



## Motion No. M2019-25

### Authorizing Submission of a Federal Full Funding Grant Agreement Application for the Federal Way Link Extension

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
System Expansion Committee Board	03/14/2019 03/28/2019	Recommend to Board Final action	Ron Lewis, DECM Executive Director <b>Dan Abernathy, Executive Project Director – Federal Way Link Extension</b>

#### Proposed action

Authorizes the chief executive officer to submit a Full Funding Grant Agreement application to the Federal Transit Administration for the Federal Way Link Extension, including the project's proportionate share of the Light Rail Fleet Expansion project.

#### Key features summary

- Authorizes the chief executive officer to submit a Full Funding Grant Agreement (FFGA) application to the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for a fixed grant amount of \$790 million (YOES) for the Federal Way Link Extension including the project's proportionate share of the cost of the Light Rail Vehicle Fleet Expansion project.
- Sound Transit is preparing materials for the FFGA application and is anticipating the execution of the FFGA by September 30, 2019.
- Sound Transit is preparing to submit the FFGA application for \$790 million based on total costs of \$3.161 billion (YOES), which includes capital costs, financing costs, light rail vehicle costs and the additional FTA contingency.

#### Background

The Federal Way Link Extension adds approximately 7.8 miles of light rail from the Angle Lake light rail station at South 200th Street in the City of SeaTac to the City Center area in Federal Way. The extension generally parallels State Route 99 and Interstate 5, with stations at Kent/Des Moines, South 272nd/Star Lake Park-and-Ride, and the Federal Way Transit Center. New parking structures will be constructed at each of the three stations. Notice to proceed for the design-build contract is anticipated in mid-2019 and the project is scheduled for revenue service in 2024.

The ST2 Plan, approved by voters in 2008, included environmental studies and preliminary engineering design for light rail connecting SeaTac to Des Moines, Kent, and Star Lake. The ST2 Plan also included construction of light rail from the Angle Lake Station to the Kent/Des Moines Station, and the 272nd Station. In 2016 the voters approved the ST3 Plan, which provided financing to extend the light rail to the Federal Way Transit Center.

The Federal Way Link Final Environmental Impact Statement was issued on November 18, 2016 pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and completing the SEPA process. The Sound Transit Board selected the project route, profile, and

stations on January 26, 2017. The Federal Transit Administration issued a Record of Decision on March 6, 2017 and the Federal Highway Administration issued a Record of Decision on March 9, 2017, completing the NEPA process.

The Federal Way Link Extension has been progressing through a process that is defined in federal transportation law in order to be eligible for and receive discretionary New Starts funding through the Capital Investment Grant (CIG) program from the FTA. Over the years, Sound Transit has had three projects funded with FFGA's: the Initial Segment, University Link, and Lynnwood Link. The highly competitive New Starts grant program is unlike most others in government, wherein projects seeking New Starts funding must complete a series of steps, over several years, to be eligible for funding.

On January 26, 2017, the Sound Transit Board defined and selected the Federal Way Link Extension alignment, profile, stations, and associated infrastructure to be built between Angle Lake Station at S. 200th Street and the Federal Way Transit Center in Resolution No. R2017-02.

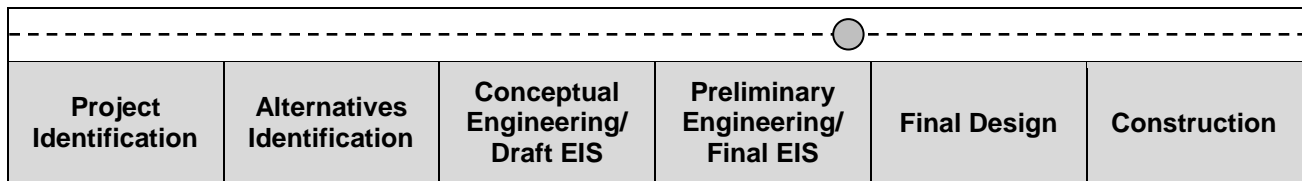
On September 27, 2018, the Sound Transit Board approved the Project Baseline Scope, Schedule, and Budget in Resolution No. R2018-30.

The Federal Way Link Extension has successfully progressed through several steps in the multi-year FFGA process including:

- FTA approval for entry into Project Development in August 2016.
- FTA New Starts Rating of "Medium High" (the second highest rating) in the FY 2019 Annual FTA New Starts Report.
- FTA's Risk Assessment of the project in September 2018.
- Submittal of an application for the Federal Way Link Extension Project to enter Engineering in October 2018, which is currently waiting for approval.

With the completion of these steps, and upon receipt of engineering approval, Sound Transit will be ready to submit the Federal Way Link Extension FFGA application package to the FTA.

**Project status**



Projected completion date for Preliminary Engineering: Q2/Q3 2019

Project scope, schedule and budget summary are located on page 87 of the December 2018 Agency Progress Report.

**Fiscal information**

The Agency's Fall 2018 Financial Plan (October 2018), as submitted for review to the Board, included the capital cost of the \$2,977 million for the Federal Way Link Extension so there is no direct fiscal impact associated with this proposed action.

The agency's long-term financial plan assumes \$8 billion of grant funding to fund the ST2/ST3 capital program from 2017-2041, including a \$790 million FFGA for the Federal Way Link Extension.

## **Small business/DBE participation, apprenticeship utilization, and Title IV compliance**

Not applicable to this action.

## **Public involvement**

Not applicable to this action.

## **Time constraints**

A one-month delay in submitting the FFGA application would impact the FFGA application approval timeline for the Federal Way Link Extension.

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**Environmental review** – KH 3/1/19

**Legal review** – JW 3/7/19





## Motion No. M2019-25

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to submit a Full Funding Grant Agreement application to the Federal Transit Administration for the Federal Way Link Extension, including the project's proportionate share of the Light Rail Fleet Expansion project.

### Background

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### **Motion**

It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the chief executive officer is authorized to submit a Full Funding Grant Agreement application to the Federal Transit Administration for the Federal Way Link Extension, including the project's proportionate share of the Light Rail Fleet Expansion project.

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



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John Marchione  
Board Chair

**Attest:**



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Kathryn Flores  
Board Administrator