

02/05/2026 Rider Experience and Operations Committee Meeting Written Public Comment Submissions

Submissions

Michael Dennis	2
Comments received after the meeting's comment deadline	3
Joe Kunzler	3

Michael Dennis

Hello Ed and the Sound Transit Board,

Thank you again for the call earlier today and for listening to my feedback. As we concluded, I mentioned one final, critical issue that I need your help in directing to the correct forum for immediate action.

I have drafted a formal proposal to include a discussion item at the upcoming **Rider Experience & Operations Committee Meeting on December 4th** or other suggested venue.

Key Operational Accountability Issues

This proposal focuses on a Systemic Accountability Review concerning two related failures that are severely impacting the rider experience and misusing public funds:

1. **Failure to Implement East Link Connections:** This long-planned service solution, which completed a 15-month engagement process in [May 2022](#), is still not implemented. The continuous deferral (now vaguely slated for 2026) indicates a severe breakdown in operational execution.
2. **Sustained Multi-Route Performance Failure:** Due to the perpetual delays, Sound Transit allowed its contracted agencies (like King County Metro and Pierce Transit) to deliver years of unacceptable performance across Routes 550, 554, and 556 (with Route 554 at approx. 67% OTP) without remedial action. **This failure has been extensively documented through hundreds of rider complaints filed over the past four years**, leading to routine rush hour delays of 15–20 minutes, and occasionally 45 minutes to 1 hour.

I am requesting that you personally forward this detailed proposal to the Committee Chair and/or the staff responsible for setting the agenda.

Requested Action (for the Committee)

The proposal seeks two specific directives from the Committee:

- **A Full Post-Mortem & Lessons Learned Report:** Mandate staff to deliver a comprehensive report on the East Link Connections delay, identifying bottlenecks and responsible parties, specifically to ensure this level of systemic failure never happens again.
- **Establish Accountability Framework for Contractors:** Create a clear, immediate system to address and penalize sustained poor performance by contracted agencies like King County Metro and Pierce Transit. This level of multi-year operational failure without accountability is inexcusable.

To facilitate this review, I have requested that staff member Doug, a key POC on the customer service side, be permitted to attend this meeting section, as he is prepared to present the necessary OTP data and the extensive record of rider complaints.

Thank you again for your decisive leadership on this matter. I look forward to hearing how this critical topic can be integrated into the December 4th discussion.

Best regards,

Michael Dennis

Committed Sound Transit Rider / Concerned Stakeholder

Comments received after the meeting's comment deadline

Joe Kunzler

Joe here.

Since Tsimmerman did NOT show up today to rider experience, moving the goalposts a little bit here. I have my reasons why - try I answer to two Jewish American working mothers and one of whom is true friends & serves w/ the Redmond Sound Transit Boardmember. I also answer to my dad, but alas...

I think we could all understand if Sound Transit System Expansion Chair Birney wasn't up to excluding Tsimmerman. She's been bullied and sued by the bully.

Not so much Chair Somers on 26 Feb.

With that, much a trademark JAK pep talk:

I expect you studs to take care of your own business and as per below...

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

Nobody wants the PDC back up here in Sound Transit's business.

Nobody wants a PDC Crisis come March.

Nobody wants to "Party like it's 2024 in Redmond" and we start having conversations about Sound Transit Board structural reform just as Sound Transit fulfills her ST2 promises.

Everybody wants Sound Transit to be a light upon the world and the Claudia Badassuchi Connection to be launched without a hitch. So I quote Sanna Marin to you this time,

The harder the situation is, the more important it is not to give up. My motto, if I have one, is to cope through anything and fight for the things that really matter: a better world for our children and for the next generation. Hope is in our actions.

The fact I'm sending a second e-mail today about this should make extremely clear to Sound Transit that **the PDC acts when there is a pattern of inaction. You/Sound Transit are inching closer to that pattern of inaction.**

JOE SENDS

On Thu, Feb 5, 2026 at 12:45 PM Joe A. Kunzler <growlernoise@gmail.com> wrote:

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 Tsimerman's sign. Several days ago, to strike back against Alex Tsimerman's hateful abuses of Redmond leaders, I was able to get pictures of Tsimerman'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 Tsimerman'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 Tsimerman 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 Tsimerman](#). I am concerned for the Sound Transit Board member who has become a higher-priority target for Tsimerman.

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