

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes

January 23, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:37 p.m. by Chair Dow Constantine, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Chair

(P) Dow Constantine, King County Executive

Vice Chairs

(A) Marilyn Strickland, City of Tacoma Mayor

(P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

Boardmembers

(A) Claudia Balducci, City of Bellevue Mayor

(P) Fred Butler, City of Issaquah Mayor

(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Mayor

(P) David Enslow, City of Sumner Mayor

(P) John Lovick, Snohomish County Executive

(A) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor

(P) Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive

(P) Joe McDermott, King County Council Vice Chair

(A) Ed Murray, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) Mary Moss, Lakewood Councilmember

(P) Mike O'Brien, Seattle Councilmember

(P) Lynn Peterson, WSDOT Secretary

(P) Larry Phillips, King County Council Chair

(P) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember

(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember

Ms. Marcia Walker, Board Administrator announced that a quorum of the Board was present at roll call.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Constantine welcomed three new Boardmembers, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray, Seattle City Councilmember Mike O'Brien, and King County Councilmember Dave Upthegrove. Chair Constantine also recognized Pierce County Executive Pat McCarthy for her leadership as Board Chair over the last two years.

Chair Constantine reviewed his board priorities for the coming year and spoke about the importance of regionalism. The delivery of ST2 infrastructure is a major priority. Light rail development and construction continues to the north, south, and east through 12 cities; in a few years, 36 miles of light rail will be under construction.

In addition to project delivery, focusing on the future is also a priority. Sound Transit must find ways to sustainably fund transit service around the region. Transit is a way to address income inequality and environmental challenges such as climate change. King County Metro is moving forward with a plan to fund bus service in the absence of action on transportation in the state legislature. The Sound Transit Board must also begin exploring options for Sound Transit's future and determine how the next phase of investments in the regional transit system can be funded. The Board will continue to work on updating the Long Range Plan and begin planning for the next set of regional investments.

The Board will also focus on integration with Sound Transit partners throughout the region, including the local jurisdictions where Sound Transit builds projects and operates service, and with community groups and advocates, customers, the Washington State Department of Transportation and transit agency partners. Integration and coordination will benefit customers and help the entire transportation system work more efficiently. The public expects a regional system that works regardless of which agency operates the service. We will work to find efficiencies and new ways to provide quality transportation options.

Community development is also an important factor as the Board talks about building transit infrastructure and delivering the system. This year, Central Link will celebrate its fifth anniversary and there are positive changes and growth in neighborhoods around stations. As Sound Transit matures, the Board must engage in

building community, place-making, and helping cities realize their goals. Board adoption of a new Transit-Oriented Development Policy, System Access Policy, and Excess Property Policy, positions the agency to do this. He asked all Boardmembers to work together to show regional leadership, build the transit system, be good community partners and good stewards of public resources.

Committee Appointments

Chair Constantine noted that the work of the Committees will continue to be significant in the Board's decision-making. He asked the Board to approve his recommendations for committee chairs, vice chairs, and members outlined in Motion No. M2014-03.

Executive Committee

Dow Constantine, Chair
Paul Roberts, Vice Chair
Marilyn Strickland, Vice Chair
Fred Butler
John Lovick
Pat McCarthy
Ed Murray
Lynn Peterson
Larry Phillips

Capital Committee

Fred Butler, Chair
Joe McDermott, Vice Chair
Claudia Balducci
Dave Earling
John Marchione
Pat McCarthy
Mike O'Brien
Dave Upthegrove

Operations and Administration Committee

Paul Roberts, Chair
John Marchione, Vice Chair
Dave Earling
Dave Enslow
Mary Moss
Dave Upthegrove
Pete von Reichbauer

Audit and Reporting Committee

Larry Phillips, Chair
Dave Enslow, Vice Chair
John Lovick
Joe McDermott
Mary Moss
Mike O'Brien
Josh Benaloh, Citizen Oversight Panel

It was moved by Vice Chair Roberts, seconded by Boardmember McCarthy, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2014-03 be approved as presented.

Chair Constantine noted that Boardmember packets include a 2014 Board Resource Book. Marcia Walker, Board Administrator reviewed the resource book contents.

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Mike Harbour, Deputy CEO, provided an update on the Parking Management Pilot project that began January 2, 2014. The project set up permits for select spaces at four Sound Transit facilities: Mukilteo Station, Issaquah Transit Center, Tukwila International Boulevard Station, and Sumner Station. Mr. Harbour noted that nearly all of the Single Occupant Vehicle permits have been sold, but there has been less demand for the HOV permits. The permits are valid through April; customers will then have the option to renew their permits for an additional three months, after which time the pilot will end.

Two additional parking management strategies will also be tested this year – one to encourage efficient use of parking facilities by rideshare groups and the other to monitor parking availability for real-time reporting to customers. Staff has developed an evaluation plan for all three pilot elements and is in the process of collecting baseline data at each pilot facility.

Staff will report back after the permits have been in effect for three months, and an evaluation report on all three pilot project elements will be presented to Boardmembers at the end of the year.

PRESENTATION ON 2013 AND 2014 SOUND TRANSIT MILESTONES

Mr. Harbour gave a presentation covering 2013 and 2014 agency milestones. This is the 13th year in a row that Sound Transit has announced its milestones. The milestones provide accountability for Sound Transit allow the public to track the agency's progress. Sound Transit reached 30 out of 34 agency milestones in 2013, for an 88% completion rate. Thirty million passengers were carried on Sound Transit trains and buses last year, the highest ridership in the agency's history.

