

RESOLUTION NO. R2011-21
2012 Service Implementation Plan

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:	PHONE:
Operations and Administration Committee	12/08/11	Final Action	Bonnie Todd, Director of Operations Mike Bergman, Service Planning Manager	206-398-5367 206-398-5358

PROPOSED ACTION

Adopts the 2012 Service Implementation Plan, authorizes the chief executive officer to implement recommended service changes in 2012 and approves the use of preliminary 2013-2017 service changes for planning and forecasting purposes.

KEY FEATURES

- The Draft 2012 Service Implementation Plan (SIP) includes Sounder and ST Express service changes to be implemented in 2012, and preliminary service plans for 2013 through 2017. This action authorizes implementation of 2012 service changes only. Preliminary bus and rail service changes for 2013-2017 would be approved for planning and forecasting purposes.
- Recommended service changes include the extension of Sounder to South Tacoma and Lakewood; ST Express revisions on routes 578, 586 and 592; ST Express service improvements on routes 510, 511, 578, 590 and 594; and the deletion of ST Express route 593. The Draft SIP proposal to revise Route 574 routing is no longer recommended due opposition to the change . No service changes are proposed for Central Link or Tacoma Link.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Each year, Sound Transit prepares the SIP and an annual update on the development of its express bus, commuter rail and light rail services. The Draft 2012 SIP recommends service changes proposed for 2012, and preliminary service proposals and financial projections for 2013 through 2017. The SIP also contains a detailed status report on each bus and rail route and ridership and productivity performance objectives for the coming calendar year.

FISCAL INFORMATION

The 2012 SIP is funded by the service delivery operations budgets for each service, Sounder, ST Express, Tacoma Link and Central Link. The proposed budgets were developed on the basis of the services described in the 2012 SIP. Those budgets are included in the Proposed 2012 Budget scheduled for Board action on December 15, 2011. Budget authority will be granted with the adoption of the 2012 Budget.

Budget numbers in the following table (shown in \$ thousands) do not include depreciation.

Action Item: Adoption of the 2012 Service Implementation Plan.

Modal Budget	Proposed 2012 Budget (1)
Sounder Commuter Rail	37,734
ST Express Bus	101,409
Tacoma Link Light Rail	4,112
Central Link Light rail	54,189
Service Delivery Contingency	1,455
Total Transit Operations	198,900

Notes

¹ Proposed 2012 budgets can be found on page 33 of the Proposed 2012 Budget book.

SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPATION

Not applicable to this action.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT WORKFORCE PROFILE

Not applicable to this action.

BACKGROUND

Sounder Extension

The Sounder extension to South Tacoma and Lakewood is currently under construction and is expected to be in service in late 2012. This action authorizes implementation of Sounder Lakewood service, providing five morning trains from Lakewood to Seattle and five afternoon return trains from Seattle to Lakewood. Two morning trains and two afternoon trains would continue to start or end at Tacoma Dome Station.

Changes to ST Express Bus Service

To coordinate with the opening of the Lakewood Sounder extension, several changes to ST Express bus service are proposed in the SIP. All trips on **Route 592 DuPont-Lakewood-Seattle** would start or end at DuPont (currently, most trips start and end at Lakewood Station). In addition, Route 592 service levels would be reduced from every 10 minutes to every 15 minutes while routing would be revised to speed service in the northern part of the downtown Seattle. **Route 593 South Tacoma-Seattle** was established as an interim bus route to serve South Tacoma commuters in 2009. The route would be discontinued with the start-up of Sounder service to South Tacoma. These changes would provide improved bus connections with Sounder and open new markets for ST Express while reducing overlap between bus and rail service.

Staff also proposes to discontinue the Puyallup-Tacoma segment of **Route 578 Tacoma-Puyallup-Seattle** to eliminate duplication with Sounder and Pierce Transit bus service operating between Puyallup and Tacoma. Route 578 would receive added weekday evening service and new Sunday service. The segment of **Route 586 Tacoma-University District** between downtown

Tacoma and Tacoma Dome Station would be discontinued since there is frequent alternative service available, including Tacoma Link and Pierce Transit bus routes. Increased peak, midday and “reverse commute” service would be added between Tacoma and Seattle on **Route 590** and **Route 594** in response to ridership growth.

During the past year, ridership on ST Express routes connecting Snohomish County with downtown Seattle has increased by 28 percent, with most of the increase occurring during peak commuter periods. Staff is proposing to increase peak service on **Route 510 Everett-Seattle** and **Route 511 Ash Way-Seattle** to help address standing load conditions on these routes.

