

**MOTION NO. M2014-64**

**Preferred Alternative for the Puyallup Station Access Improvement Project**

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>TYPE OF ACTION:</b>	<b>STAFF CONTACT:</b>
Capital Committee	8/14/14	Recommendation to Board	Ric Ilgenfritz, PEPD Executive Director Michael Williams, Deputy Executive Director, Capital Project Development
Board	8/28/14	Final Action	<b>Nytasha Sowers, Capital Project Development</b>

**PROPOSED ACTION**

(1) Identifies the Preferred Alternative for the Puyallup Station Access Improvements Project to advance into environmental review, and; (2) approves Gate 2: Identify Alternatives and Gate 3: Identify Preferred Alternative within Sound Transit’s Phase Gate process.

**KEY FEATURES SUMMARY**

- This action identifies the preferred package of parking and access improvements developed for the Puyallup Station Access Improvements Project and advances the preferred package through environmental review and conceptual engineering.
- The Board will not make a final decision on the project to be built until after completion of the environmental review, which is anticipated in late 2015.
- This action authorizes Gate 2: Identification of Alternatives and Gate 3: Identification of Preferred Alternative.
- There are six different alternatives presented to the Sound Transit Board for consideration and advancement to the environmental review and Conceptual Engineering phase. The packages are identified as Package A through F and are listed below:
  - Package A: Shaw Road and Red Lot
    - Shaw Road surface lot: 400 spaces
    - Red lot lease expansion: Additional 200 spaces (no additional bus service)
    - New access street to Shaw Road lot
    - Bus service from Shaw Road lot (unfunded and service provider not identified)
  - Package B: Red Lot and Gold Lot and Eagles Lot
    - Gold lot lease: 320 spaces
    - Red lot lease expansion: Additional 200 spaces (no additional bus service)
    - Eagles surface lot: Add 80 spaces for a total of 148 spaces
    - Bus shuttle from Gold lot (service provider not identified)
    - Pedestrian crossing improvements at 5th Street NW
  - Package C: Large Eagles Garage
    - Eagles garage (3-1/2 stories): 600 spaces
    - Additional pedestrian bridge across 5th Street NW
  - Package D: Large Transit Center Garage
    - Transit Center garage (4-1/2 stories): total 750 spaces
  - Package E: Small Transit Center Garage and Red Lot
    - Transit Center garage (4-1/2 stories): total 460 spaces
    - Red lot lease expansion: Additional 250 spaces (no additional bus service)
  - Package F: Cornforth Campbell Garage and Eagles Garage
    - Cornforth Campbell garage (3-1/2 stories): 300 spaces
    - Eagles garage (3-1/2 stories): 300 spaces
    - Additional pedestrian bridge across 5th Street NW

- Each of the preferred package of parking and access improvements include the following additional improvements:
  - Pedestrian/bike bridge over railroad crossing at station
  - Station area traffic signal improvements
  - Station area intersection, sidewalk, and lighting improvements for pedestrians
  - Bike route improvements on W Stewart Ave, W Main Ave, 7th Ave SW, 5th Street SW, and 4th Street NW
  - Additional bike storage at station

**BACKGROUND**

In November 2008, the voter-approved ST2 Plan included funding for access improvements to the Puyallup Sounder Station. During the process of refining the projects included in the ST2 plan, the ST Board responded to community concerns by calling for a Sounder Access and Demand Study. The Study evaluated potential access improvements to eight existing Sounder stations including Puyallup. The study provided a range of potential access improvement projects that Sound Transit could implement in full or in part, that would allow riders to use alternative modes of travel to the Puyallup Station.

The Puyallup Station Access Improvements Project builds on the results of the Sounder Station Access and Demand Study. Phase 1 of the study evaluated parking, traffic, pedestrian and bicycle access improvements that could be made to improve rider access to the Puyallup Station. The study performed under Phase 1 led to the various packages of parking and access improvements that are being advanced to the Board for identification of a preferred alternative.

Sounder service between Puyallup and Seattle continues to experience growth in demand. Over 1,000 people each day ride a Sounder train or ST Express bus from the Puyallup Station and predicts about a 70 percent increase in ridership by 2035.

The parking lots at the Puyallup Station operate at or above capacity daily. Puyallup community members and our customers are asking Sound Transit to better manage available parking at stations and the impact to local streets and downtown associated with expanded parking near commuter rail stations.

**PROJECT STATUS in SOUND TRANSIT’S PHASE GATE PROCESS**

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Project Identification	Alternatives Identification	Conceptual Engineering	Preliminary Engineering	Final Design	Construction

Projected Completion Date for Project Identification is Q3 2014. Project scope, schedule and budget summary included in the July 2014 Agency Progress Report

**FISCAL INFORMATION**

This action identifies the preferred package of parking and access improvements developed for the project and advances the preferred alternative through environmental review and conceptual engineering. Budget to complete the next phase of work is being requested through separate action.

