

# City of Seattle Seattle Transit Advisory Board

#### **TAB Members:**

Keiko Budech Enjoleah Daye Lynn Hubbard Bryce Kolton Jennifer Malley-Crawford Andrew Martin Alexandra Wakeman Rouse Carla Saulter Bryan Stromer Erin Tighe Barbara Wright Michelle Zeidman

The Seattle Transit Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the City on matters related to transit and the possible and actual impact of actions by the City upon all forms of public transportation.

The Board shall be provided the opportunity to comment and make recommendations on City policies, plans, and projects as they may relate to transit capital improvements, transit mobility, and transit operations throughout the City...

The Board shall help facilitate City policies, plans, and projects that support local and region-wide transit mobility efforts, to help ensure a functioning and coordinated transit system throughout the City and

The Board shall function as the public oversight committee of revenues collected under Seattle Transportation Benefit District (STBD) Proposition 1, as described in Resolution 12 of the STBD...

The Board shall make an annual report to the City Council on the status of its work program and the achievement of its goals.

City Council Resolution 31572

# TAB Early January 2020 Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Attendees: Erin T, Michelle Z, Bryce K, Jen M, Keiko B, Carla S, Bryan S, Ben S (SDOT), Chris E (SDOT)

Jen motions to approve November meeting minutes, Erin seconds, all in favor, meeting minutes approved.

### Income-based fare program update

Lindsey Greto and Cindy Chen, King County Metro

Income-based fares – center equity and sustainability as King County Metro grows service. Since July 2019, met with stakeholders, talked through proposal, now report waiting to be heard at King County Council. Program guiding principles:

- Center on the needs of customers (Focus resources on customers who can't afford the current fares, be simple for customers to access/ use, avoid stigmatizing or burdening customers, include customercentric outreach and education)
- Partner with human service agencies for enrollment, verification, outreach
- Strive for regional integration
- Ensure program and transit system sustainability. Recognize that fares are not the only barrier to mobility. Need service to get where you need to go.
- Evaluate results and grow/adapt

#### Program proposal

- Leverage existing LIFT infrastructure
- Fully subsidized Metro services
- On an ORCA LIFT or Regional Reduced Fare Permit card
- For customers who earn <80% federal poverty</li>
- Through state, local, and community programs
- Anticipated launch, mid-2020

Proposed schedule: July-Dec 2020 LAUNCH. Rapidly implement, eligibility <80% FPL and enrollment in a state benefit program (TANF, SFA, PWA, RCA, SSI, ABD, HEN), enrollment locations: DSHS, public health, catholic community services.

54,000 people eligible, 40% Seattle residents, 17 enrollment sites. Initial cost: \$40 million/biennium. Long term evaluation: Did access to transit

improve access to services and increase quality of life?

What are we getting back from fares? Future topic: Fare free systems and fare box recovery

This program is subsidizing a LIFT fare, not creating a new fare. Need sustainable funding sources so don't need to make the decision between service expansion and affordable fares.

## **SDOT Policy and Operations Advisory Group – Modal Board Participation**

Adiam Emery and Jonathan Lewis, SDOT

A new group to help SDOT reviewing operational policies, and modal prioritization. What does a balanced network look like for the City of Seattle? Help shape the outcome of how SDOT uses the right of way. Pilot project. (Freight, bike, ped, transit). Ends up being 15 members. 6 meetings for the year. STAB sends three applications, selects two. First meeting in February. How to align all the modal plans, how to prioritize right of way, etc. Nominations are due January 24.

#### **Board Business**

Major Items Updates: Transportation equity workgroup delivered draft of transportation equity principles in December to create a transportation equity agenda. Transit plus multimodal corridor projects are moving forward. Roosevelt RapidRide heading to council (opportunity to weigh in on the project). STAB is interested on update on federal review of SDOT projects. SDOT helping with Connect 2020 work.

By-Laws Revisions: Two changes. "Pedestrian" issues to "transit" issues in Item 13. Procedural change. Remove item E, which states you can vote via text or phone. STAB will vote on revisions next meeting.

Scooter Letter: In letter, include we recommend that scooters are not allowed on sidewalks. We have concerns about the impact of transit operations (speed and reliability) and safety for scooters to operate in bus-only lanes. We recommend allowing scooters in bike lanes. We recommend that Seattle works with permitted vendors to designate areas for scooter parking that doesn't impede ADA access. We have concerns that scooters aren't parked near bus stops. Monitor and adjust. How fast we expect the City to act after receiving feedback/complaints. We believe it's critical that SDOT conducts a safety study and build in mechanisms in the contracts that permitted vendors need to do XYZ. Andy motions to approve letter, Erin seconds. All in favor, motion approved. Michelle will send letter.

Income-based fare letter: One for King County Council (we support program as exists, please pass – #1 priority), Sound Transit (we would like you participate in this program), Monorail and Streetcar (City subsidizes own portion). Carla and Jen will work on the letter and bring it back to next meeting on January 29. Keiko motions to approve Carla and Jen writing letter, Bryce seconds. All in favor, motion approved.

SDOT advisory group: Take notes and share with STAB. Bryce, Erin, Jen will apply.

STBD consulting: How do we move forward talking about STBD without stepping on 976 legal battle? Okay for us to discuss priorities of how we want to spend money, if we want to continue/increase plan, size of package.

Keiko out next meeting. Bryce will take notes.