Proposed Revision to Draft SIP

The Draft 2012 SIP released in October included a proposed change to **Route 574 Lakewood-SeaTac Airport**. This change would have shifted the route’s southern terminus from Lakewood Transit Center to the Lakewood Sounder Station, where there is a large park-and-ride facility. The purpose of the proposal was to increase park-and-ride options for Route 574 commuters and provide a way for Lakewood riders to access Sounder trains that will continue to start and end in Tacoma. Staff no longer recommends this change due to the relatively large number of Route 574 riders who board at Lakewood Transit Center and the opposition to the proposal received during the public outreach process. ST Express bus service, Routes 592 (peak) and 594 (off peak) will be available for Lakewood commuters during times when no Sounder trains are scheduled to or from Lakewood.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

SSK 11-30-11

PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Resolution No. R2010-25: Adopted the 2011 Service Implementation Plan, authorizing the chief executive officer to implement service changes in 2011 and approving the use of preliminary 2012-2016 service changes for planning purposes.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

A one-month delay would have little impact on the ability to implement the first route changes included in the SIP, which are programmed for June 2012.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Approximately 5,000 copies of *Regional Transit News*, the SIP public information document, were printed and distributed at bus and train stops where service changes were proposed. The Draft SIP and *Regional Transit News* were posted on Sound Transit’s website, and a link to the SIP was e-mailed to the Service Planning mailing list, the general agency mailing list and Commute Trip Reduction representatives at major regional employers. Two open houses were held, one at Lakewood Station and one at Union Station in Seattle, and a public hearing was held on November 3, 2011.

LEGAL REVIEW

JW 12/1/2011

RESOLUTION NO. R2011-21

A RESOLUTION of the Operations and Administration Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority adopting the 2012 Service Implementation Plan, authorizing the chief executive officer to implement recommended service changes in 2012 and approving the use of preliminary 2013-2017 service changes for planning and forecasting purposes.

WHEREAS, the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority, commonly known as Sound Transit, was formed under RCW Chapters 81.104 and 81.112 for the Pierce, King, and Snohomish Counties region by action of their respective county councils pursuant to RCW 81.112.030; and

WHEREAS, Sound Transit is authorized to plan, construct, and permanently operate a high-capacity system of transportation infrastructure and services to meet regional public transportation needs in the Central Puget Sound region; and

WHEREAS, in general elections held within the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority district on November 5, 1996 and November 4, 2008, voters approved local funding to implement a regional high-capacity transportation system for the Central Puget Sound region; and

WHEREAS, express bus, commuter rail and light rail services will be implemented in phases, providing a program for route implementation and service increases over time which meet the commitment in Sound Move and Sound Transit 2; and

WHEREAS, the proposed service changes included in the 2012 Service Implementation Plan are consistent with the 2012 Agency Budget and Long-Range Financial Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Operations and Administration Committee of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the 2012 Service Implementation Plan is adopted, the use of the preliminary 2013-2017 service changes for planning and forecasting purposes is approved, and the chief executive officer is authorized to implement the 2012 service changes included in the plan as described below:

ST Express Bus

1. **Route 510 Everett-Seattle:** Add five new trips during peak demand periods to address overcrowding.
2. **Route 511 Ash Way-Seattle:** Add two new trips during peak demand periods to address overcrowding.
3. **Route 578 Tacoma-Puyallup-Seattle:** Delete the segment of Route 578 between Puyallup Station and downtown Tacoma; add a new southbound trip from Seattle to Puyallup on weekday evenings; implement new hourly Sunday service.
4. **Route 586 Tacoma-University District:** Delete the segment of Route 586 between downtown Tacoma and Tacoma Dome Station.
5. **Route 590 Tacoma-Seattle:** In combination with the existing Route 594 schedule, increase weekday Tacoma-to-Seattle service from every 30 minutes to every 15 minutes from about 9:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. and from about 3:45 P.M. to 4:45 P.M. Increase weekday Seattle-to-Tacoma service from every 30 minutes to every 15 minutes from about 6:45 A.M. to 7:15 A.M., and add selected southbound trips during the afternoon peak between 2:30 P.M. and 6:30 P.M. to address overcrowding.
6. **Route 592 DuPont-Lakewood-Seattle:** Start and end all trips at DuPont Station; reduce service levels from every 10 minutes to every 15 minutes; modify A.M. routing to operate non-stop via I-5 from SR 512 Park-and-Ride to 5th & Seneca in downtown Seattle, then via Seneca Street, 4th Avenue, Olive Way and Howell Street; In the P.M., use existing Seattle routing to 2nd Avenue & Washington Street, then operate non-stop to SR 512 Park-and-Ride via I-5.
7. **Route 593 South Tacoma-Tacoma-Seattle:** Delete Route 593 with the start-up of Sounder commuter rail service to South Tacoma; convert Route 593 trips to Route 590 trips operating between Tacoma Dome Station and Seattle.
8. **Route 594 Lakewood-Tacoma-Seattle:** Add three new trips during the midday and early evening to address overcrowding.

Sounder Commuter Rail

Initiate service to South Tacoma and Lakewood with five A.M. peak northbound trains from Lakewood to Seattle and five P.M. peak southbound trains from Seattle to Lakewood. Two A.M. peak northbound trains will continue to start in Tacoma, and two P.M. southbound peak trains will continue to end in Tacoma.

ADOPTED by the Sound Transit Operations and Administration Committee at a regular meeting thereof held on December 8, 2011.



Dave Enslow
Operations and Administration Committee Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator