

Motion No. M2019-06

Directing the Chief Executive Officer to Implement the Sustainability Plan 2019 Update

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
Board	01/24/2019	Deferred	Don Billen, PEPD Executive Director
Executive Committee	02/07/2019	Recommend to Board	
Board	02/28/2019	Final action	Perry Weinberg, Deputy Executive Director Environmental Affairs & Sustainability Amy Shatzkin, Deputy Director for Sustainability

Proposed action

Directs the chief executive officer to implement the Sustainability Plan 2019 Update.

Key features summary

- The purpose of this action is to further Sound Transit’s sustainability efforts by implementing the Sustainability Plan 2019 Update.
- The Sustainability Plan 2019 Update expands on the initial Sustainability Plan implemented by the Board in 2011 and updated in 2015.
- The 2019 Update:
 - Provides a snapshot of the agency’s progress since the Sustainability Plan 2015 Update.
 - Refines the agency’s original long-term goals and provides new short-term goals.
 - Provides more specific actions to achieve carbon-free operations, implement equity initiatives consistent with the agency’s values, educate staff on sustainability issues, and further green procurement efforts, among other efforts.
 - Focuses the agency’s sustainability work on time sensitive opportunities.

Background

Sustainability is Sound Transit’s core mission connecting more people to more places – efficiently, affordably, reliably, and in an environmentally friendly manner. Investing in transit builds a better future, cleans the environment, and supports both healthy communities and vibrant economies. Sound Transit recognizes that the decisions made to deliver projects and services today will keep our transit system and our region sustainable for years to come.

Sustainability is about more than the natural environment. Sustainability at Sound Transit is about protecting and enhancing people, planet, and prosperity. The agency is committed to helping people move freely and affordably by providing regional transit service, promoting stewardship that conserves the planet’s natural environment, and supporting community prosperity by providing affordable mobility and access to economic opportunity.

Below are some of the key milestones that have shaped the agency’s sustainability efforts to date:

In 2004, the Board adopted an environmental policy (Resolution No. R2004-06), and Sound Transit became one of first transit agencies to develop and implement an Environmental and Sustainability Management System (ESMS). The agency subsequently received ISO 14001 certification for meeting international environmental management standards and retains that certification in good standing.

In 2007, the Board adopted Resolution No. R2007-12, authorizing the chief executive officer to establish a Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative. Pursuant to Resolution No. R2007-12, the chief executive officer issued Executive Order No. 1 directing staff to implement the Sustainability Initiative.

In 2011, the Sustainability Plan was developed to further guide staff in advancing the Sustainability Initiative and Executive Order. The next update in 2015 focused on integrating sustainable design and infrastructure into system planning and project delivery, as well as working to limit environmental impacts from construction.

The Sustainability Plan 2019 Update:

- Describes efforts to date, redefines long-term priorities, and outlines next steps for near term implementation to serve as a roadmap for continual improvement. This 2019 Update was developed with consideration of the policies, programs, and plans of partner jurisdictions and other transit agencies.
- Improves upon previous plans by suggesting more specific goals and focusing the agency's sustainability work on time sensitive opportunities. In particular, this plan provides more detailed goals about how the agency can reach carbon free operations for electricity by 2030 and ST Express by 2050, and renews focus, in line with the agency's values, on the role of equity and inclusion in both internal and external activities.
- Describes the progress made to date. The agency has achieved more than 180 sustainability targets between 2007 and today. These achievements have substantially reduced the use of energy, fuel, and paper use, while increasing recycling and reducing the amount of waste produced. Furthermore, these targets have also deepened the agency's commitment to green procurement and to incorporating sustainable building and infrastructure features into capital projects.

Fiscal information

This action does not have a direct fiscal action or impact. The policies and projects presented in the Sustainability Plan 2019 Update will be funded and screened through existing budget and review processes.

Many of the Plan's sustainability goals are low- and no-cost items accomplished through staff-driven research and analysis. However, some initiatives may require capital investment. In many cases, these initiatives may save money over their lifecycle. Where capital investment may be required, the Sustainability Plan draws on two key funding sources:

- Project allowances: Capital projects include a sustainability cost allowance for green design and infrastructure and construction, consistent with industry best practices.
- Efficiency and Sustainability Program fund: The operations budget for the ST3 Plan includes funding for resource conservation and pollution reduction, with a focus on efforts that reduce long-term operations, maintenance, utility, and fuel costs.

Small business participation and apprenticeship utilization

Not applicable to this action.

Public involvement

The Sustainability Program reached out to the Transit Access Coalition as well as sustainability staff at local jurisdictions to provide input to this document.

Time constraints

A one-month delay would not create a significant schedule impact. However, issuance of the Sustainability Plan 2019 Update will guide work planning and program implementation beginning in 2019, so a significant delay may impact the timing of short-term goals.

Prior Board/Committee actions

Motion No. M2015-06: Directed the chief executive officer to implement the Sustainability Plan – 2015 Update to continue the integration of sustainable business practices and strategies throughout the Sound Transit organization.

Motion No. M2011-40: Directed the chief executive officer to implement a Sustainability Plan and continue to integrate sustainable business practices and strategies throughout the Sound Transit organization.

Resolution No. R2007-12: Authorized the chief executive officer to establish a Sound Transit Sustainability Initiative.

Resolution No. R2004-06: Adopted an environmental policy.

Environmental review – KH 1/15/19

Legal review – JB 1/15/19



Motion No. M2019-06

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority directing the chief executive officer to implement the Sustainability Plan 2019 Update.

Background

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The Sustainability Plan 2019 Update:

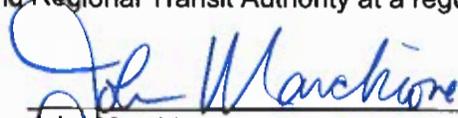
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procurement and to incorporating sustainable building and infrastructure features into capital projects.

Motion

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the chief executive officer is directed to implement the Sustainability Plan 2019 Update.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on February 28, 2019.



John Marchione
Board Chair

Attest:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator