



Motion No. M2020-02

Funding & Cooperative Agreement with City of Seattle for Northgate Access Improvements

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
System Expansion Committee Board	1/09/2020 1/23/2020	Recommend to Board Final action	Ron Lewis, DECM Executive Director Don Davis, Executive Project Director - Northgate Link Extension Kristin Hoffman, Senior Project Manager

Proposed action

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a Funding and Cooperative Agreement with the City of Seattle to contribute funding for Northgate pedestrian and bicycle access improvements, which includes credits for Northgate Link Extension work performed by Sound Transit in support of the agreement, for a total amount not to exceed \$7,336,278.

Key features summary

- This agreement implements Sound Transit's funding contribution to Northgate pedestrian and bicycle access improvements as directed by Board Motion No. M2012-42.
- The City of Seattle has completed their requirements under Motion No. M2012-42, including securing the \$10 million City match for the pedestrian and bicycle bridge access improvements and completing environmental review of the proposed pedestrian and bicycle access improvements. The City of Seattle is responsible for designing, constructing and maintaining the access improvements.
- Under the Funding and Cooperative Agreement, Sound Transit's contribution is capped at \$10 million which includes credits for current project commitments. These credits are for design, construction, and related administrative costs incurred to accommodate the Northgate access improvements. Sound Transit will reimburse the City on a quarterly basis up to \$7,336,278 which reflects credits for work already completed by Sound Transit.
- Sound Transit's funding obligation for the Northgate access improvement projects terminates upon the opening of Northgate Station or December 31, 2021, whichever is later.
- The City of Seattle is scheduled to approve the agreement in February 2020.

Background

The Northgate Link Extension extends light rail approximately 4.3 miles from the University of Washington Station north to Northgate and includes two underground stations serving the U District and Roosevelt neighborhoods and an elevated station at Northgate. The Northgate Link Extension project was baselined in June 2012 and light rail service is expected to begin in September 2021. The

Northgate Station will be an interim terminus for Link light rail service until the Lynnwood Link Extension is operational, currently scheduled for 2024.

The Northgate area is one of the Puget Sound region's major residential and employment centers. The existing Northgate transit center currently serves over 5,000 passengers a day, and the future light rail station is expected to serve about 15,000 passengers per day. Sound Transit and the City of Seattle anticipate integrated access modes serving Northgate Station will include the Link light rail system, a safe and inviting pedestrian environment, protected bicycle lanes, King County Metro and Sound Transit bus service, transit oriented development, passenger drop off/pick up, and park-and-ride facilities.

The City and Sound Transit have been working together to coordinate strategies for ensuring that transit riders will be able to access the Northgate Station by multiple modes and intend to work cooperatively as the project proceeds, including coordinating construction activities to ensure that City-built access improvements can be built without impacting the schedule for the Northgate Link Extension project.

In 2012, through Motion No. M2012-42, the Sound Transit Board authorized a Northgate access improvement study to identify potential pedestrian and bicycle access improvements to enhance access to the current Northgate Transit Center and the future Northgate Station inter-modal transit facility as part of the Northgate Link Extension and committed up to \$10 million in funds to match the City of Seattle's funding toward the projects identified in the study upon the completion of a full funding agreement. This study is complete and pedestrian and bicycle access improvements have been identified.

With the passage of Seattle Proposition 1 in November 2015, the City has secured the monies for the pedestrian and bicycle bridge and intends to commit the remainder of the matching funds to projects identified by the Northgate access improvement study.

In 2015, through Motion No. M2015-26, the Board extended the deadline to complete the full funding agreement required in Motion No. M2012-42 until February 2016. Under the 2015 motion if the deadline was not met, the funding would be shifted to other City projects that could be completed by station opening. Since that time, the City has completed the required elements and will be able to construct the pedestrian bridge by December 31, 2021. Completing the pedestrian bridge will enhance access to the station and does not have an impact on the station construction schedule.

Before Sound Transit dollars will be authorized towards the improvements, the City of Seattle must match Sound Transit's \$10 million funding contribution, must complete appropriate environmental review for the improvements, and must have full funding partnership agreements in place to complete the improvements by 2021. All of these conditions have been met.

Sound Transit's funding contribution is included in the Northgate Link Extension baseline budget.

There are 11 projects that will be constructed by the City with these matching funds with the main one being the Northgate pedestrian and bicycle bridge and 1st Ave NE cycle track. Other major projects include greenways along 8th Ave NE and NE 103rd Street connecting the Pinehurst and Maple Leaf communities to the station area as well as a protected bike lane on Meridian Ave N/College Way N.

The City completed the environmental impact review of the pedestrian and bicycle bridge and 1st Ave NE multi-use path from NE 92nd Street to NE Northgate Way under the National and State Environmental Policy Acts (NEPA and SEPA). Approval was received September 5, 2018.

Project status

Project Identification	Alternatives Identification	Conceptual Engineering/ Draft EIS	Preliminary Engineering/ Final EIS	Final Design	Construction
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The City of Seattle completed final design of the Northgate pedestrian and bicycle bridge and 1st Ave NE multi-use path in 2Q 2019. Substantial completion is expected in June 2021.

Fiscal information

This action is within the baseline budget and sufficient funds remain after approval of the action to fund the remaining work in the construction phase as contained in the current cost estimates of this project.

The baseline budget for the Northgate Link Extension is \$1,899,755,500. Within the construction phase, \$10,000,000 has been allocated to the budget line item for the Northgate Station Access Improvements. The proposed action would commit \$7,336,278 to execute a Funding and Cooperative Agreement with the City of Seattle to contribute funding for Northgate pedestrian and bicycle access improvements, leaving \$2,663,722 remaining budget balance to this line item, equal to the credit amount for work completed by Sound Transit.

Northgate Link Extension (in thousands)

Project Phase	Baseline Budget	Board Approvals	This Action	Board Approved Plus Action	Uncommitted / (Shortfall)
Administration	\$144,879	\$79,254	\$	\$79,254	\$65,625
Preliminary Engineering	15,077	15,077		15,077	
Final Design	132,167	130,010		130,010	2,157
Third Party	11,800	8,383		8,383	3,417
Right-of-way	112,300	101,219		101,219	11,081
Construction	1,343,023	1,302,823	7,336	1,310,160	32,863
Construction Services	118,310	104,989		104,989	13,321
Project Contingency	22,200				22,200
Total Current Budget	\$1,899,756	\$1,741,754	\$7,336	\$1,749,091	\$150,665
Phase Detail Construction					
Northgate Station Access	\$10,000	\$	7,336	\$7,336	\$2,664
Other Construction	1,333,023	1,302,823		1,302,823	30,199
Total Phase	\$1,343,023	\$1,302,823	\$7,336	\$1,310,160	\$32,863

Notes:

Amounts are expressed in Year of Expenditure \$000s.

* Board Approvals = Commitment and PO Contingency Remaining as of 11/30/19.

For detailed project information, see page 66 of the 2020 Financial Plan & Proposed Budget.

Disadvantaged and small business participation

Not applicable to this action.

Public involvement

The City of Seattle is responsible for public outreach for the Northgate pedestrian and bicycle access improvements contemplated in the agreement. Community outreach for Sound Transit and the City of Seattle have coordinated closely for public outreach events to provide comprehensive information to the public about transit and pedestrian and bicycle access projects in Northgate. During construction of the City's project, the City will host public construction open houses.

Time constraints

A one-month delay would not create a significant impact to the project schedule.

Prior Board/Committee actions

Motion No. M2015-26: Authorized 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.

Motion No. M2012-42: Authorized the chief executive officer to complete a Northgate access study to identify potential additional pedestrian and bicycle access improvements to enhance access to the current Northgate Transit Center and future Northgate Station inter-modal transit facility as part of the Northgate Link Extension Project. The Northgate access improvement study would include:

- a) A two-step study process that will include a connectivity analysis followed by an access study to identify and prioritize specific improvements that could be funded by Sound Transit in partnership with the City of Seattle, King County Metro, and other local, state, and federal sources.
- b) Sound Transit's funding contribution for proposed Northgate pedestrian and bicycle access improvements would be capped at \$10 million, which includes credits for current Project commitments as included in the baselined Northgate Link Extension Project budget; and
- c) Before Sound Transit dollars will be authorized towards the improvements, the City of Seattle must match Sound Transit's \$10 million funding contribution, must complete appropriate environmental review for the proposed pedestrian and bicycle access improvements, and must have full funding partnership agreements in place to complete the improvements by 2021.

Environmental review – KH 12/5/19

Legal review – JW 1/6/20



Motion No. M2020-02

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a Funding and Cooperative Agreement with the City of Seattle to contribute funding for Northgate pedestrian and bicycle access improvements, which includes credits for Northgate Link Extension work performed by Sound Transit in support of the agreement, for a total amount not to exceed \$7,336,278.

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 execute a Funding and Cooperative Agreement with the City of Seattle to contribute funding for Northgate pedestrian and bicycle access improvements, which includes credits for Northgate Link Extension work performed by Sound Transit in support of the agreement, for a total amount not to exceed \$7,336,278.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on January 23, 2020.



Kent Keel
Board Chair

Attest:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator