

Motion No. M2023-14

Partnering Agreement with the Cities of Everett and Lynnwood, Snohomish County and Community Transit for the Everett Link Extension and OMF North

Meeting:	Date:	Type of action:	Staff contact:
System Expansion Committee Board	02/09/2023 02/23/2023	Recommend to Board Final action	Don Billen, Executive Direction – Planning, Environment & Project Development Eric Widstrand, North Corridor Development Director

Proposed action

Authorizes the chief executive officer to execute a Multi-Jurisdictional Partnering Agreement with the cities of Everett and Lynnwood, Snohomish County and Community Transit for the Everett Link Extension and Operations & Maintenance Facility North project.

Key features summary

- The Everett Link Extension, including the Operations and Maintenance Facility North, is located within the cities of Everett and Lynnwood and unincorporated Snohomish County. Sound Transit provides transit services in the area with Community Transit.
- The Multi-Jurisdictional Partnering Agreement is the first step in the Sound Transit partnering process, consistent with the System Expansion Implementation Plan.
- The intent of the Partnering Agreement is to establish common understanding of roles, responsibilities, and schedule and budget imperatives necessary for timely delivery of the project.
- This action would authorize the execution of a Multi-Jurisdictional Partnering Agreement with the cities of Everett and Lynnwood, Snohomish County and Community Transit.
- Staff expect to return with future agreements as the project advances through subsequent development and delivery phases.

Background

The Everett Link Extension (EVLE) and Operations and Maintenance Facility (OMF) North project is part of the ST3 Plan, funding for which was approved by voters in 2016. The EVLE ST3 representative alignment extends Link light rail transit approximately 16 miles from Lynnwood City Center station to Everett Station. The representative project includes six stations; one unfunded provisional station; two parking facilities; OMF North; and allowances for system access, sustainability and transit oriented development. The Board adopted target schedule for the project is 2037; the affordable schedule is 2037 to SW Everett Industrial Center and 2041 to Everett Station, with an affordability gap of \$500 million in 2022. The project is currently in Phase 1: Alternatives Development and is anticipated to begin Phase 2: Draft EIS and Conceptual Engineering in Q2 2023 subject to Board approval.

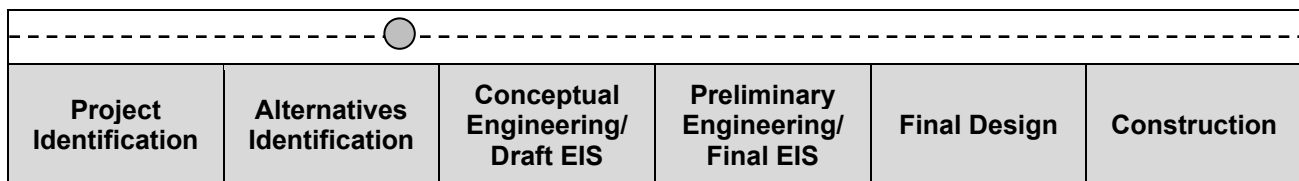
The ST System Expansion and Implementation Plan acknowledges that engaging with jurisdictional partners who have land use, permitting, oversight, or regulatory authority is central to maintaining project

schedules. The Multi-Jurisdictional Partnering Agreement is intended to provide greater clarity and predictability for each agency and to foster mutual accountability for meeting key milestones.

The Multi-Jurisdictional Partnering Agreement addresses current and future project phases including development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Final EIS, final design, and construction phases of the project, including commitment to:

- Work together to complete the project within schedule and budget. If there are requests to increase scope, the teams will collaborate to identify scope reductions elsewhere and/or seek local contributions for the project.
- Collaborate early on evaluation of reasonable alternatives that meet intent of the ST3 Plan.
- Collaborate on development of a Community Engagement Guide.
- Establish expectations for review of an administrative draft of the Draft EIS and future project related environmental documents.
- Use and rely on the project’s environmental documents and agreed upon mitigation measures to satisfy any SEPA responsibilities related to the project.
- Outline a structure for sharing and reviewing information including engineering and design documents between the agencies.
- Outline protocols between parties and Sound Transit related to property acquisition and access needs.
- Identify and implement actions to streamline permit review and develop a Preliminary Permitting Plan.
- Coordinate on planned projects within the project area and resolve conflicts as early as possible.

Project status



Projected completion date for Alternatives Identification: 2Q 2023

Project scope, schedule and budget summary are located on page 45 of the November 2022 Agency Progress Report.

Fiscal information

Although there is no direct fiscal impact associated with this action, the approval of the Partnering Agreement does establish conditions for which future fiscal actions may be taken.

Disadvantaged and small business participation

Not applicable to this action.

Public involvement

Sound Transit will actively seek public feedback at all project stages for the Everett Link Extension project with the goal of fostering public trust through transparent communication, meaningful involvement and being responsive to concerns and issues.

The Multi-Jurisdictional Partnering Agreement includes a commitment with the parties on the development of a Community Engagement Guide that describes the process for engaging neighborhood and community stakeholders.

Time constraints

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

Environmental review – KH 1/30/23

Legal review – JN 2/2/2023



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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 Multi-Jurisdictional Partnering Agreement with the cities of Everett and Lynnwood, Snohomish County and Community Transit for the Everett Link Extension and Operations & Maintenance Facility North project.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on February 23, 2023.



Dow Constantine
Board Chair

Attest:



Kathryn Flores
Board Administrator