

SOUND TRANSIT

MOTION NO. M2008-45

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the chief executive officer to distribute for public and technical review and comment a draft package of options for expanding regional transit in the Sound Transit district.

Background

In November 2007, the voters of the Sound Transit District were asked to approve local taxes to fund the "Roads & Transit" Proposition 1. Following the proposal's defeat, the Sound Transit Board decided to develop options for expanding the regional transit system that could be delivered sooner with a lower total cost than the transit component of the "Roads and Transit" Proposition 1, and to keep open the option of when to call for the next election.

Sound Transit has undertaken a detailed, multi-step evaluation of how best to proceed with revising the ST2 Plan. This process included consideration of: voters' preferences through surveys and polls, the timing for a vote on a revised package, an assessment of regional high capacity transit needs, corridor service concepts and development plans, plan durations and funding levels, the proper levels of investment by mode, and the performance of the region's highway system and HOV lanes. The Sound Transit Board of Directors explored these issues in depth in two special workshops and numerous discussions at Board and Committee meetings.

The Plan map and project list for the 0.4% ST2 DRAFT Package include a near doubling of the Link light rail system (18 miles) with ten new stations along extensions to Northgate, Bellevue and South 200th Street. Also included are up to 12 new daily trips in the Sounder south commuter rail corridor, 11 new/improved Sounder stations, a contribution to the demonstration of passenger rail service on the BNSF Woodinville Subdivision line, an increase in ST Express service hours of 10 to 15 percent in key corridors, 16 miles of new arterial transit lanes, and a new streetcar line serving the First Hill and Broadway communities in Seattle. Details of the new and improved transit services appear in Attachment A, Mass Transit Expansion Options.

The Plan map and project list for the 0.5% ST2 DRAFT Package include all the major features and components of the 0.4% ST2 DRAFT Package *plus* 4 additional Link light rail stations on extensions to Overlake Transit Center and Highline Community College, contributions toward up to 4 additional miles of new arterial transit lanes, and an extension of the First Hill Streetcar north to Aloha Street.

The 0.4% ST2 DRAFT Package would fund an estimated \$9.0 billion (YOES) in new capital investments. The 0.5% ST2 DRAFT Package would fund an estimated \$10.3 billion (YOES) in new capital investments.

Sound Transit staff will report back to the Board on the public review and comments so that the Board may take these comments into further consideration. Any subsequent Board decisions regarding adoption of a final plan and calling for an election to approve local taxes to implement such a final plan, will be subject to applicable state law and will be made through separate

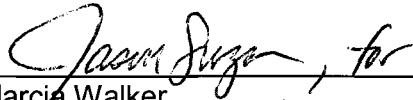
Board actions. These subsequent Board actions would be major decisions which would require a two-thirds affirmative vote of the Board.

Motion:

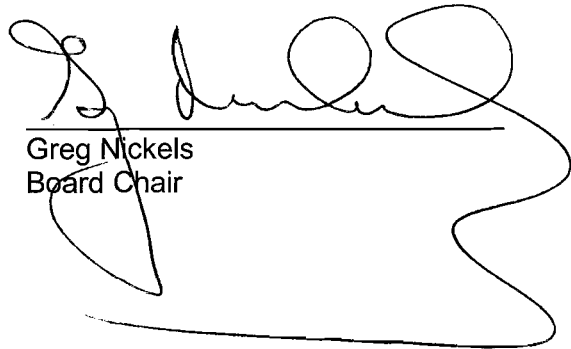
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APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on April 24, 2008.

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker
Board Administrator



Greg Nickels
Board Chair