



Motion No. M2023-05

Partnering Agreement with Pierce Transit for the provision of ADA complementary paratransit services in support of Tacoma Link

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
Rider Experience & Operations Committee	1/19/2023	Recommend to Board	Suraj Shetty, Executive Director of Operations
Board	1/26/2023	Final action	Dave Turissini, Deputy Director of Bus and Paratransit

Proposed action

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a Partnering Agreement with Pierce Transit to provide ADA complementary paratransit services for Tacoma Link.

Key features summary

- In order to comply with Federal Transit Administration funding requirements and fulfill its ADA obligations, Sound Transit must provide for complementary paratransit services along Tacoma Link following the opening of the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension. This agreement would provide this service through a contract with Pierce Transit.
- Complementary paratransit services provide door-to-door transit services to qualified individuals who wish to travel to and from destinations within a three-quarter mile corridor surrounding a light rail line, street car line or local bus service network.
- Prior to the opening of the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension, Sound Transit's obligation to provide complementary paratransit service around the smaller Tacoma Link footprint was fulfilled by Pierce Transit at no cost to Sound Transit.
- This agreement will commence on the first day of revenue service operated by Tacoma Link after the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension opens and will expire on December 31, 2027. Sound Transit will compensate Pierce Transit based on fifty percent of the ADA required trips in the Tacoma Link corridor.

Background

Complementary paratransit services are required under the ADA for a fixed route transit system (except for commuter bus and commuter rail systems) operated by a public entity. Such services generally transport eligible individuals to and from destinations within a three-quarter mile corridor on either side of the eligible transit service - light rail line, street car line or local bus service network - and operate during the same hours as the fixed route system.

The service is directed towards individuals who, because of a disability, cannot utilize the fixed route or light rail transit system. This includes individuals who cannot navigate the system independently or get to/from a train station or bus stop. Pierce Transit will process eligibility determinations for services under this agreement.

Pierce Transit currently provides a robust complementary paratransit service in support of its bus network. Sound Transit will be purchasing services from this existing program based on paratransit

boardings/alightings within the defined corridor. Sound Transit will compensate Pierce Transit based on fifty percent of the ADA required trips in the Tacoma Link corridor. This agreement is based on the existing Complementary Paratransit section of the King County Metro agreement for Link services.

Prior to the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension, Pierce Transit provided this service without charge to Sound Transit.

Fiscal information

The funding level for the proposed agreement will be presented for approval annually through the Board budget review process. The cost of services provided under this agreement are recognized as part of Purchased Transportation within the annual Tacoma Link operating budget. The 2023 Purchased Transportation budget total is \$235,098,982. Within that amount, \$250,000 is budgeted for Pierce Transit paratransit. Estimated costs from this agreement with Pierce Transit are within the proposed budget authority for 2023.

Funding for future years under this agreement are projected in the long-range financial plan and will be included in the annual budget development process based on negotiated estimated costs in conformance with the proposed agreement as provided by Pierce Transit and the service assumptions provided in the Service Implementation Plan for that year. This action does not impact affordability.

Disadvantaged and small business participation

Not applicable to this action.

Public involvement

Not applicable to this action.

Time constraints

A one-month delay may create a significant impact to the project schedule.

Environmental review – KH 11/16/22

Legal review – MT 01/13/23

Motion No. M2023-05

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to execute a Partnering Agreement with Pierce Transit to provide ADA complementary paratransit services for Tacoma Link.

Background

Complementary paratransit services are required under the ADA for a fixed route transit system (except for commuter bus and commuter rail systems) operated by a public entity. Such services generally transport eligible individuals to and from destinations within a three-quarter mile corridor on either side of the eligible transit service - light rail line, street car line or local bus service network - and operate during the same hours as the fixed route system.

The service is directed towards individuals who, because of a disability, cannot utilize the fixed route or light rail transit system. This includes individuals who cannot navigate the system independently or get to/from a train station or bus stop. Pierce Transit will process eligibility determinations for services under this agreement.

Pierce Transit currently provides a robust complementary paratransit service in support of its bus network. Sound Transit will be purchasing services from this existing program based on paratransit boardings/alightings within the defined corridor. Sound Transit will compensate Pierce Transit based on fifty percent of the ADA required trips in the Tacoma Link corridor. This agreement is based on the existing Complementary Paratransit section of the King County Metro agreement for Link services.

Prior to the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension, Pierce Transit provided this service without charge to Sound Transit.

In order to comply with Federal Transit Administration funding requirements and fulfill its ADA obligations, Sound Transit must provide for complementary paratransit services along Tacoma Link following the opening of the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension. This agreement would provide this service through a contract with Pierce Transit.

Complementary paratransit services provide door-to-door transit services to qualified individuals who wish to travel to and from destinations within a three-quarter mile corridor surrounding a light rail line, street car line or local bus service network.

Prior to the opening of the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension, Sound Transit's obligation to provide complementary paratransit service around the smaller Tacoma Link footprint was fulfilled by Pierce Transit at no cost to Sound Transit.

This agreement will commence on the first day of revenue service operated by Tacoma Link after the Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension opens and will expire on December 31, 2027. Sound Transit will compensate Pierce Transit based on fifty percent of the ADA required trips in the Tacoma Link corridor.

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 Partnering Agreement with Pierce Transit to provide ADA complementary paratransit services for Tacoma Link.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on January 26, 2023.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

Attest:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator