

10/28/2021 Board of Directors Meeting
Public Comment Submissions

Submissions

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[Joe Kunzler](#)

27 October 2021

Dear Sound Transit Board and Esteemed CCs;

Mr. Go Sound Transit here. I am morally obligated to register again an objection in M2021-56, namely your request to, "Sound Transit asks that the Legislature allows Sound Transit to receive state transportation grant funding, which is currently prohibited". Sorry to say I cannot support this as the WSDOT grant pot is so small right now.

For instance and I'm speaking only for me, Everett Transit [won \\$1.92 million in grants](#) to charge their electric buses. Everett Transit is a member of the ORCA Pod, and Everett Transit is a contributor to the Sound Transit network. \$1.92 million is not going to get Sound Transit light rail anywhere faster; but denying that to a small transit that lacks your unique revenue tools is denying a little transit their dreams of being a beacon of hope to so many - including me - we can electrify our transit fleets. This is misbehavior I cannot stand behind.

Then there's Community Transit, also part of the ORCA pod and a contributor to the Sound Transit network. In Community Transit's public-facing draft budget on [page 21 of the PDF](#) and page 18 of the print document - Community Transit only expects \$4.1 million in state aid and \$19.6 million from Sound Transit. Is Sound Transit going to backfill that \$4.1 million? It takes *billions* to speed up light rail and only a few million taken from small and medium-sized transit agencies to do immense & possibly irreparable harm.

Don't get me started on what *harm* is coming to those transits outside of the Central Puget Sound if this proposal is carried out without a tripling of the WSDOT transit grants pot. What local projects do you want to deny for what reasons exactly? I should *not* have to choose between you and my home team which is under resourced and too-grant dependent as-is. This policy proposal forces just that horrendous choice upon all of your friends, it's that bad.

In executive summary: If the state legislature wants to cut Sound Transit some direct aid outside of the WSDOT grants program based on fair preconditions I'm all for helping win *that*. I'm appalled Sound Transit staff are even having Alex Soldano champion this absurd, hurtful discussion about pitting Sound Transit 12s against Everett Transit fans & Community Transit fans for starters. If public comment truly makes the Sound Transit Board go, then now's the time for the Boardmembers to please speak up and strike the *inflammatory* request to raid WSDOT transit grants instead of make the grant pot significantly bigger first - like tripled please..

Very strategically asking nicely;

Joe A. Kunzler

growlernoise@gmail.com

Joyce Hengesbach

The substance of this message is within an letter submitted to the Board and attached at the end of this document.

Federal Way City Council

Hello Board Members,

Please see the attached letter and link to the video City Council approved on 10/19/2021 to send for public comment. The video shows an aerial view of the proposed sites in Federal Way and all of the businesses and homes impacted by having the OMF South site in Federal Way.

If you have any questions, please contact Council President Susan Honda at Susan.Honda@cityoffederalway.com or 253-350-1927.

[OMF South Video](#) (1:52)

Thank you,
Jeri-Lynn Clark

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