

## **SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING**

Summary Minutes

March 26, 2015

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:09 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

(P) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember

(A) Marilyn Strickland, City of Tacoma Mayor

#### Boardmembers

(P) 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

(P) 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

(A) Amy Scarton, WSDOT Assistant Secretary of  
Community and Economic Development

(P) Larry Phillips, King County Council Chair

(A) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember

(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County  
Councilmember

Ms. Katie Flores, Acting Board Administrator announced that a quorum of the Board was present at roll call.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Chair Constantine announced that the House Transportation Committee will be holding a hearing on Senate Bill 5988 today at 3:30pm in Olympia. The bill would provide \$11.2 billion in new revenue authority for Sound Transit through additional Sales & Use, MVET and property taxes. He noted that Boardmembers will continue efforts to increase the revenue authority to the full \$15 billion as the bill makes its way through the House of Representatives. Today's Board meeting was moved to begin later so that Boardmembers can attend the hearing in Olympia.

Chair Constantine reported that the Board agenda has been changed to remove the Lynnwood Link Extension Update from the agenda.

Printing of the Adopted 2015 Budget books is complete, and copies are included in Boardmember packets.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Mike Harbour, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, delivered the report.

#### Update on Shoreline Permits Appeal

Sound Transit received some very good news related to the appeal of the East Link Project shoreline permits issued by the City of Bellevue last year. Last week, the Shorelines Hearings Board granted Sound Transit and City of Bellevue motions to dismiss issues related to the project alignment decisions, project alternatives, adequacy of SEPA review, impacts to downtown Bellevue, and noncompliance with regulations otherwise outside the Hearings Board jurisdiction. They cleaned up the appeal process. The only issues that remain on appeal are those directly related to compliance with the Shoreline Management Act and Bellevue's shoreline regulations. The Shorelines Hearings Board also granted Sound Transit and City of Bellevue motions to limit and narrow the scope of discovery, and motions for protective orders prohibiting

depositions of Sound Transit Board members and Bellevue City Council members. The hearing will take place April 27, through May 1, 2015 at the Shorelines Hearings Board office in Tumwater.

#### Capitol Hill Station Red Wall

From March to July, the red wall surrounding the Capitol Hill Station construction site will be removed. Temporary artwork attached to the wall, including a portrait of Cal Anderson, is being removed and put into storage until a new location is found. The Seattle Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs (SOACA) is actively assisting in identifying possible new sites for the portrait.

#### Closures this weekend

On March 28 to 29, 2015, the downtown section of the Link light rail line will be closed for system upgrades to prepare for extending service to Capitol Hill and the University of Washington in early 2016. Trains will operate normally from Sea-Tac Airport Station to Mount Baker Station. A free shuttle bus will connect at Mount Baker Station, serve a temporary stop near Stadium Station, and then make all normal downtown transit tunnel stops. The DSTT will be open to bus service only during this time. This is closed for system upgrades related to University Link project.

On March 27, 2015, westbound I-90 between Seattle and Mercer Island will be closed at W. Mercer Way and traffic will be shifted to the express lanes as work continues on the final stage of the R8A project. Up to 30 weekend directional closures will be needed on I-90 over the next 28 months, during which traffic will be detoured to the express lanes.

#### Release of the Final EIS for Lynnwood Link

The Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Lynnwood Link Extension will be published on April 1, 2015. It will be mailed out to the Board and available for to the public shortly.

#### Federal Transit Administration Quarterly Meeting

Sound Transit had its quarterly meeting with the Federal Transit Administration on March 25, 2015. The meeting went well, and Sound Transit thanked the FTA for their work on the TIFIA loan, the Federal Way and Lynnwood Link EIS drafts, and assisting Sound Transit with a favorable ruling on noise mitigation in the I-5 right of way.

### **REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

#### Citizen Oversight Panel 2014 Report

Chair Constantine noted that because of a schedule conflict, the COP report will be presented at a later date.

#### ST3 Methodologies and Conceptual Scenarios

Ric Ilgenfritz, Executive Director of Planning, Environment and Project Development, and Karen Kitsis, Planning and Development Manager provided the staff report.

Mr. Ilgenfritz presented an update on how Sound Transit is advancing technical work on the system planning process. Sound Transit is ready to begin analysis of conceptual system plan alternatives and priority projects through the course of the year. Core priorities have been identified and Sound Transit is now moving into evaluation scenarios. Toward the middle and latter part of the year, the schedule shows evaluation of conceptual scenarios and then development of priority projects based on that evaluation. These elements will then be taken for public review. Next year, those elements will be put into a draft plan and then brought to the public for comment. A final system plan is expected to be identified in the first half of next year.

Karen Kitsis reviewed statutory planning requirements. The major elements are capital cost, operating and maintenance cost, travel forecasting, financial plan, and an evaluation methodology. The capital cost estimating will be done utilizing the experience gained from Sound Move and ST2 and the project level development to complete the capital cost methodology. The unit cost is being updated to 2014 dollars which will create a new basis for estimating costs. Sound Transit is working with partners to conduct a transit ridership methodology based on the ST2 ridership model. The evaluation methodology will be based on the core priorities as provided by the Board and the financial modeling methodology will be tied to different financial opportunities and inputs. Any potential Sound Transit system plan will need to be included in the constrained long range plan of PSRC. A benefit cost analysis will be conducted once a draft plan is ready to look at quantifying costs and benefits.

Sound Transit is looking at a range of options from a do-nothing, low capital cost option to several higher capital options considering a range of expenditures with several candidate technologies. The statute requires that Sound Transit looks at a spectrum of investment levels and a range of technologies capable of serving the demand for high capacity transit. There is also a requirement that all of these methodologies and planning products be reviewed by an expert review panel. Sound Transit has been working with the state to appoint that panel and it is almost complete. WSDOT has recruited for and selected a panel administrator and is in the final stages of vetting the rest of the panel members.

A range of technologies are being considered in ST3 including Link light rail, bus rapid transit and rapid street car. Capacity enhancements to Sounder system are also being considered. These are the four HTC technologies that Sound Transit will look most closely at. The scenarios will demonstrate to the Board key trade-offs at various investment levels. Sound Transit will look at serving areas of high concentrated demand and less concentrated demand and transit options for each, the financial capacity of the agency to service more areas with different profiles, and additional transit enhancements that could help the system function better. Mr. Ilgenfritz reviewed a chart in his presentation that shows the type of scale to be captured ranging from more spine to less spine which happens to coordinate with investment amounts. A broad range of options is represented including incremental corridor additions at each point in the spine. Finally, Sound Transit will look at what could be done to advance the program with existing revenues, assuming current revenues and no additional taxing authority. The Board will be presented with information in the near term to start to shape how Sound Transit staff should proceed with the plan.

#### University Link Extension Update (Boardmember O'Brien arrives)

Joseph Gildner, Executive Project Director for University Link provided the staff report. Sound Transit is working on an early opening of this project in the first quarter of 2016. Mr. Gildner touched on some of the challenges and risks to meet the early opening schedule and ensure that Sound Transit is ready to open in a safe manor. The estimated final cost at completion of the project is approximately \$150 million, and continues to be under the Board-approved baseline project budget. The project schedule is 93% complete with work both in the tunnels and the two subway stations. Mr. Gildner reviewed the maintenance away building construction located in the South Downtown (SoDo) area. Mr. Gildner reminded the Board that this facility was a deferred investment on the initial segment project but was added into the scope of work in partnership with the Federal Transit Administration. The building will be the future home for Sound Transit police. Part of the University Link project involves continuing to upgrade Fire Life Safety Systems. This weekend, Light rail services will be suspended between Westlake station and Mount Baker station so cutover work can be completed for the Beacon Hill station. This is to improve the reliability and maintainability of these systems as the Light rail network continues to expand. Similar cutover work will be done in May and June for the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel.

