

SOUND TRANSIT BOARD MEETING

Summary Minutes**July 27, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:41 p.m. by Chair Somers, in the Ruth Fisher Boardroom, 401 South Jackson Street, Seattle, Washington.

ROLL CALL

Chair*(P) Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive*Vice Chairs*(P) John Marchione, City of Redmond Mayor**(A) Marilyn Strickland, City of Tacoma Mayor*Board Members*(A) Nancy Backus, City of Auburn Mayor**(P) Joe McDermott, King County Council Chair**(A) Claudia Balducci, King County Councilmember**(P) Roger Millar, WSDOT Secretary**(P) Fred Butler, City of Issaquah Mayor**(P) Mary Moss, Lakewood Councilmember**(A) Dow Constantine, King County Executive**(P) Ed Murray, City of Seattle Mayor**(A) Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County Executive**(A) Paul Roberts, Everett Councilmember**(P) Dave Earling, City of Edmonds Mayor**(P) Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember**(P) Rob Johnson, Seattle Councilmember**(P) Peter von Reichbauer, King County**(P) Kent Keel, University Place Pro Tem Mayor**Councilmember*

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

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Somers advised that the agenda had been revised to remove Motion No. M2017-88.

Process Changes

Chair Somers announced a change to the current practice at Board meetings. Based on input from Board members, reports to the Board will be received following the business items on the agenda. In instances where a report relates to an action on the agenda, the report will be given prior to the action.

Board Members Request to Participate via Teleconference

Chair Somers announced that Board Member Keel and Board Member Roberts asked to participate in the meeting by phone. The Board's 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 Board Member Moss, seconded by Vice Chair Marchione, and carried by unanimous vote that Board Members Keel and Roberts be allowed to participate in the Board meeting by telephone.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Annual Report

Mr. Rogoff stated that Board member packets include the Sound Transit 2016 Annual Report showing the agency's milestones, financial and operating highlights, and financial statements. The report will also be available on the Sound Transit website.

Federal Funding

In Washington D.C., the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have been moving forward with bills to fund the transportation budget for 2018. In its fiscal year 2018 budget, the Administration proposed to eliminate federal funding for the FTA's Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program except for those projects currently with a signed Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA). Sound Transit has been advancing the Lynnwood Link Extension toward a FFGA in 2018, with another grant for the Federal Way Link Extension to follow. The Administration's proposal has been met with strong opposition in both the House and Senate.

The Senate Appropriations Committee has reported its version of the 2018 spending bill for transportation includes \$454 million for projects that are expected to receive FFGAs in 2018. At this level, there should be adequate funds for the Lynnwood Link Extension and several other projects. Mr. Rogoff expressed his thanks to Senators Murray and Cantwell who have been strong proponents of funding for the Lynnwood Link Extension in 2018.

The news is not as good on the House side. Earlier this month the House Appropriations Committee accepted the Administration's proposal to not provide new funding for projects expected to get FFGAs in the future, with the exception of one major project called the Gateway project. This project is a new rail tunnel to serve Amtrak and commuter agencies under the Hudson River. The House Appropriations Committee was able to restore \$1.6 billion to the budget for both rail and transit activities, but \$990 million of that amount was absorbed by the Gateway initiative.

Leadership Energy and Environmental Design Gold Certification

The Angle Lake light rail facility has earned a Leadership Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council for its use of sustainable practices in the design and construction of the Angle Lake Station. The certification is based on independent verification of the building's sustainable design and is the most widely used sustainability rating system in the world.

The contractors who designed and built the transit facility incorporated several environmentally sustainable features in the station, including solar elements and LED lighting. The station construction also incorporated regionally produced and recycled materials.

Mercy Othello Plaza

On July 8, 2017, Sound Transit joined Mercy Housing Northwest to celebrate the opening of the Mercy Othello Plaza. Located near the Othello Station, Mercy Othello Plaza offers 108 new, affordable housing units for households earning \$18,000-\$55,000 per year. Sixty percent of the units at Mercy Othello Plaza are 2- and 3-bedroom units, giving low-income families a way to stay rooted in their communities as housing prices rise.

As Sound Transit continues to build the regional light rail system, the agency will be partnering closely with affordable housing providers and funders to maximize opportunities at other new stations.

Roosevelt TOD Central Site

Since the Board provided direction on the Roosevelt TOD Central site on May 25, 2017, staff continues to coordinate with the Seattle Office of Housing on the affordable housing goals identified for the project. There has been considerable progress to coordinate on the affordable housing goals identified for the project.

It has been decided that it is most advantageous to offer the property and the funding from the Seattle Office of Housing in a single joint Request for Proposal (RFP) rather than two separate coordinated

RFPs. This will help streamline the process while still providing for open competition. The RFP is in final review and will be issued it within the next couple of weeks.

