

02/05/2026 Executive Committee Meeting
Written Public Comment Submissions

Submissions

Marilyn Kennell 2

Jan Roberts 3

Comments received after the meeting’s comment deadline 4

Joe Kunzler 4

Marilyn Kennell

Correction: ST has cut 140 acres of trees, which would absorb about 320 tons of carbon in a year. If Sound Transit claims to be sustainable, why do they apparently disregard 3200 tons of carbon absorption over 10 years, or 6400 tons over 20 years, and the shade and habitats those trees provide? On Wed, Feb 4, 2026 at 12:24 PM Marilyn Kennell <mkennell@gmail.com> wrote:

Sound Transit's light rail project contradicts its intended environmental benefits by generating substantial carbon emissions during construction. Motion No. M-2026-06

Carbon is carbon, as we can see on the periodic table of the elements. Pretending that some carbon is different from other carbon because it is generated by different activities is a fantasy. Here are some facts:

- ST currently generates about 400,000 metric tons of carbon per year from construction and traffic congestion.
- West Seattle light rail plan will generate between 600,000 and 1,000,000 metric tons of carbon over its 10 to 15 years of construction & traffic congestion.
- Sound Transit has cut more than 140 acres of carbon, preserving green spaces and forests.
- Both the DEIS and the FEIS tell us that the Sound Transit mitigation strategy will take 50 to 100 years to complete, but it appears that no number of fossil fuel vehicle drivers transferring to light rail will **ever** mitigate the carbon footprint Sound Transit is currently generating, or plans to generate with West Seattle light rail and Ballard light rail.
- That means Sound Transit is actually helping make climate change effects worse, not better.
- And both WSLE EIS documents say that light rail will carry no more passengers in 20 years than buses do today.

We need lower-carbon, more sustainable options that deliver better transit now, not decades from now.

Respectfully,

Marilyn Kennell, Martin Westerman, and colleagues

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Jan Roberts

The EIS Executive Summary fails to mention in Appendix L4.6E1 that Sound Transit does not expect those sustainability advantages to offset the construction-related carbon emissions. Instead, the project may generate 362,750 tons of carbon over its 50-year lifespan. This omission is a misrepresentation to the public.

This only takes the construction of the WSLE into consideration, not the construction of the additional tunnel through downtown, which would add another few hundred thousand tons of carbon and therefore makes this project even less attractive.

Sound Transit is actually helping make climate change effects worse, not better.

Jan Roberts
206 920 0130

Comments received after the meeting's comment deadline

Joe Kunzler

5 Feb. 2026

Dear Sound Transit Leadership;

Joe A. Kunzler here. You may consider this a YELLOW CARD/warning letter from me. It's about Tsimmerman's sign. Several days ago, to strike back against Alex Tsimmerman's hateful abuses of Redmond leaders, I was able to get pictures of Tsimmerman's sign. I, as well as Redmond elected leaders, consider this a campaign sign and a hateful sign.

In addition, the sign is clearly intended to supplement Tsimmerman's public comment. As such, it is in violation of [Sound Transit Board Rules and Operating Procedures](#) that state:

3.16.8.a Comments must be related to agenda items or matters designated for public comment pursuant to section 3.16.3.

3.16.8.e Comments for the purpose of assisting a campaign for election of any person to any office or for the promotion of or opposition to any ballot proposition are not allowed.

3.16.8.f Commenters must not engage in abusive or harassing behavior including derogatory remarks, profanity or personal attacks, or the use of obscene language and gestures, assaults or threatening behavior, sexual misconduct or sexual harassment.

Clearly, the sign above is in violation of these three policies and again, Redmond leaders not named Sound Transit Boardmember Angela Birney found Tsimmerman in violation of rules against campaigning during public comment [just this Tuesday](#).

Additionally, the Public Disclosure Commission issued [a stern warning letter](#) to Sound Transit Boardmember Birney in her capacity as Redmond Mayor in 2024 just as Sound Transit recieved for [your current Chair's past appeasement of Tsimmerman](#). I am concerned for the Sound Transit Board member who has become a higher-priority target for Tsimmerman.

Sadly for Sound Transit, the Sammamish River runs thru your Boardroom. As I like to share, "What happens in Redmond at Birney City Hall at the corner of Kritzer & Forsythe becomes a light upon

the world." Those Tsimerman Wars are back and I'm confident the history of the current Rider Experience & Operations Chair has contributed to it as much as water is wet. Be nice if Tsimerman and his damn wars on Sound Transit, BIPOC politicians, and more were kicked out.

I am also very concerned we are nearing a dangerous point where the PDC is going to have to come back to help restore order. We are "2 meetings to midnight" here. People are being given warning orders to be ready to move. People who'd rather be brawling and lobbying in Olympia for We the People and the salmon of the Best State in the Union. People who'd rather be protecting the integrity of those school levy elections - I did [file a complaint](#) to protect mine.

The PDC acts when there is a pattern of inaction. You/Sound Transit are getting closer to that pattern of inaction.

Remember the motto of who you're dealing with on this side: "Never again means never again. We are the means."

We've been the tip of the region's spear against Tsimerman, especially after 7 October 2023. As a famous miniseries in Conflict put world affairs:

If you choose right, there's less wrong in the world.

You choose wrong, the world as you know it will be run by real monsters.

Real monsters like Alex Tsimerman. I can't allow *that*. Nor will this "we" I speak of also. So I also quote Kaja Kallas to you,

"What is our neighbor's problem today will be our problem tomorrow. We are in danger, when our neighbor's house is on fire."

So you/Sound Transit either accept me as your ally in dealing with Tsimerman or we all party like it's 2024 in Redmond. You nor I will like the WE like you like ME. *Choose wisely.*

As always, all views mine but GO SOUND TRANSIT!

JOE SENDS