

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes

September 24, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:36 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

(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

(P) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor

(P) Pat McCarthy, Pierce County Executive

(P) Joe McDermott, King County Council Vice Chair

(P) Mary Moss, Lakewood Councilmember

(A) Ed Murray, City of Seattle Mayor

(P) Mike O'Brien, Seattle Councilmember

(A) Lynn Peterson, WSDOT Secretary

(P) Larry Phillips, King County Council Chair

(P) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember

(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember

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

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Boardmembers' Requests to Participate via Teleconference

Boardmember Pete von Reichbauer asked to participate in the meeting by phone. The Board Rules and Operating Procedures allow members to attend meetings by teleconference with a two-thirds affirmative vote of those members in attendance.

It was moved by Boardmember Phillips, seconded by Boardmember O'Brien, and carried by unanimous vote that Boardmember von Reichbauer be allowed to participate in the Board meeting by telephone.

CEO Search Committee

The CEO Search Committee met September 16, 2015. Karras Consulting received 190 candidate applications on behalf of Sound Transit. The committee met with Karras Consulting in executive session to begin discussing specific candidates.

Citizen Oversight Panel Elections

The Citizen Oversight Panel meeting elected new officers at their September 17, 2015 meeting. Phillip Lovell was elected Chair and Fred Auch was elected Vice Chair. Chair Constantine thanked John Benaloh for his leadership as Chair for the past two years.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Sounder 15th Anniversary

Mike Harbour, Acting CEO, reported that September 18, 2015 was the 15th anniversary of Sounder service. In September 2000, the first Sounder service began between Tacoma and Seattle. Two trains in each direction carried more than 1,100 passengers on the first day of service. Since then, more than 29 million people have used the service.

September Schedule Changes

Link Light Rail will increase service to every six minutes during peak morning and afternoon rush hours in preparation for service to Capitol Hill and the University of Washington next year. Sounder's south line will have several schedule changes. There are currently 20 Sounder trains running on the south line. Of those 20, six trains will have schedule changes that are between 5 and 10 minutes.

Mercer Island Update

Sound Transit staff is working with the City of Mercer Island to identify and address outstanding issues related to the future Mercer Island light rail station. A series of "Listening Tour" events are scheduled in the next couple of weeks. This is an opportunity for Sound Transit, the City of Mercer Island, King County Metro, and the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) to gather community input about transportation on and off the island. Drop-in sessions are scheduled for today, September 30, October 1, and October 5. Times and locations are available on the Sound Transit website.

Operations and Maintenance Satellite Facility

The Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Operations and Maintenance Satellite Facility has been published and is on the website. This is an important milestone for the project.

2016 Budget Introduction

Mr. Harbour provided an introduction and overview of Sound Transit's Proposed 2016 Budget. The format of the Proposed 2016 Budget and the Proposed 2016 Transit Improvement Plan is revised to present information in a more concise manner. The new format is in response to the Boardmembers' request to see individual department and division budgets as well as modal budgets.

The Proposed 2016 Budget totals approximately \$1.2 billion, which includes \$264 million for transit modes; \$803 million for project budgets; and \$127 million for debt service and donations. The agency's revenue forecast is approximately \$998 million, which is an increase of 6.9 percent.

Salaries and benefits are projected to increase approximately 7 percent in 2016. Three primary factors for the increase are (1) the 31 positions added during 2015 will have a full year of employment; (2) the budget proposes 23 addition full-time positions in 2016; and (3) the budget reflects a 10 percent increase in medical insurance.

Ridership is expected to increase 20 percent in 2016. The opening of University Link and South 200th Link Extensions contribute to the projected increase as well as an additional round trip on Sounder's south line and increased service on ST Express bus. Construction will begin on the East Link Extension in 2016 and construction will continue on the Northgate Link Extension.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

University Link Extension Update

Joe Gildner, Executive Project Director, provided the report. After seven years of construction, Sound Transit is nearing completion of the University Link Extension. Sound Transit is working with the project partners and jurisdictions for a smooth opening the first quarter of 2016. The project is at 96 percent completion, with nearly 4 million craft hours. Currently, the project's budget surplus exceeds \$150 million.

Buildings for the University Link Extension include a maintenance-of-way building, the Capitol Hill Station, and the University of Washington Station. The maintenance-of-way building is being built on the existing Operations and Maintenance Facility. The Capitol Hill Station site is being cleaned up and will be turned over to Sound Transit's development partner for transit-oriented development. The University Station is substantially complete. Sound Transit is working with the contractor to complete the remaining punch list work. Sound Transit partnered with the University of Washington (UW) and WSDOT on the Montlake Triangle project, which opened in July 2015.

Mr. Gildner provided an update on systems testing. The project has over three miles of twin tunnels and two stations that will be integrated into an active operating segment with joint operations in the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel. There are approximately 50 different ventilation modes that need testing and commissioning. Station and tunnel ventilation is essential to provide critical air velocity and pressurization throughout the underground workings.

Sound Transit's agreement with the University of Washington requires that vibrations and magnetic fields caused by light rail operation do not affect the UW's sensitive research. Multiple tests have been completed in collaboration with the UW staff and the results show that the magnetic fields are under the thresholds defined in the agreement. Similarly, over 100 tests were performed on the vibration levels, with good results. Sound Transit will work with the UW to obtain approval of the magnetic fields and vibration levels before operation begins.

Underground mobile wireless is being installed in the tunnels and stations. The contractor has installed 75 percent of the hardware in the tunnels, installation has begun in the University Station, and installation will begin in the Capitol Hill Station in the near future. The contractor expects to be complete by the end of 2015.

The top five risks are safety certification, FTA safety and security readiness review, software development, systems commissioning and testing, and light rail vehicle fix (gear units and traction motor).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul W. Locke
Alex Zimmerman, Stand UP America
Queen Pearl
Will Knedlik
Michael B. Fuller
Howard W. Katz

CONSENT AGENDA

Voucher Certification for August 2015.

Minutes of the August 27, 2015, Board Meeting.

Motion No. M2015-83: Approving a parking permit program to manage Sound Transit-operating parking facilities; and establishes a rate for High Occupancy Vehicle Permits at \$5 per month.

Resolution No. R2015-21: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire certain real property interests, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent permitted by law, and reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for the East Link Extension.

Motion No. M2015-90: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract amendment with HNTB Corporation to provide construction management services for the Point Defiance Bypass, Tacoma Trestle Track & Signal, and Sounder Yard Expansion projects, in the amount of \$13,062,658, with contingency of \$437,342, totaling \$13,500,000, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$15,700,000.

Motion No. M2015-92: Authorizing the chief executive officer to increase and allocate contract contingency, as necessary, for certain active University Link Extension contracts using contingency funds available within the University Link Extension Baseline budget, for total authorized cumulative contingency increase not to exceed \$7,000,000, or approximately 1.2% of previously authorized cumulative amount for these contracts, while not exceeding 5% of the current authorized contract amount for any individual contract.

The consent agenda was moved by Boardmember McDermott and seconded by Boardmember Lovick.

Boardmember Butler commented on Resolution No. R2015-21 stating that Sound Transit staff is working with the residents of the Lake Bellevue condominiums. He was in support of approving the action, but requested follow-up to understand the mitigation measures and alternatives being reviewed.

It was carried by unanimous vote that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Resolution No. R2015-19: Amending the Adopted 2015 Annual Budget to create the Link Closed Circuit Television System Upgrade Project by (1) establishing a Project Lifetime Budget in the amount of \$700,000 and (2) establishing a 2015 Annual Project Budget of \$700,000.

Paul Roberts, Operations and Administration Committee Chair, spoke to the item forwarded by the Operations and Administration Committee. The resolution creates the Link Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) Upgrade Project and establishes the Project Lifetime Budget.

The project will provide upgraded hardware and software equipment at 16 locations along the current Link alignment, including the operations and maintenance facility and Pine Street stub tunnel to ensure reliable streaming video and video storage capacity. The upgraded equipment will replace a legacy system installed in 2007 that is no longer supported by the equipment manufacturer.

It was moved by Vice Chair Roberts, seconded by Boardmember McCarthy, and carried by unanimous vote that Resolution No. R2015-19 be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2015-24: (1) Adopting the ST2 Light Rail Vehicle Fleet Expansion project baseline schedule and budget by (a) adopting September 2024 as the project completion milestone, (b) adopting the Project Lifetime Budget of \$733,006,000 and (c) adopting the 2015 Annual Budget of \$1,036,750; and (2) approves Gates 1 through 6 within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process.

Fred Butler, Capital Committee Chair, spoke to the item forwarded by the Capital Committee. This action adopts the ST2 Light Rail Vehicle project baseline schedule and budget, which constitutes approval of Gates 1 through 6 within Sound Transit's Phase Gate process.

The action will provide project management, design, manufacturing, delivery, assembly, inspection, and testing of 122 low-floor light rail vehicles to support revenue service of all the ST2 light rail expansion projects. This action establishes September 2024 as the project completion milestone.

Funding for engineering, inspection, and procurement of 42 of the 122 LRVs was included in the adopted Baseline budget for the Northgate Link project, and engineering has commenced. However, before baselining the East Link Extension, Sound Transit determined that procurement of all 122 LRVs under a single project would provide efficiencies in coordinating, monitoring, tracking, and reporting of the project progress.

The next action on the agenda, Resolution No. R2015-23, is being brought concurrently to reduce the Northgate Link Extension Baseline Budget to allow the transfer of funds to this project

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Earling, and carried by the unanimous vote of 14 Boardmembers that Resolution No. R2015-24 be adopted as presented.

Resolution No. R2015-23: Amending the Northgate Link Extension baseline budget to reflect the transfer of \$236,900,000 by (a) amending the project Lifetime Budget from \$2,131,400,000 to \$1,894,500,000 and (b) amending the project 2015 Annual Budget from \$208,165,302 to \$207,765,302.

Fred Butler, Capital Committee Chair, spoke to the item forwarded by the Capital Committee. The action allows a transfer of funds from the Northgate Link Extension budget to a new project for the procurement of the ST2 light rail vehicles. The transfer of funds from the Northgate Link budget will result in an amended Northgate Link Extension. The proposed resolution will also reallocate funds that had been set aside for unallocated contingency within the Vehicles phase to Project Contingency.

It was moved by Boardmember Butler, seconded by Boardmember Moss, and carried by unanimous vote that Resolution No. R2015-23 be approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 22, 2015
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

ATTEST:


Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator


Dow Constantine
Board Chair

APPROVED on October 22, 2015, JE