## **SMALL BUSINESS/DBE PARTICIPATION AND APPRENTICESHIP UTILIZATION**

Not applicable to this action.

## **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

Extensive public involvement has occurred since project development was initiated in early 2013. The main focus during the Project Identification phase of the project was to develop access improvement options that addressed both the needs of the transit riders accessing the Puyallup Station and the concerns of community members regarding their quality of life. Public involvement activities included:

- Two open houses were attended by over 120 people in total. The first meeting in February 2014 focused on gathering input on all potential pedestrian, bike, and parking improvement options for the station. After the first meeting improvement options were refined six packages were created – which differed by potential parking locations. The second open house in May 2014 collected input on package preferences and concerns;
- Open house notification postcards were distributed to all residents within 5 miles of the Puyallup station. Other notifications were made through newspaper and web advertisements, the City of Puyallup website, and an electronic community newsletter;
- Two on-line web-based surveys were available during and two weeks after each open house;
- Prior to the second open house, Sound Transit hand delivered open house notifications and posters to local businesses and property owners, inviting them to attend the open house;
- Sound Transit gave a total of seven presentations to the Puyallup City Council during the course of this phase of the project to ensure the Council was informed and engaged in the development of access improvement packages;
- Sound Transit also convened a Stakeholder Roundtable to gather feedback on proposed improvements. This community-based forum met five times and consisted of stakeholders representing the City Planning Commission, Sound Transit riders, Puyallup residents, and Puyallup business owners;
- Project presentations were also given to a number of community groups including the Puyallup Rotary Club, Daffodil Valley Kiwanis Club and the Puyallup Main Street Association.

## **TIME CONSTRAINTS**

A one month delay would not create a significant impact to the project schedule.

## **PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS**

Motion No. M2010-70: Authorized contract with URS Corporation to provide planning consulting services for the station access and demand study in the amount of \$698,194 with a 10% contingency of \$69,819, for a total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$768,013.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

JI 8/7/2014

## **LEGAL REVIEW**

PW 8/11/14

Motion No. M2014-64  
Staff Report

## **MOTION NO. M2014-64**

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority (1) Identifying the Preferred Alternative for the Puyallup Station Access Improvements Project to advance into environmental review, and; (2) approving Gate 2: Identify Alternatives and Gate 3: Identify Preferred Alternative within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process.

### **BACKGROUND:**

In November 2008, the voter-approved ST2 Plan included funding for access improvements to the Puyallup Sounder Station. During the process of refining the projects included in the ST2 plan, the ST Board responded to community concerns by calling for a Sounder Access and Demand Study. The Study evaluated potential access improvements to eight existing Sounder stations including Puyallup. The study provided a range of potential access improvement projects that Sound Transit could implement in full or in part, that would allow riders to use alternative modes of travel to the Puyallup Station.

The Puyallup Station Access Improvements Project builds on the results of the Sounder Station Access and Demand Study. Phase 1 of the study evaluated parking, traffic, pedestrian and bicycle access improvements that could be made to improve rider access to the Puyallup Station. The study performed under Phase 1 led to the various packages of parking and access improvements that are being advanced to the Board for identification of a preferred alternative.

Sounder service between Puyallup and Seattle continues to experience growth in demand. Over 1,000 people each day ride a Sounder train or ST Express bus from the Puyallup Station and predicts about a 70 percent increase in ridership by 2035.

The parking lots at the Puyallup Station operate at or above capacity daily. Puyallup community members and our customers are asking Sound Transit to better manage available parking at stations and the impact to local streets and downtown associated with expanded parking near commuter rail stations.

There are six different alternatives presented to the Sound Transit Board for consideration and advancement to the environmental review and Conceptual Engineering phase. The Board will not make a final decision on the project to be built until after completion of the environmental review, which is anticipated in late 2015.

### **MOTION:**

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that (1) the Preferred Alternative for the Puyallup Station Access Improvements Project to advance into environmental review is identified, and; (2) Gate 2: Identify Alternatives and Gate 3: Identify Preferred Alternative are approved within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process.

