Proposed 2024 Budget, Transit Improvement Plan and Financial Plan Update

Finance and Audit Committee Meeting 10/19/23



Why we are here

Today we are here to provide information

- Proposed 2024 Budget and Transit Improvement Plan (TIP)
 - Revenues & funding sources
 - Expenditures
 - TIP
- Service growth
- Budget timeline and next steps
- Updated Fall 2023 Financial Plan Projections



Timeline

- October overview of Long-Range Financial Plan projections and proposed 2024 budget and TIP
 - November budget reviews by Board committees and property tax levy approval
 - December budget recommendation and approval



Long-Range Financial Plan projections and 2024 Budget

Long-Range Financial Plan Projections 2017 - 2046

Including Sound Move, ST2, and ST3 sources and uses through 2046

Transit Improvement Plan to 2029

Board-approved costs for active projects through 2029

Budget 2024

Board-approved annual revenues, sources, and expenditures for 2024



Budgets within Committee purview

| Committee | Budget/TIP Sections |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Rider Experience and Operations | Modal operatingNon-system expansion projects |
| System Expansion | System expansion projects – Link, Sounder, Regional Express, Stride |
| Executive | System expansion projects – systemwide Other expenditures |
| Finance and Audit Committee | Other committees recommend budgets to FAC; FAC recommends overall budget to Board |



Proposed 2024 Budget and Transit Improvement Plan (TIP)

Revenues & funding sources

Executive summary – revenues and financing

(In millions)

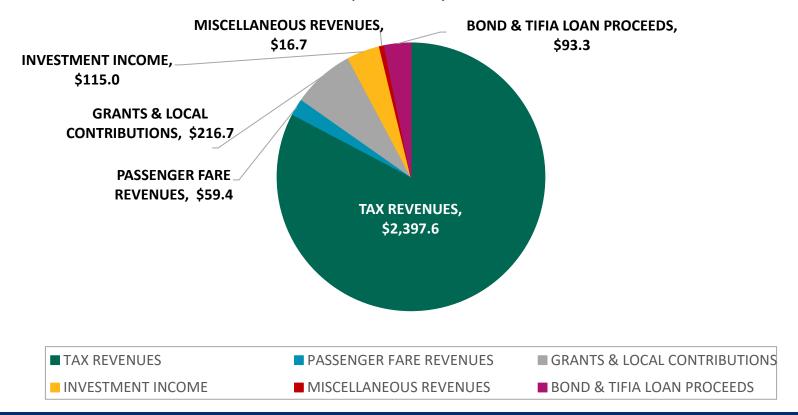
| TOTAL REVENUES - 2024 Proposed Budget | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| | Forecast | Budget | % Variance | Proposed | % Change |
| CATEGORY | 2023 | 2023 | 2023F to 2023B | 2024 | 2023B to 2024B |
| TAX REVENUES | \$2,318.7 | \$2,295.5 | 1.0% | \$2,397.6 | 4.4% |
| PASSENGER FARE REVENUES | 51.8 | 52.4 | -1.1% | 59.4 | 13.5% |
| GRANTS & LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS | 515.9 | 283.0 | 82.3% | 216.7 | -23.4% |
| INVESTMENT INCOME | 136.0 | 40.4 | 236.6% | 115.0 | 184.7% |
| MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES | 17.1 | 10.9 | 57.3% | 16.7 | 53.4% |
| BOND & TIFIA LOAN PROCEEDS | 994.6 | .0 | | 93.3 | - |
| | | | | | |
| Grand Total | \$4,034.2 | \$2,682.2 | 50.4% | \$2,898.8 | 8.1% |

- Tax revenue: 4.4% above 2023 budget
- Fares: East Link Starter Line and Lynnwood opening
- Grants: 2024 lower due to funds accelerated in 2023 originally assumed for 2024
- Bonds and TIFIA: Hilltop TIFIA draw



Where the money comes from: \$2,899M

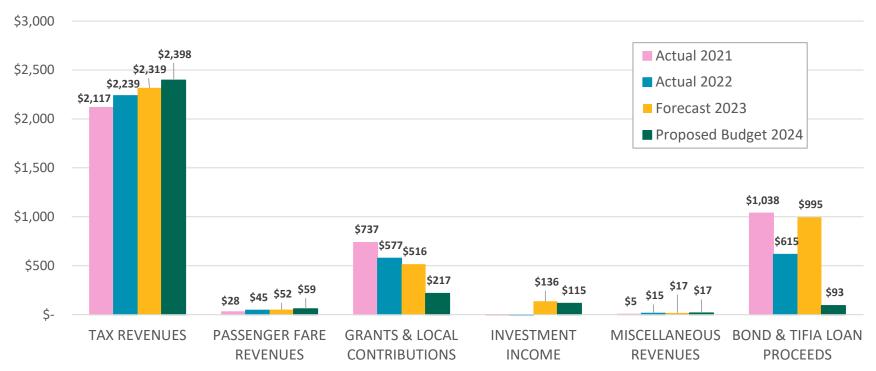
(In millions)





Revenues and financing sources trends

In millions





Expenditures

Expected growth in expenses

- Costs for opening Starter Line 2
- Costs for opening Lynnwood Link Extension
- Full year of Hilltop Tacoma Link Extension operations
- Annual increases in salaries and wages, including partners' costs
- Escalating healthcare costs
- Insurance premiums
- Additional security

Headwinds – HTLE settlement, higher contracted labor rates



Executive summary – expenditures

TOTAL EXPENDITURES - 2024 Proposed Budget

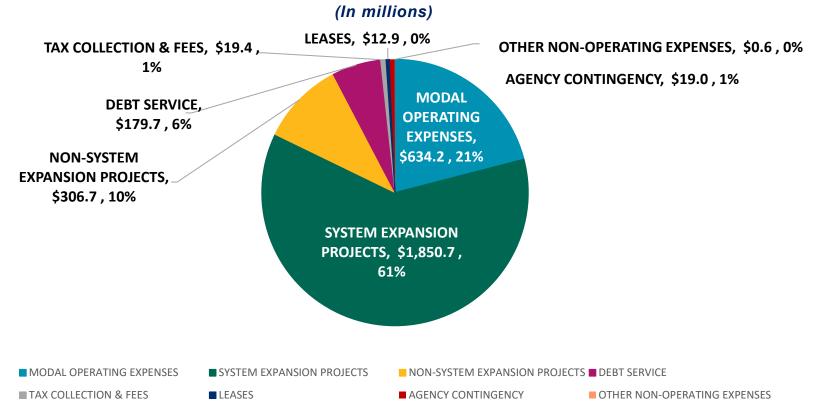
| | Forecast | Budget | % Variance | Proposed | % Change |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|----------------|
| CATEGORY | 2023 | 2023 | 2023F to 2023B | 2024 | 2023B to 2024B |
| MODAL OPERATING EXPENSES | \$455.3 | \$495.3 | 8.1% | \$634.2 | 28.0% |
| SYSTEM EXPANSION PROJECTS | 2,010.9 | 2,047.9 | 1.8% | 1,850.7 | -9.6% |
| NON-SYSTEM EXPANSION PROJECTS | 236.0 | 261.3 | 9.7% | 306.7 | 17.4% |
| DEBT SERVICE | 229.4 | 229.4 | 0.0% | 179.7 | -21.6% |
| TAX COLLECTION & FEES | 26.2 | 23.1 | -13.7% | 19.4 | -15.7% |
| CONTRIBUTIONS TO PARTNER AGENCIES | 5.0 | 5.0 | 0.0% | .0 | -100.0% |
| LEASES | 15.9 | 16.8 | 5.5% | 12.9 | -22.9% |
| AGENCY CONTINGENCY | - | 10.6 | | 19.0 | 78.5% |
| OTHER NON-OPERATING EXPENSES | .6 | .6 | 6.6% | .6 | 2.4% |
| | | | | | |
| Grand Total | \$2,979.2 | \$3,089.9 | 3.6% | \$3,023.3 | -2.2% |

*2023 budget includes changes to the 2023 adopted budget due to Board actions.