Electrical Accident on Northgate Link Project

On the evening of July 17, 2017, an electrician working on the North Gate Link tunnel project received an electric shock while working on a high-voltage electrical panel at the Maple Leaf Portal site. The worker sustained serious injuries and was transported to Harborview Hospital. He was released from the hospital over the weekend.

The incident site and associated equipment were secured pending an investigation by the Washington State Department of Labor and Industry (L&I) High Voltage compliance division. Following the initial investigation and a meeting with the contractor, L&I gave permission to re-energize the power at the site and resume work. There was no residual damage from the incident to other work. A full report on the incident from L&I is expected to be issued soon.

In accordance with Sound Transit safety procedures, a safety stand-down was ordered following the incident to inform all contractor personnel of the incident and of any potential hazards associated with the incident. Sound Transit will also issue an alert to help communicate circumstances of the accident across all projects and emphasize any precautionary measures to be taken to avoid such safety hazards in the future.

Sounder Cab Cars

Sound Transit received the first of nine Sounder cab cars this week from Bombardier in Ontario, Canada. Cab cars are passenger cars that have engineer controls to operate the train when the locomotive is at the back. The new cab cars use a Crash Energy Management system (CEM), which incorporates new energy absorption technology into the car design. The crew will also operate the cab at a height similar to a locomotive.

These will be the first Bombardier cab cars with CEM to be operated in the U.S. An extra level of testing and coordination will be done with the Federal Railroad Administration to ensure regulatory compliance. Testing will require using three passenger cars; Sounder has limited spares and will need to borrow two cars from the north line. Sounder north passengers will see their current three-car train sets reduced to two cars for about two weeks.

Double-deck Bus

Mr. Rogoff mentioned that a new double-deck bus was on display outside of the building. The bus is one of a 32-bus order approved by the Board in July 2016. These buses will be used on Community Transit-operated ST Express routes. Community Transit is the only partner agency equipped to operate and maintain double-deck buses. Double-deck buses are a cost effective way to add capacity by providing over 40 percent more passenger seating than an articulated bus.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Tsimerman, Stand Up America
Marguerite Richard
Joe Kunzler

CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes of the April 21, 2017, Board Workshop on Transit-Oriented Development

Minutes of the May 25, 2017, Board Meeting.

Voucher Certification for June 2017.

Motion No. M2017-87: Authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a contract amendment with WSP USA, Inc. (formerly Parsons Brinckerhoff, Inc.), to provide design services during construction for the International District Station to the South Bellevue segment of the East Link Extension in the amount of \$12,000,000, with a 10% contingency of \$1,200,000 totaling \$13,200,000, for a new total authorized contract amount not to exceed \$69,039,782.

It was moved by Board Member Johnson, seconded by Vice Chair Marchione, and carried by unanimous vote that the consent agenda be approved as presented.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Resolution No. R2017-24: (1) Amending the Adopted 2017 Budget to establish the Othello Traction Power Substation Parking Lot project by establishing the baseline budget and 2017 Annual Budget by increasing the project allocation by \$182,362 from \$196,627 to \$378,989, and (2) authorizing the project to pass through Phase Gates 1 through 6 within the agency's Phase Gate Process.

Board Member Butler stated that the Capital Committee reviewed this action at its July meeting. The action amends the Adopted 2017 Budget to create the Othello Traction Power Substation Parking Lot project. The project will be constructed on property owned by Sound Transit. This parking lot is needed to provide parking for workers to access the site for regular maintenance.

It was moved by Board Member Butler, seconded by Board Member Earling, and carried by majority vote that Resolution No. R2017-24 be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2017-25: Amending the I-405 Bus Rapid Transit project by (a) increasing the adopted 2017 Annual Budget from \$650,000 to \$45,650,000 and (b) increasing the authorized project allocation to date in the amount of \$45,000,000 for a total project allocation to date of \$45,650,000.

Resolution No. R2017-25 was moved by Board Member Butler, and seconded by Board Member Earling.

Board Member Butler stated that the Capital Committee reviewed this action at its July meeting. The Bus Rapid Transit project is a voter-approved project in the agency capital plan. The project provides for the establishment of a BRT system from the Lynnwood Transit Center to the Burien Transit Center.

This action will amend the adopted budget to provide funds to acquire property located in Renton and Bothell for potential construction. Project development will begin in early 2018 to identify the project to be built for the Board's consideration. Both properties were the representative sites during the development of the BRT projects in the ST3 plan, and both properties are currently for sale. Sound Transit wishes to buy the properties now to keep them as options when the project goes through the environmental process.

Chair Somers noted that Resolution No. R2017-25 requires a 2/3 majority vote of the Board, which is 12 members. He called for a roll call vote.

Ayes

Fred Butler
Dave Earling
Rob Johnson
Kent Keel
John Marchione
Joe McDermott

Nays

Roger Millar
Mary Moss
Ed Murray
Dave Somers
Dave Upthegrove
Pete von Reichbauer

It was carried by the unanimous vote of 12 Board members present that Resolution No. R2017-25 be approved as presented.

Resolution No. R2017-26: Authorizing the chief executive officer to acquire certain real property interests, contingent on receipt of any necessary federal approvals, including acquisition by condemnation to the extent authorized by law, and to reimburse eligible relocation and reestablishment expenses incurred by affected owners and tenants as necessary for potential transit center and park-and-ride and operations and maintenance facility sites for the I-405 Bus Rapid Transit Project.

Board Member Butler stated that the Capital Committee received a presentation on this item at its July meeting. This resolution authorizes the early acquisition of property rights for the I-405 Bus Rapid Transit Project. Property in Renton would be acquired for potential construction of a transit center and park-and-ride. The property located in Bothell would be acquired for potential construction of an operations and maintenance facility for the I-405 Bus Rapid Transit project.

The committee asked staff if there had been any feedback from the property owners that were given notification. Staff advised that to date the feedback has been positive.

It was moved by Board Member Butler, seconded by Board Member Johnson, and carried by unanimous vote that Resolution No. R2017-26 be approved as presented.

Motion No. M2017-102: Adopting the permanent station names for the Lynnwood Link Extension.

Board Member Butler stated that the Capital Committee approved this motion for recommendation to the Board at its July meeting. This action adopts the permanent names for the four stations included as part of the Lynnwood Link Extension. The proposed permanent station names are Shoreline South/145th, Shoreline North/185th, Mountlake Terrace, and Lynnwood City Center.

The proposed station names meet the naming criteria established by the Board. The naming policy calls for the Board to adopt permanent facility names when the project is baselined. This request is being asked prior to baselining since the project has reached 60 percent design, the public process has been concluded, and the project is ready to incorporate the station names into the design documentation.

The committee asked whether there might be confusion with the Shoreline station names being similar. Staff explained that the leadership at the City of Shoreline requested the name "Shoreline" be included in both the station names. To differentiate between the stations, the street locations were added to the names.

It was moved by Board Member Butler, seconded by Board Member Earling, and carried by unanimous vote that Motion No. M2017-102 be approved as presented.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Tacoma Link Expansion Update

Madeleine Greathouse, Project Director; Sue Comis, HCT Development Manager; and Robert Blackburn, Tacoma Link Light Rail Operations Manager, provided an update on the Tacoma Link Expansion.

The Tacoma Link Expansion project was approved through the ST2 plan in November 2008 as a South Corridor project and included language specific to partnership funding. In November 2015, the Board selected the route, stations, and operations and maintenance facility (OMF) expansion site. The project is a 2.4-mile expansion from downtown to the Hilltop area with six new stations, four small traction power substations, five new vehicles, and expansion of the OMF. This expansion is significantly different from the current system in that it will be operating in the street sharing lanes with traffic.

The project is being designed as a single design contract for civil, systems, and the OMF. The construction will be done as a single design-bid-build contract. Final design began in the third quarter of 2016 and the project has completed the 60 percent design submittal package. The project is expected to be at 90 percent design in September 2017.

Sound Transit executed key agreements with the City of Tacoma in May 2017 and vehicle procurement began in December 2016. Funding sources for the project include Sound Transit, the Federal Transit Administration, and the City of Tacoma.

Next steps for the project include baselining, Board approval of station names, completion of 90 percent design, and approval of a vehicle procurement contract. Revenue service will begin in 2022.

Board Member Johnson asked if the new right-of-way environment will require changes to the vehicles or design. He asked what modifications will be made to ensure feeder reliability to reduce collisions with automobiles.

Ms. Greathouse replied that there will be very little change to the type of vehicle that will be purchased. While designing the expansion, staff has looked at the best approach for un-signalized intersections and these have been highlighted as safety certifiable items. Awareness needs to be increased through public education. In addition, staff is working with the City of Tacoma to come up with a signal design that allows light rail to use headways and that is reliable to prevent traffic impacts to the City's side streets.

Board Member Millar stated that it would be of value to check with other communities that are operating in mixed environments to find out what has worked well and what has worked poorly.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

NEXT MEETING

Friday, August 24, 2017
1:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Ruth Fisher Boardroom

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was moved by Board Member Moss, seconded by Vice Chair Marchione, and carried by unanimous vote.

The meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.



Dave Somers
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator

APPROVED on September 28, 2017, JE