

## **SOUND TRANSIT**

### **MOTION NO. M2001-126**

A motion of the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority authorizing the Executive Director to: (1) implement a work plan with the Port of Seattle and the City of SeaTac to evaluate alternative Central Link Light Rail routes and station locations and associated bus and paratransit facilities to serve the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport by the year 2009; (2) negotiate an agreement with the Port of Seattle allowing operation of a temporary shuttle service between the Link station at South 154th Street and the Main Terminal at the Airport, if a permanent connection cannot be achieved by the start of Link service in 2009; (3) negotiate an interlocal agreement with the Port of Seattle to provide design review and planning and design support for analysis of alternative airport support facilities and phasing strategies with the goal of extending light rail to South 200th Street in the City of SeaTac, and (4) include the cost for this evaluation effort in the Sound Transit 2002 budget.

#### **Background:**

In spring 2001, as part of the Board's re-examination of the Link light rail project, the Board directed staff to study constructing the southern portion of Central Link first. This would allow time to evaluate the more complex design issues on the northern portion of the project and consider more cost-effective ways to build the northern portion of the project. The Board's responses to a series of seven questions at the June 28, 2001, meeting provided direction to staff, which was outlined in a three-month work program. During the summer, Sound Transit staff developed information on interim terminus options, joint bus/rail operations in the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel, South Lake Union route alternatives for extending Link north, deferred stations, and project costs to support the Board's identification of a preferred initial segment.

The study of alternative southern termini concluded that as a result of delays in the development of the new North End Aviation Terminal, the project alignment through and station serving the airport could not be designed and constructed within the timeframe established for the Link Initial Segment. In addition, as a consequence of the devastating events of September 11th, these plans may no longer be appropriate due to numerous changing facility and financing circumstances in the aviation industry.

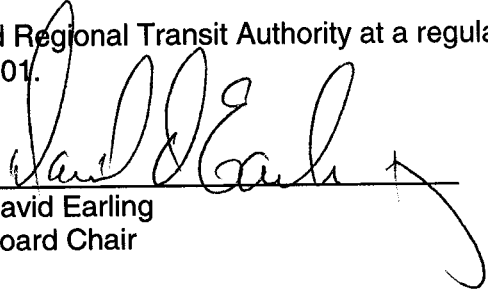
On September 27, 2001, the Board identified a preferred, 14-mile initial segment, with an interim northern terminus near Convention Place, an interim southern terminus at South 154th Station and shuttle service between the South 154th Station and Sea-Tac Airport (Motion No. M2001-103). With that motion, the Board also approved continued coordination with the Port of Seattle's north end development project and funds for completing final design from South 154th Station to South 200th Station.

The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Tukwila Freeway Route was issued on November 16, 2001.

**Motion:**


It is hereby moved by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority that the Executive Director is authorized to: (1) implement a work plan with the Port of Seattle and the City of SeaTac to evaluate alternative Central Link Light Rail routes and station locations and associated bus and paratransit facilities to serve the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport by the year 2009; (2) negotiate an agreement with the Port of Seattle allowing operation of a temporary shuttle service between the Link station at South 154th Street and the Main Terminal at the Airport, if a permanent connection cannot be achieved by the start of Link service in 2009; (3) negotiate an interlocal agreement with the Port of Seattle to provide design review and planning and design support for analysis of alternative airport support facilities and phasing strategies with the goal of extending light rail to South 200th Street in the City of SeaTac, and (4) include the cost for this evaluation effort in the Sound Transit 2002 budget.

APPROVED by the Board of the Central Puget Sound Regional Transit Authority at a regular meeting thereof held on the 29th day of November 2001.



David Earling  
Board Chair

ATTEST:



Marcia Walker  
Board Administrator