



**MOTION NO. M2010-79**  
**Master Agreement with King County**

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>TYPE OF ACTION:</b>	<b>STAFF CONTACT:</b>	<b>PHONE:</b>
Operations and Administration Committee	8/19/10	Recommendation to Board	Ahmad Fazel, DECM Executive Director	206-398-5389
Board	8/26/10	Final Action	<b>Jason Suzaka, Project Coordinator, DECM</b>	206-689-3314

**PROPOSED ACTION**

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a master agreement with King County that provides a process for the review and approval of licenses for the use of Sound Transit-owned facilities by King County's RapidRide program.

**KEY FEATURES**

- Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a master agreement that provides a process for the issuance of licenses for King County's use of Sound Transit facilities for the RapidRide program.
- Provides a process for Sound Transit's review and approval of the County's proposed uses, modifications of the Sound Transit facilities, and installation of electronic signs, card readers, and the use of Sound Transit power and communication facilities.
- Supplements the Good Neighbor policy by requiring the County to be responsible for the additional costs of modification, alteration, and installation of its specialized equipment on Sound Transit facilities and the costs of operation and maintenance of such equipment.
- Authorizes the chief executive officer to waive or reduce the normal licensing fees in consideration of the benefits provided by the RapidRide program

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Federal Way Transit Center, Tukwila International Boulevard Station, South 176<sup>th</sup> Street stop, and Bellevue Transit Center are owned by Sound Transit. King County is seeking Sound Transit's permission to use these facilities for its RapidRide program. The two parties have been negotiating and are close to finalizing a master agreement which establishes a process for the review, approval, and issuance of licenses and the general terms and conditions under which the County can construct the program amenities and use the facilities.

RapidRide is a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) program that was created as part of the Transit Now Initiative approved by King County voters in November 2006. King County Metro's RapidRide program will create six BRT lines between 2010 and 2013. The first RapidRide line, the "A" Line, is scheduled to launch on October 2, 2010. It runs from the Federal Way Transit Center to Tukwila/International Boulevard Station via Highway 99 with stops in between, including one at South 176<sup>th</sup> Street, connecting to SeaTac/Airport Station. This line will replace King County Metro Route #174, and essentially doubles the amount of bus service to meet the high demand for transit along this corridor. The "B" Line, which is scheduled to launch in October 2011, runs from Bellevue Transit Center to Redmond Transit Center. The RapidRide buses will arrive at designated stops approximately every ten minutes during rush hour and every fifteen minutes outside the rush hour. The program will have its own distinctive branding on its buses and shelters, and include amenities such as signage, real-time information signs, and ORCA readers.

This agreement supplements the Good Neighbor Policy which is discussed below. The RapidRide program's use of Sound Transit facilities is consistent with Sound Move which encourages the creation of "simple and coordinated connections" at stations or transit centers "where many transportation services come together making transfers and connections convenient and expanding the scope of the entire transportation system."

**FISCAL INFORMATION**

Not applicable to this action.

**SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION**

King County will be the contract administrator for this project and will comply with any small business participation program it has established.

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT WORKFORCE PROFILE**

Not applicable to this action.

**BACKGROUND**

The master agreement will allow King County to use existing Sound Transit facilities needed for the RapidRide program, including the Federal Way Transit Center, South 176<sup>th</sup> Street (the passenger drop-off area connecting to SeaTac/Airport Station), and Tukwila International Boulevard Station to be used for the "A" Line, and Bellevue Transit Center to be used for the "B" Line. This agreement establishes a process for issuing licenses to the County upon approval of the proposed use by Sound Transit and provides the terms and conditions under which King County can use Sound Transit facilities. A separate license for each facility will be issued. The master agreement may be applied to current and future Sound Transit facilities that the RapidRide program plans to use, including planned RapidRide lines.

The County will be responsible for the costs of designing, constructing, and operating and maintaining specific RapidRide related uses and improvements, including signage, real-time information signs, ORCA readers, network communications equipment, and designated bus bays and layover space. The County will be responsible for the administrative costs for review and approval of the County's proposed uses. The normal costs of operating and maintaining the Sound Transit facility will continue to be paid by Sound Transit pursuant to the Good Neighbor Policy. This agreement is necessary because the Good Neighbor Policy does not cover instances where the County may propose exclusive use of designated areas in Sound Transit facilities, the alteration of the facilities, the use of power or communications equipment, or the installation of specialized equipment. The principles of the Good Neighbor Policy will apply to Sound Transit's normal operation and maintenance costs which will continue to be paid by Sound Transit. Under the Good Neighbor Policy, which has been adopted by transit agencies across the region (including King County, Pierce Transit, Community Transit, and Everett Transit), each agency is responsible for the ongoing facility costs (operation and maintenance, mid-life repair, and major asset replacement) of its own facilities even though other agencies may use the facilities.

The County will pay for the cost of alterations and improvements that are required specifically for the RapidRide Program. If the RapidRide Program's uses and improvements require the expansion or modification of the Sound Transit facility, the County will contribute to the additional capital costs, as well as additional operations and maintenance costs. The County will be responsible for obtaining any required permits, environmental documentation, or approvals from the appropriate jurisdiction for the construction, installation, and operation of the RapidRide components, and Sound Transit approval of the County's environmental documentation is required.

Each license issued under the master agreement will establish terms and conditions specific to the facility; such as conditions for the construction, installation, operation and maintenance of improvements, signage, access, and use of existing communications and power facilities. Each license will contain risk allocation provisions including indemnification and insurance provisions. The licensing fee may be reduced to a nominal amount by the chief executive officer to further encourage transit connections.

**ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

King County is the lead agency under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and has completed SEPA review for the RapidRide Program.

JI 8/10/10

**PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

None.

**TIME CONSTRAINTS**

King County plans to launch "A" Line service on October 2, 2010. A delay in approval of this action would consequently delay issuance of license(s) for King County to implement the program components on the bus platforms, such as the real-time information signs and ORCA reader. However, the County would still be able to operate the buses in and out of the ST-owned facilities along this corridor as they currently do via Metro Route #174.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Not applicable to this action.

**LEGAL REVIEW**

BN 8/10/10

**MOTION NO. M2010-79**

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a master agreement with King County that provides a process for the review and approval of licenses for the use of Sound Transit-owned facilities by King County's RapidRide program.

**BACKGROUND:**

The master agreement will allow King County to use existing Sound Transit facilities needed for the RapidRide program, including the Federal Way Transit Center, South 176<sup>th</sup> Street (the passenger drop-off area connecting to SeaTac/Airport Station), and Tukwila International Boulevard Station to be used for the "A" Line, and Bellevue Transit Center to be used for the "B" Line. This agreement establishes a process for issuing licenses to the County upon approval of the proposed use by Sound Transit and provides the terms and conditions under which King County can use Sound Transit facilities. A separate license for each facility will be issued. The master agreement may be applied to current and future Sound Transit facilities that the RapidRide program plans to use, including planned RapidRide lines.

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**MOTION:**

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the chief executive officer is authorized to execute a master agreement with King County that provides a process for the review and approval of licenses for the use of Sound Transit-owned facilities by King County's RapidRide program.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on August 26, 2010.



Fred Butler  
Board Vice Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator