

RESOLUTION NO. R2014-32
2015 Service Implementation Plan

MEETING:	DATE:	TYPE OF ACTION:	STAFF CONTACT:
Operations and Administration Committee	12/04/14	Recommend to Board	Bonnie Todd, Director of Operations
Board	12/18/14	Final Action	Mike Bergman, Service Planning Manager

PROPOSED ACTION

Adopts the 2015 Service Implementation Plan, authorizes the chief executive officer to implement recommended service changes in 2015.

KEY FEATURES SUMMARY

- The Draft 2015 Service Implementation Plan (SIP) includes ST Express service changes to be implemented in 2015, and preliminary service plans for 2016 through 2020. This action authorizes implementation of the 2015 service changes only. Preliminary bus and rail service plans for 2016-2020 are for planning and forecasting purposes only.
- The Draft 2015 SIP reflects changes to the service evaluation process that were included in the 2014 edition of Sound Transit's *Service Standards and Performance Measures*.
- The recommended service change for 2015 is the implementation of new ST Express Route 580 connecting Lakewood Station with Puyallup Station, with intermediate stops at SR 512 Park-and-Ride, South Hill Park-and-Ride and the Red Lot Park-and-Ride. Service would be provided during weekday peak periods and would be scheduled to connect with Sounder trains at Puyallup Station.

BACKGROUND

Each year, Sound Transit prepares the SIP, an annual update on the development of its express bus, commuter rail and light rail services. The Draft 2015 SIP proposes the implementation of a new ST Express bus service, Route 580, which is described in more detail below.

The 2015 SIP reflects changes to the service evaluation process that were included in the 2014 edition of Sound Transit's *Service Standards and Performance Measures*. The 2014 edition was adopted by the Board on April 24, 2014. Changes include adding a "Subsidy per Boarding" measure for each mode and peer performance comparisons for Sounder and Central Link. A new "Passenger Miles Per Platform Mile" measure has also been added that tracks how far passengers travel as well as how often they travel. The results of the service evaluation for each mode are included in Chapter 2 of the Draft SIP.

Proposed New Route 580

Proposed new ST Express Route 580 would connect Lakewood Station with Puyallup Station with intermediate stops at SR 512 Park-and-Ride, South Hill Park-and-Ride and the Red Lot Park-and-Ride. It would operate during weekday peak periods with ten morning trips and ten afternoon trips, and buses would be scheduled to meet every Sounder train at Puyallup Station. Route 580 would address three service objectives in the Pierce subarea. First, by connecting four existing park and ride lots with the Puyallup Sounder Station, it would provide parking options for commuters who have been unable to use the Puyallup Station facility due to parking overflow. Secondly, some Sounder trains do not serve Lakewood and operate between Seattle and Tacoma only; the new route would enable Lakewood commuters to access all Sounder trips via the bus connection at

Puyallup Station. Thirdly, the new route provides a fast, attractive option for Lakewood-Puyallup commuters, serving activity centers in Lakewood, South Hill and downtown Puyallup and providing connections at Lakewood for travel to and from Thurston County.

Funding for Route 580 would come from existing ST Express budget within the Pierce subarea. Schedule adjustments are being implemented on the Lakewood-Tacoma-Seattle corridor based on lower demand during the edge of the peak period and increased use of high-capacity buses. These efficiencies make it possible to serve the same number of passengers with slightly fewer trips. In addition, Sound Transit currently funds some trips on Pierce Transit Route 495, which connects South Hill with Sounder trains at Puyallup Station. These resources, together with efficiencies from the Lakewood-Tacoma-Seattle service, would be used to operate Route 580, and Route 495 would be discontinued.

SIP Amendment

The University Link extension of light rail service from downtown Seattle to Capitol Hill and the University of Washington is scheduled to open in early 2016. To improve service integration and make optimum use of the public investment in the project, King County Metro and Sound Transit will be developing proposals for an integrated bus-rail service network along the University Link corridor. However, deadlines for final approval of these proposals occur before Board action can be scheduled on the 2016 SIP. As a result, staff will be developing an amendment to the 2015 SIP that will be presented to the Board in the May-June 2015 timeframe. The SIP Amendment will likely include final U Link service levels and proposed changes to ST Express service that will be coordinated with light rail.

FISCAL INFORMATION

The 2015 SIP is funded by the service delivery operations budgets for each service—Sounder, ST Express, Central Link and Tacoma Link. The proposed budgets were developed on the basis of the services described in the 2015 SIP. Those budgets are included in the Proposed 2015 Budget scheduled for Board action in December, 2014. Budget authority will be granted with the adoption of the 2015 Budget.

Budget numbers in the following table (shown in \$ thousands).

	Proposed
Modal Budget	2015 Budget
Sounder commuter rail	44,254
ST Express bus	116,785
Central Link light rail	63,347
Tacoma Link light rail	4,609
Total	228,994

Note: The 2015 Proposed Service Delivery budget can be found on page 30 of 2015 Proposed Budget book.

SMALL BUSINESS/DBE PARTICIPATION AND APPRENTICESHIP UTILIZATION

Sound Transit promotes and encourages small business participation, which also includes Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs). Small Business and DBE goals are based upon an examination of subcontracting opportunities contained in the work of this contract and the number of Small Businesses/DBEs available to perform such subcontracting work.

Sound Transit determined that Small Business and DBE subcontracting opportunities are infeasible or improbable based upon the work described in this contract, so Small Business/DBE goals were not established or required.

TITLE VI COMPLIANCE

Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Federal Transit Administration requires that transit agencies assess the impact of major service changes on minority, low income and limited English proficiency populations. Chapter 3 of the Draft 2015 SIP includes a Title VI evaluation of ST Express Route 580, including maps showing the distribution of Title VI populations in the area served by the proposed new route. Based on the results of this evaluation, when alternative services and other mitigating factors are taken into account, the proposed service change does not have a disparate or disproportionate impact on Title VI populations in the Sound Transit district.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The Draft 2015 SIP and its public information document, "Regional Transit News," were posted on the Sound Transit website on October 10, 2014. A link to the SIP was e-mailed to local jurisdictions, transportation agencies, and other key stakeholders and persons who signed up to receive Sound Transit reports. "Regional Transit News" contains explanations and maps of the service changes proposed in the SIP, and encourages riders and the general public to contact Sound Transit with their comments. Approximately 4,000 copies of "Regional Transit News" were distributed on board Sounder trains, ST Express buses, and at Sounder stations along the South Line.

A public open house was held at Lakewood Station October 29, 2014, and approximately 92 people stopped by to ask questions and obtain information. A public hearing was held on the SIP November 6, 2014, and two individuals provided comments. To date, Sound Transit has received six phone calls and three e-mails commenting on the SIP. Most of the contacts have expressed support for the proposed Route 580.

TIME CONSTRAINTS

A one month delay would have no impact on service changes proposed in the Draft 2015 SIP. A longer delay may impact the proposed June 2015 implementation of Route 580 and impact longer-term planning since Board approval of the SIP authorizes the use of the SIP ridership and revenue estimates.

PRIOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTIONS

Resolution R2013-29: Adopted the 2014 Service Implementation Plan and approved the use of preliminary 2015-2019 service changes for planning and forecasting purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

Jl 11/21/2014

LEGAL REVIEW

JW 11/26/2014

RESOLUTION NO. R2014-32

A RESOLUTION of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority adopting the 2015 Service Implementation Plan, authorizing the chief executive officer to implement recommended service changes in 2015.

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 service 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 2015 Service Implementation Plan includes additional information on future service plans for 2016-2020 including preliminary service changes to be used for planning and forecasting purposes; and

WHEREAS, the proposed service changes included in the 2015 Service Implementation Plan are consistent with the 2015 Agency Budget and Long-Range Financial Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the 2015 Service Implementation Plan is adopted, the use of the preliminary 2016-2020 service changes for planning and forecasting purposes is approved, and the chief

executive officer is authorized to implement the 2015 service changes included in the plan as described below:

ST Express Bus


1. **Route 580 (Lakewood Station-Puyallup Station):** Implement proposed new ST Express Route 580 to connect Lakewood Station with Puyallup Station with intermediate stops at SR 512 Park-and-Ride, South Hill Park-and-Ride and the Red Lot Park-and-Ride. Route 580 will operate during weekday peak periods with ten morning trips and ten afternoon trips, and buses will be scheduled to meet every Sounder train at Puyallup Station.

ADOPTED by no less than a two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire membership of the Sound Transit Board at a regular meeting thereof held on December 18, 2014.



Paul Roberts
Board Vice Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator