staff. KWA purchased the property from Sound Transit with funding from several sources. Boardmember von Reichbauer will speak at the event.

The North Link final design kick-off meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2010 at the Roosevelt High School Commons from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Staff will present the project alignment and background; demonstrate how the public can get involved; review engineering drawings and recommendations; and talk about next steps.

Reports to the Committee

S. 200th Extension

Ron Lewis, Deputy Executive Director Business Services, presented an update on advancing the extension of Link light rail to S. 200th. Environmental work from Northgate to S. 200th has been completed. The ST2 work schedule had light rail reaching Highline Community College by 2020 and Star Lake by 2023; the acceleration of the S. 200th extension completes the project four to six years ahead of the ST2 schedule.

The project would extend Link 1.6 miles from the current southern terminus of the SeaTac/Airport Station to a new terminus at S. 200th in the City of SeaTac. The S. 200th Extension project has a similar scope, length, functionality and guideway to the Airport Link project that opened in December 2009. The segment has one station located at S. 200th. The project includes a park-and-ride lot with over 600 parking stalls and enhanced pedestrian, bicycle, transit and car access. Preliminary engineering and environmental review have been completed on the project, and the project has a Record of Decision.

The SeaTac/Airport Station terminus has no day use parking. Parking utilization rates at Tukwila International Blvd Station (TIBS) exceed 90%. The Development Agreement with the City of Tukwila requires Sound Transit to monitor the parking utilization at TIBS and mitigate overflow parking, which could potentially require Sound Transit to provide additional parking capacity at TIBS. Parking at S. 200th would alleviate parking pressure at TIBS, particularly with the increase in ridership that will occur with the opening of U-Link in 2016.

The alignment of the project is elevated and runs along 28th Avenue South. SeaTac requested the alignment follow 28th Avenue South rather than International Blvd to complement the City's development plans. As the alignment continues from SeaTac/Airport Station, it runs elevated on Port of Seattle property along 28th Avenue South. Moving south, 28th Avenue South converges toward International Blvd.

An elevated alignment limits disruption of Port circulator roads around the airport. Additionally, an at-grade crossing of S. 188th, an arterial, could disrupt traffic flow and light rail service. The topography along 28th Avenue South creates challenges for an at-grade alignment. The current station design straddles S. 200th, but could change during a value analysis.

Accelerating the project results in an approximate \$40 million funding gap created by spending capital dollars earlier than anticipated and by additional years of operating costs. The objective is to fill that gap with additional grants that were not originally forecast for the project. Sound Transit has already secured \$6 million in new grant funding for the project and other grants are currently being pursued. The current low construction bid climate was not considered with the project funding gap estimates. The next phase for the project includes design refinement and value analysis. The value analysis could close the funding gap.

A design-build delivery method is being considered for the project. The project is a good candidate for design-build due to the similarity of the alignment with the other elevated Link alignments. Several local design and construction firms now have experience working on Sound Transit elevated light rail guideways. Design-build allows Sound Transit to negotiate the final cost of the procurement, mitigates some of the project risks, and accelerates the construction process.

Key stakeholders related to the project include the Port of Seattle, Puget Sound Energy, the City of SeaTac, WSDOT, King County Metro, the City of Tukwila, and the Association of General Contractors.

Sound Transit has not assessed costs vs. ridership on the extension, but the Board will have that information prior to deciding whether to accelerate the project.

The next steps for the project include pursuing and securing grants and procuring design firm and refining design. The design refinements will allow for an updated project cost estimate.

Prior to Board authorization for accelerating the project, approval from the State's Project Review Committee to use the design-build method is required, Sound Transit will negotiate third-party agreements and identify right-of-way needs. The design will be between 30 and 50% and the project will be baselined before the Board's decision, tentatively scheduled for second quarter 2011. If the Board approves project acceleration, Sound Transit will procure a design-build firm and begin construction in 2011. The extension to S. 200th would open in 2015.

The Board will consider the design contract for the project in the third quarter 2010 and Sound Transit will conduct a public engagement process for the project through the design process.

Tacoma Link Public Process

Ms. Earl presented for the public process on the ST2 Tacoma Link extension partnership project. Sound Transit has been working with Pierce Transit and the City of Tacoma to develop the necessary partnership and public process. The agencies will collaborate to examine potential alignments, feasibility, benefits, impacts, ridership, cost estimates and funding plans to extend Tacoma Link. Ultimately, it is the Sound Transit Board's decision to authorize the project. The purpose of the Preliminary Alternatives Analysis study is to research and develop information to better inform the potential for expanding Tacoma Link, engage stakeholders on the expansion process, develop cost estimates and funding mechanisms, and present possible next steps.

Pierce Transit faces a significant funding crisis and is undergoing a system redesign to prevent cutting up to 60% of current service. Pierce Transit's redesign, called PT Tomorrow, has a goal of creating a financially sustainable system.

In 2007, the City of Tacoma conducted a Streetcar Feasibility Study that found an expanded streetcar network in Tacoma was feasible. The Board considered the study results and decided to include the \$80 million Tacoma Link expansion partnership project in ST2.

Sound Transit has been working with Pierce Transit and the Tacoma City Manager on the makeup of a stakeholder group. The group would be comprised of local and regional stakeholders. The goal of the group would be to come to an agreement on a set of priorities and principles, to provide comments on potential alignments based on those priorities and principles, and education of public and decision-makers.

The proposed study areas include north and west toward the hospital or Tacoma Community College, east towards Salishan, and east and north toward Fife and Seattle.

The next steps include beginning work with the stakeholder group and securing the technical consultant. The process may change depending on whether Pierce Transit has a November ballot measure.

Mr. Ilgenfritz stated that ST2 contains \$72 million to conduct preliminary engineering and environmental review for expanding Link from Federal Way to Tacoma and \$40 million for advanced right-of-way acquisition.

Business Items

Routine Items

Minutes of the May 13, 2010 Capital Committee Meeting

It was moved by Committee Vice Chair Patterson, seconded by Boardmember Drago, and carried by the unanimous vote of all members present that the minutes of the May 13, 2010 Capital Committee meeting be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2010-60 - Removed from the agenda

Committee Chair Butler announced that Motion No. M2010-60 was removed from the agenda and postponed to a future meeting.

Non-Routine Items

Motion No. M2010-59 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract with Hoffman Construction Company to provide pre-construction phase services for the University of Washington Station in the amount of \$347,000, with a 10% contingency of \$34,700, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$381,700

Don Davis, Deputy Executive Director Project and Construction Management, and Joe Gildner, Executive Project Director, presented the staff report. Mr. Davis detailed the general contractor/construction management (GC/CM) contracting method and process.

Ahmad Fazel, DECM Executive Director, stated that the GC/CM process is fair, and that the contractor will not be performing the majority of the work, the contractor bids out the remaining work and manages it. The costs and fees are also considered along with a firm's qualifications. Mr. Davis stated that the prime contractor is not allowed to do more than 30% of the work.

Mr. Davis stated the Board will consider the construction contract in the first quarter of 2011 and construction will begin in spring 2011. Ms. Earl clarified that the Board is not required to approve the construction contract if the Board approves this action.

It was moved by Committee Vice Chair Patterson, seconded by Boardmember Drago, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2010-59 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2010-58 – Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract with Pellco Construction, Inc., the lowest responsive and responsible bidder, for construction of the Edmonds Station project in the amount of \$3,112,000, with a 10% contingency of \$311,200, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$3,423,200

Public Comment

Paul W. Locke (comments on file with Board Administration)

It was moved by Boardmember Phillips, seconded by Boardmember Balducci, and carried by the unanimous vote of all Boardmembers present that Motion No. M2010-58 be approved as presented.

Other Business

None.

Next Meeting

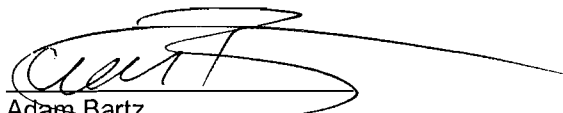
Thursday July 15, 2010
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

Adjourn


The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

APPROVED ON July 15, 2010.

ATTEST:



Adam Bartz
Board Coordinator



Fred Butler
Capital Committee Chair