The Capital Hill station portion of the project is 85% physically complete. Mr. Gildner showed the Board several photos to illustrate the work being done across the length of the extension including entrances. Testing and commissioning of the Fire Life Safety Systems is ongoing as Sound Transit continues the integration of new tunnels with existing tunnels. Signal work is complete between the University of Washington station and Pine Street. All of the power substations for the project are complete. Catenary work has been completed in the northbound tunnel and continues in the southbound tunnel. Final pictures show the finished work at the platform level and the double crossover just to the South of the station. The

University of Washington line is close to acceptance. Mr. Gildner highlighted the floating slab as a major component for vibration mitigation. Interstation testing between this station and Capital Hill will be done over the next quarter and magnetic and vibration studies will begin in earnest in the next quarter.

Montlake Triangle is a five way partnership between Sound Transit, WSDOT, the University of Washington, King County Metro, and the City of Seattle. This is a \$43 million element of the project and is within budget. Three of the five top risks are new since the last presentation to the Board in October. Safety certification is an agency effort. A number of tests will be performed over the next six to seven months to document safety certifiable items. In late December, it was brought to the Board's attention that there were some gear units and traction motors that were malfunctioning on Light rail vehicles. Sound Transit is working with the manufacturer to ensure that vehicles are fixed and ready for pre-revenue testing this fall. Hiring and training of personnel is also important for the success and safety of the project. Software development continues in terms of systems integration.

Chair Constantine remarked that he is pleased to hear the overall project remains on schedule and within budget. Work is scheduled to be completed on the Montlake Triangle Project this summer. The project provides grade-separated pedestrian and bicycle access from the light rail station and Husky stadium to the University's campus, and the Burke-Gilman trail. He asked staff to continue to work with partners and jurisdictions to open portions of that project this summer for pedestrian and bicycle access as they are ready. This will allow early opening of the pedestrian bridge spanning Montlake Boulevard, the adjoining bike ramp and stairs, and portions of light rail station plaza that will accommodate access and egress at Husky Stadium.

Boardmember Marchione commented that he would like for staff to bring the Operations Committee information about how the bus interface will work at that station. Mr. Marchione stated concerns about the rider experience as Metro and Sound Transit reconfigure service around the University Link Extension opening.

Boardmember Butler asked about the anticipated completion date for the S. 200<sup>th</sup> Link Extension. Sound Transit staff responded that the extension is trending ahead of schedule in terms of the float put into the master schedule. The project is in a good position to potentially open in late spring or early summer of 2016. The baseline schedule is September of 2016 but it is possible that the alignment will be ready prior to that date.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Alex Zimmerman, StandUp America  
Phillip Duggan, Pinehurst Community Council  
Tim Gould

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Voucher Certification for February 2015

Minutes of the December 18, 2014 Board Meeting

Minutes of the January 22, 2015 Board Meeting

Minutes of the February 26, 2015 Board Meeting

Motion No. M2015-21: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute an interagency agreement with Pierce Transit for the operations and maintenance of the Tacoma Dome Station for the period through December 31, 2019.

Motion No. M2015-22: Authorizing the chief executive officer to extend the existing interagency service agreement with Community Transit through June 30, 2015

Motion No. M2015-26: Authorizing the chief executive officer to extend the date of the Northgate Link Extension \$5 million funding commitment for the Interstate-5 pedestrian/bicycle bridge at Northgate to February 1, 2016

**It was moved by Vice Chair Roberts, seconded by Boardmember Marchione, and carried by unanimous vote that the consent agenda be approved as presented.**



**BUSINESS ITEMS**

Resolution No. R2015-03: Amending the Adopted 2015 Annual Administrative Capital Budget from \$765,059 to \$1,114,559 for a fall restraint system at Union Station

Boardmember Roberts provided comments on the resolution that was forwarded by the Operations and Administration Committee. The resolution would amend the 2015 Annual Administrative Capital budget to fund a fall restraint system on the roof of Union Station to allow workers to safely perform regular and non-routine maintenance and facility improvements at Union Station. The system is a Department of Labor and Industries requirement.

The fall restraint system installation was planned for 2014, but was delayed due to the review process required by two Seattle historic district review boards. Because there was uncertainty about the schedule, the work was not included in the 2015 budget. Both organizations have now reviewed the fall restraint system for Union Station and provided approval for Sound Transit to proceed. Sound Transit will use an existing Job Order Contract to complete the work in 2015.

Chair Constantine noted that amending the Budget requires a two-thirds majority vote of the Board, which is 12 members. Chair Constantine called for a roll-call vote.

Ayes

- Claudia Balducci
- Fred Butler
- Dave Earling
- Dave Enslow
- John Lovick
- John Marchione
- Dow Constantine

Nays

- Mary Moss
- Mike O'Brien
- Joe McDermott
- Larry Phillips
- Paul Roberts
- Pete von Reichbauer

**It was carried by the unanimous vote of 13 Boardmembers that Resolution No. R2015-03 be adopted as presented.**

Motion No. M2015-30: Appointing Ms. Robin Gold, Mr. John Harrison, Mr. Don Monroe, Dr. Mildred Ollée, and Mr. Michael Williams to the Citizen Oversight Panel for a term of four years beginning April 2015 and expiring April 2019

Chair Constantine explained that he requested that Motion No. M2015-30 be added to the agenda today to allow the Board to move forward filling vacancies on the Citizen Oversight Panel. Recommendations normally come from the Executive Committee but the March meeting was cancelled. The action before the Board is based on recommendations from Boardmembers in North King, South King, and Pierce County sub areas where there are panel vacancies.

Katie Flores, Acting Board Administrator, provided a presentation on Motion No. M2015-30 and 31 since they are both related to the Citizen Oversight Panel. The COP as a 15 member volunteer panel representing a wide variety of interests, professional expertise and experience that is charged with monitoring Sound Transit and making sure it is meeting its commitments to build and operate a regional transit system. There are currently five vacancies on the panel; two in North King County, one in South King County and two in Pierce County. There are also two COP members who will complete their second of two terms at the end of this month, one from North King County and one from East King County.

Motion No. M2015-30 would appoint five people to the Citizen Oversight Panel representing North King, South King and Pierce Counties. The applicants were recommended by Boardmembers in each of those subareas. The action would appoint Ms. Robin Gold, Mr. John Harrison, Mr. Michael Williams, Ms. Mildred Ollée, and Mr. Don Monroe to the Citizen Oversight Panel for four-year terms. The appointments will maintain balanced subarea representation on the panel.

**It was moved by Boardmember Moss, seconded by Boardmember Marchione, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2015-30 be approved as presented.**

Motion No. M2015-31: Reappointing Mr. Philip Lovell and Mr. Harold Wirch to the Citizen Oversight Panel, to serve a second term of four years beginning March 2015 and expiring March 2019, and reappointing Ms. Annette Bailes to the Citizen Oversight Panel, to serve a second term of four years beginning May 2015 and expiring May 2019

Ms. Flores explained that Motion No. M2015-31 would re-appoint three existing panel members to a second term. Two represent Snohomish County and the third represents South King County. The action would appoint Mr. Phillip Lovell, Mr. Harold Wirch and Ms. Annette Bailes to second terms expiring in 2019.

**It was moved by Boardmember Moss, seconded by Boardmember Marchione, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2015-31 be approved as presented.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, April 23, 2015  
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.  
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

**ADJOURN**

**It was moved by Chair Constantine, seconded by Boardmember Marchione, and carried by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 p.m.



Dow Constantine  
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator

APPROVED on April 23, 2015, LM