The Sound Transit Board identifies for environmental review and preliminary engineering:  
Package C: Large Eagles Garage with the following modifications:

- A parking garage at the Eagles site with approximately 420 spaces and a pedestrian overpass from the garage to the Sounder Station
- Surface parking along the north side of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North West
- Additional leased parking at the Red Lot

Pedestrian and bicycle improvements including:

- Strategic station area traffic signal improvements
- Pedestrian/bike bridge over the railroad tracks at the station
- Pedestrian/bike bridge over 5<sup>th</sup> Street NW to facilitate access to and from the Eagle's garage to the station
- Sidewalk and ADA curb ramp improvements on West Main Avenue, West Pioneer Ave, North Meridian Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest and 5<sup>th</sup> Street Southwest
- Bike routes improvements on West Stewart Avenue, West Main Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Southwest and 4<sup>th</sup> Street Northwest
- Additional bike storage at the station

Sound Transit should consider opportunities for public parking in the station garage on weekends, holidays and for special events.

Sound Transit should engage in a partnership with downtown Puyallup businesses to encourage Sounder riders to frequent local businesses.

Sound Transit will support a partnership with WSDOT and the cities of Puyallup and Sumner to fund multi-modal improvements to the SR410 interchange. Automobile, pedestrian, bicycle and bus access to the transit center garage could be greatly improved by modifications to this interchange.

Sound Transit should make a financial contribution to the project tied to pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access to station, if other funding can be identified, consistent with the ST2 cost estimate.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on August 28, 2014.



Dow Constantine  
Board Chair

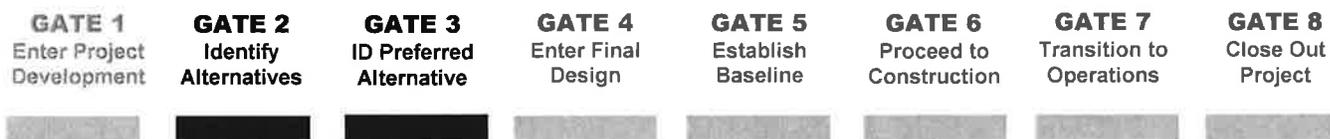
ATTEST:



Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator

**PHASE GATE ACTION**  
**Puyallup Station Access Improvement Project**

<b>MEETING:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>	<b>STAFF CONTACT:</b>
Board	8/28/14	Ric Ilgenfritz, PEPD Executive Director Michael Williams, Deputy Executive Director, Capital Project Development <b>Nytasha Sowers, Capital Project Development</b>



**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approve Gates 2 and 3 for the Puyallup Station Access Improvement Project to advance into conceptual engineering, environmental review and preliminary engineering.

**PROJECT BUDGET**

Adopted Project Budget (through preliminary engineering) : \$3,547,000 (2014\$)

Estimated Final Project Cost: \$56 million (2014\$)

**PROJECT SCHEDULE**

Schedule to complete preliminary engineering: 2016

Estimated Project Completion: 2020

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

In November 2008, the voter-approved ST2 Plan included funding for access improvements to the Puyallup Sounder Station. During the process of refining the projects included in the ST2 plan, the Sound Transit Board responded to community concerns by calling for a Sounder Access and Demand Study. The study evaluated potential access improvements to eight existing Sounder stations, including Puyallup. The study provided a range of potential access improvement projects that Sound Transit could implement in full or in part that would allow riders to use alternative modes of travel to the Puyallup Station.

The Puyallup Station Access Improvement Project builds on the results of the Sounder Station Access and Demand Study. Phase 1 of the project further studies parking, traffic, pedestrian and bicycle access improvements that could be made to improve rider access to the Puyallup Station. The study performed under Phase 1 will inform the Sound Transit Board's identification of a comprehensive program of specific station access improvements.

The potential improvements under consideration for Board action and advancement to the environmental review and conceptual engineering phase include: an additional 400 to 600 parking stalls in a parking garage and/or surface lot. There are six different parking alternatives presented for Board consideration. The packages are identified as Package A through F.

Each package includes the same following pedestrian and bicycle improvements: a pedestrian/bicycle bridge over railroad crossing at station; station area traffic signal improvements; station area intersection, sidewalk, and lighting improvements for pedestrians; bicycle route improvements on W Stewart Ave, W Main Ave, 7th Ave SW, 5th Street SW, and 4th Street NW;

and added bicycle storage at station. The specific location of traffic improvements may vary based upon the Board's identified site(s) for additional parking.

The Board is expected to identify a preferred set of improvements to be taken into Phases 2 and 3 of the project. Sound Transit and Parametrix executed a professional services contract in May 2013 to authorize Phase 1 services. The original contract includes the general scope of Phase 2 and 3, the subject of this action request. Phase 2 of the project will complete the conceptual engineering and environmental review process. Phase 3 of the project will complete preliminary engineering for the project.

This action approves Gates 2: Identifying Alternatives and Gate 3: Identifying Preferred Alternative and completion of preliminary engineering.

**ACTION APPROVED**



Dow Constantine  
Board Chair

August 28, 2014

Date