Sound Transit's capital program remained strong in 2013; tunneling was completed for University Link and an early opening was announced for six to nine months earlier in 2016 than originally planned. Construction began for the South 200th Link Extension and the Sound Transit Board identified a preferred alternative to the Lynnwood Link Extension.

On the service side, there were significant improvements last year including the launch of another Sounder round-trip between Lakewood and Seattle and the start of ST Express route 567 between Kent and the Overlake Transit Center in Bellevue. Changes were made to extend ST Express route 592 so passengers can travel to Olympia, and Tacoma Link celebrated its 10th anniversary.

He also noted that Sound Transit has sustainability milestones and has maintained its ISO 14,001 certification.

There were four milestones that Sound Transit missed for 2013: Alternatives defined for Puyallup and Sumner station improvements, Draft EIS published for Link O&M Satellite Facility, U District Station pre-construction work begins, and Issuing the Capitol Hill TOD Request for Qualifications. The last milestone will be completed at the end of this month. The other three milestones will be underway in 2014.

For 2014, 34 milestones have been established in four major themes—focusing on Sound Transit's mission, increasing ridership, continuously improving business practices, and looking to the future. 2014 work will include continuing to plan and build light rail extensions north, south and east. Sound Transit will provide 793,000 hours of service on trains and buses, and the agency will continue to use value engineering and alternative project delivery methods to maximize efficiencies and savings. The Board will also consider updating the Long Range Plan.

Sound Transit expects to carry more than 31 million passengers in 2014 on trains and buses. Five double deck buses and 17 compressed natural gas buses will be purchased for the Sound Transit fleet along with 22 new articulated buses. The First Hill Streetcar will begin carrying passengers in late 2014. Construction work will continue on several major projects approved by voters. Tunneling will begin on the Northgate Link Extension and the University of Washington Station for University Link will be substantially complete. The first East Link construction management contract will be awarded and the project schedule and budget will be adopted by the Board. Construction will also begin on the third stage of the I-90 Two Way Transit and HOV Operations project that is needed for East Link. Construction of the permanent Sounder station in Tukwila will be substantially completed.

Sound Transit will also focus on planning for the future during 2014. The agency expects to make great progress in planning the regional system this year. Alternatives will be identified for the Tacoma Link Expansion environmental review, a preferred site will be identified for the Link Operations and Maintenance Satellite Facility and the Board will identify access improvements for the Sumner and Puyallup Sounder stations.

Sound Transit milestones reflect the agency's commitment to sustainability and transit-oriented development. Two Sounder locomotives will be upgraded to Tier 3 emissions standards and a pilot project will take place to teach bus drives how to save fuel to reduce diesel consumption. Finalists will be selected for transit-oriented development at the Capitol Hill light rail station. The agency's sustainability plan will also be updated in 2014 to reflect the new year. With all the projects and work ahead of the agency, 2014 is shaping up into an exciting and challenging year. Boardmember packets also include the 2014 Sustainability Targets.

Boardmember Phillips also asked that Sound Transit look at improving sustainability in construction practices, contracting and other elements of agency work to help reduce the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Constantine outlined expectations for public comment for the rest of the year. He explained that citizen comments are an important part of the Sound Transit public process, so anyone from the public wishing to comment will have the opportunity to do so, but only on items that are before the Board for final action. People who wish to address the Board should fill out a public comment sheet and give it to a Board Administration staff member before the meeting starts. Public comment sheets are available outside the Boardroom and on the Sound Transit website. Once the meeting has been called to order, the sheets will be removed. Only those who fill out a form will be called on to address the Board.

Depending on the agenda and the number of people signed up to comment, the length of public comment will be two or three minutes. If a group wishes to have a designated representative address the Board they will be allowed 5 minutes to do so, as long as only one person speaks and at least one other member of the group is present. Comments must be on a specific action item on the agenda and addressed to the Board as a whole, and not to individual Boardmembers. Personal attacks, derogatory remarks and obscene language will not be permitted. If the Chair feels that a speaker is out of order, that speaker will be asked to conclude their remarks and return to their seat. If the speaker does not comply, they will be asked to leave the Boardroom.

The Board takes comments seriously, and factors them into decision-making. The Board thanks members of the public for taking the time to provide comment during meetings.

Alex Zimmerman, StandUP-America (Comments on file with the Board Administrator)

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the September 26, 2013 Board Meeting
Minutes of the October 24, 2013 Board Meeting
Minutes of the November 21, 2013 Board Meeting
Minutes of the December 19, 2013 Board Meeting

It was moved by Boardmember McCarthy, seconded by Boardmember Butler, and carried by unanimous vote that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Items not referred by Committee

Motion No. M2014-01: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an amendment to the existing lease at Overlake Transit Center with Microsoft Corporation to extend the term of the lease for an additional five year period.

Nancy Bennett, Property Management Manager, gave the staff presentation.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Phillips, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2014-01 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2014-02: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an amendment to the existing lease located at Overlake Transit Center with Pedal Dynamics, Inc. to extend the term of the lease.

Nancy Bennett, Property Management Manager, gave the staff presentation.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Phillips, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2014-02 be approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 27, 2014
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 p.m.


Dow Constantine
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator

APPROVED on February 27, 2014, KWF