- Existing cash balance from 2023 TIFIA draws will be used to balance sources and uses, reducing our net cash position
- Agency contingency is 3% of proposed modal operating budget to help mitigate risks in escalating transportation costs



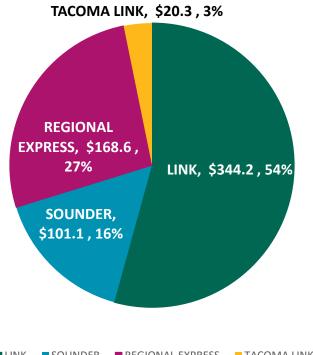
Where the money goes: \$3,023M





Operating expenses by mode: \$634M

(In millions)

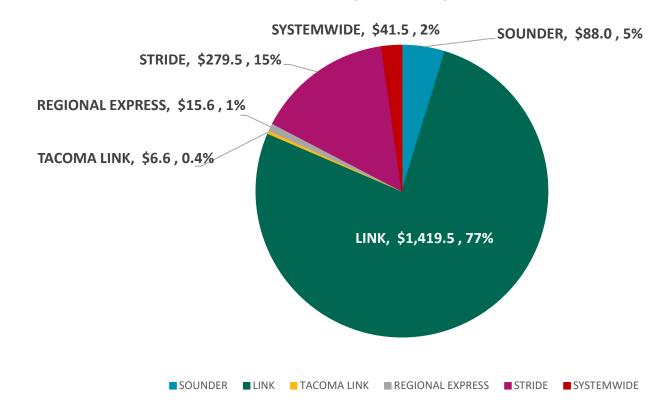


■ LINK ■ SOUNDER ■ REGIONAL EXPRESS ■ TACOMA LINK

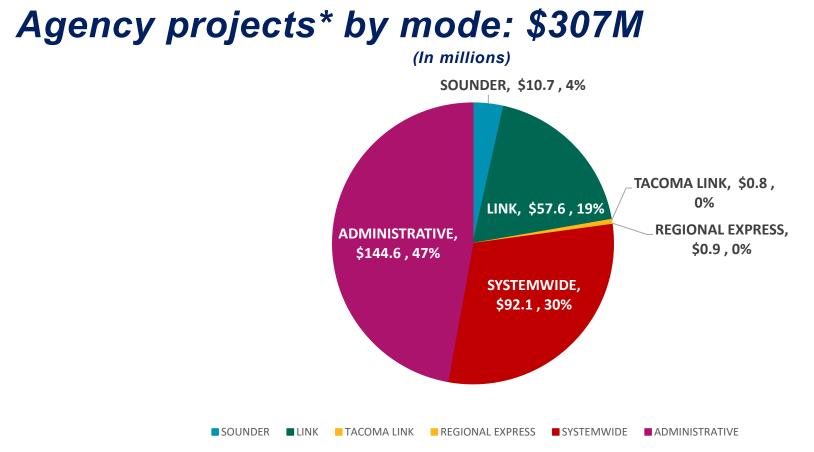


System expansion projects by mode: \$1,851M

(In millions)







*Excludes System Expansion projects



Changes to Transit Improvement Plan

(In millions)

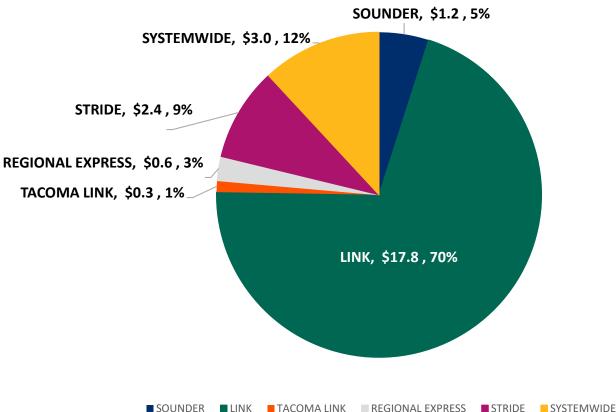
TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT PLAN EXPENSES - 2024 Proposed Budget

| | Authorized |
|---|------------|
| CATEGORY | Allocation |
| 2023 ADOPTED TRANSIT IMPROVEMENT PLAN | 24,107.7 |
| NEW PROJECTS / PROGRAMS | 24.6 |
| INCREASES TO EXISTING PROJECTS / PROGRAMS | 1,133.0 |
| DECREASES FROM PROJECT CLOSURES | (12.1) |
| 2024 Proposed Transit Improvement Plan | \$25,253.2 |
| Nous and include the Oc. Manchesus Escility (COM) | |

- New projects include the So. Warehouse Facility (\$12M) and the UCC (\$3M)
- Increases mainly from Stride baseline (\$950M), TDLE/ OMFS PE and ROW (\$208M), offset by reduction in funding for in-service projects.
- Closed out projects include the LRV Overhaul (\$5M) and the Conv. Pl. retrofit (\$4M)

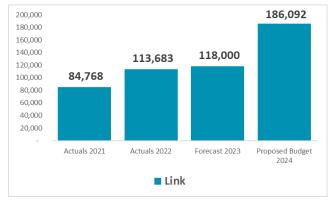


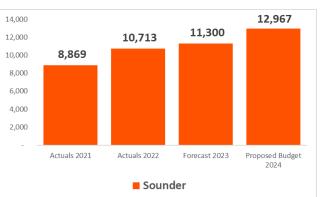
2024 Transit Improvement Plan by mode: \$25B

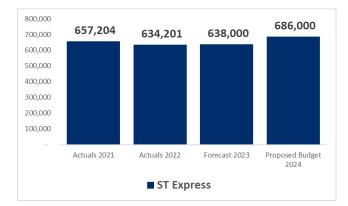


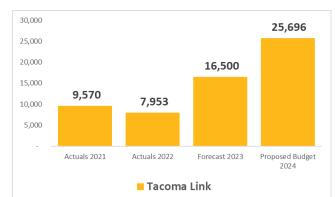
Service growth

Service: Platform hour growth by mode











Thoughts and concerns

- Proposed 2024 budget under original long-term forecast and target
- Expansion project delivery management remains critical
- Service openings and maintaining ST3 service levels continue to pressure costs
- Resourcing (labor and materials) continue to be a headwind to supporting growth



Budget timeline and next steps

Timeline

October – budget and Financial Plan kickoff

10/26 – Board Meeting – Overview of Long-Range Financial Plan projections and Proposed 2024 budget and TIP

November – budget overview and property tax levy approval

- **11/2** Public hearing budget and property taxes.
- **11/2** Executive Committee budget overview and property tax levy
- **11/2** Rider Experience and Operations Committee budget overview
- **11/9** System Expansion Committee budget overview
- **11/16** Board Meeting request for approval of the property tax levy



Timeline continued

December – budget recommendation and approval

- 12/7 Rider Experience and Operations Committee recommends to FAC
- **12/14** Executive Committee recommends to FAC
- **12/14** System Expansion Committee recommends to FAC
- 12/15 Finance and Audit Committee recommends to Board
- (to be scheduled) Board adoption of the Proposed 2024 Budget and Transit Improvement Plan



Updated Financial Plan Projections

What is the Long-Range Financial Plan and why is it important?

- A 30-year (2017 2046) financial forecasting model
- Projects all agency revenues and expenditures required to build and operate SM, ST2, and ST3
- Identifies when peak spending occurs and when Sound Transit needs to issue debt to fund system expansion
- Monitors Sound Transit's ability to build and operate the voter approved system while adhering to state financial laws and agency financial policies



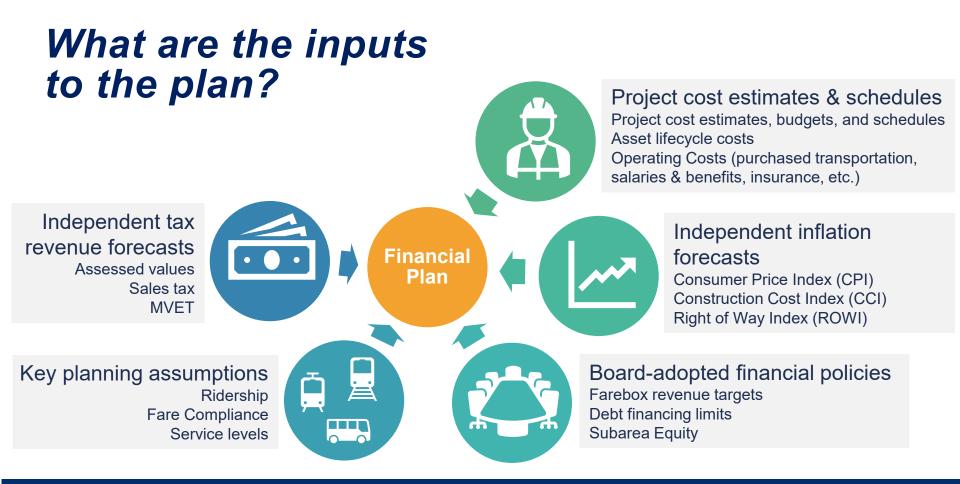


How is the Long-Range Financial Plan used?

- **Monitor program affordability.** Provides holistic view of program affordability and gives ST ability to act if the program is unaffordable.
- **Support decision making.** Provides financial impact of decisions presented to the Board.
- Federal reporting. Required for federal loans and grants.
- **Credit ratings.** Analysis from Financial Plan provided to ratings agencies.
- Legislative Proposals and Initiatives. Used to analyze bills that may impact Sound Transit's financial projections.









Fall 2023 Updates

Key Takeaways

Debt capacity is lower and coverage is not materially improving...

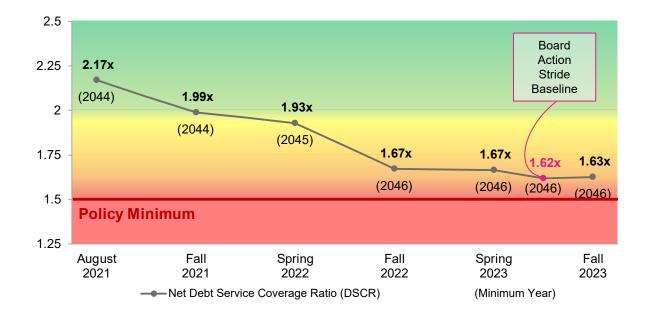
- Capital expenditures increased, due to inflation and Stride baseline.
- Decrease in fare revenues from decreased boardings with fare media.
- Increase in tax revenues help offset the increase in expenditures.
- Elevated Risks Costs to provide ST3 service levels and cost estimates for expansion projects in planning.



Net Debt Service Coverage Ratio (DSCR)

Current minimum Net DSCR is 1.63x

Net DSCR is the Agency's ability to pay back debt after paying for operating costs in any given year Goal is to be above 2.00x



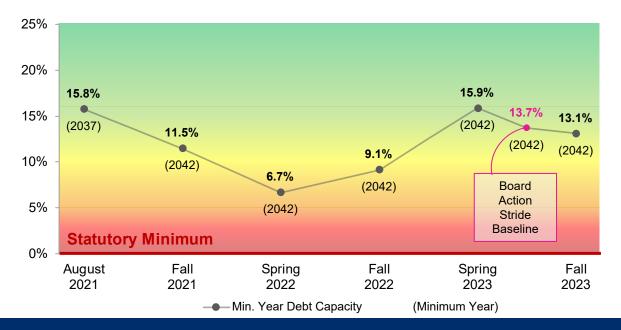


Debt Capacity

Current minimum remaining available debt capacity is 13.1%

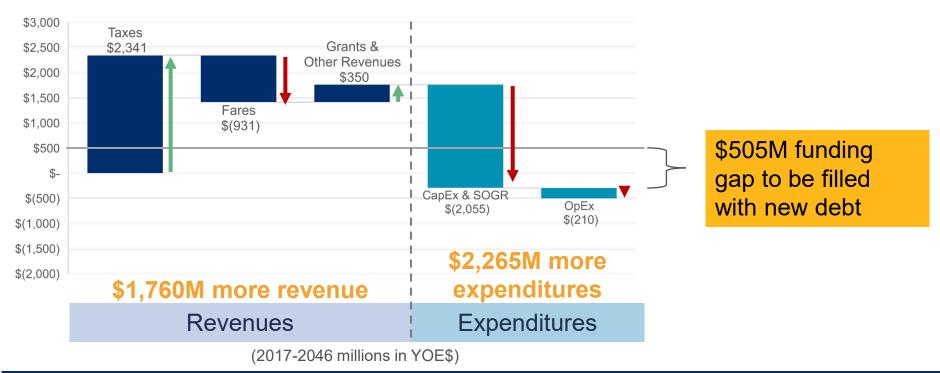
Debt Capacity is the Agency's ability to issue debt, constrained by assessed values in the district

Goal is to be above 15%





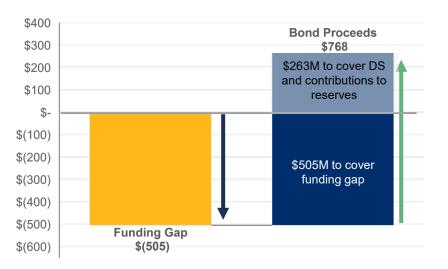
Major changes and impacts in this Financial Plan update (2017-2046)





Changes in bond issuance

\$768M in bond issuance required to cover \$505M in funding gap



(2017-2046 millions in YOE\$)

- Change in expenditures greater than change in revenues by \$505M
- Bond proceeds required to cover increased costs and interest on debt: \$768M
- New debt service and reserve contributions totals \$263M



Tax revenue

\$2,341M (2.5%) increase compared to Spring 2023

- +\$2,083M sales tax due to increased regional growth
- +\$250M MVET mostly due to increased CPI assumptions
- +\$26M increase in rental car tax due to travel recovering post pandemic
- -\$18M property tax experienced a slight decrease due to decline in assessed value forecast



Fare revenue

\$931M (16.9%) decrease compared to Spring 2023

- -\$210M due to decreased ridership forecast, from known in-service date delays
- -\$721M due to decreased boardings with fare media
 - Link: Updated to short-term rate of 55% and long-term rate of 75%
 - Pre-pandemic assumption of 80%

Change in revenue from Spring '23 (YOE \$M)

| Mode | <u>Fare</u> | <u>Ridership</u> |
|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Link | (523) | (164) |
| Tacoma Link | (49) | (5) |
| Sounder | (109) | (40) |
| ST Express | (1) | 15 |
| BRT | (39) | (16) |
| TOTAL | (721) | (210) |



Grants & other revenues

\$350M (2.0%) increase compared to Spring 2023

- Grants increased \$117M due primarily to additional federal appropriation for Federal Way and Lynnwood Link
- Interest earnings increased \$333M, due to higher cash balances and short-term interest rates
- Other revenue decreased \$100M



Capital expenditures & State of Good Repair

\$2,055M (2.4%) increase from Spring 2023

- +\$1,634M due to inflation index updates and latest project schedules
- +\$288M due to Stride baseline project costs (R2023-18)
- +\$133M Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)/ Enterprise Asset Management System (EAMS) assumptions update
- No project cost estimates were updated (e.g. OMFS)



Operating expenses

\$210 million (0.5%) increase from Spring 2023

- +\$240M due to enhanced janitorial/cleaning, STEX/Sounder service restoration, and insurance increases
- +\$159M due to inflation, labor and benefit market increases
- -\$189M due to updating BRT in-service dates to baseline dates



Headwinds & Tailwinds

Headwinds

- Labor market (ST & contracted)
- Cost increases for projects in planning (e.g. OMFS)
- Scope changes for projects in planning (e.g. West Seattle and Ballard PA, LRFP assumes 3rd party funding)
- Additional LRV needs, OMF capacity, and associated operating costs
- Fare revenues
- Claims on construction projects

Tailwinds

- New carbon credit market sales revenues
- Increased CIG grants assumptions







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