



## Regional Transportation Investment District of King, Pierce, and Snohomish Counties

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### **REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION INVESTMENT DISTRICT**

#### **MEETING PROCEEDINGS**

**December 16, 2004**  
**Puget Sound Regional Council**  
**1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500**  
**Seattle, Washington 98104**

#### **1. Call to Order/Roll Call & Welcome**

The Executive Board of the Regional Transportation Investment Board was called to order at 9:15 a.m. by Chair Gary Nelson, Snohomish County Council.

Councilmembers Present, Metropolitan King County Council: Rob McKenna, Julia Patterson, David Irons  
Councilmembers Present, Pierce County Council: Shawn Bunney,  
Councilmembers Present, Snohomish County Council: Gary Nelson, Dave Gossett

King County Councilmember Kathy Lambert, member of the Planning Committee, was also in attendance.

Councilmember David Irons and Mayor of Sammamish Don Gerend presented recognition to Councilmember Rob McKenna, who is the Washington Attorney General-elect and leaving the RTID. Councilmember McKenna responded.

#### **2. Approval of Executive Board minutes**

Mr. Bunney moved approval of the minutes of the June 3, 2004 Executive Board meeting. Mr. Gossett seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Nelson vacated the chair and vice-chair positions on the Board. He thanked WSDOT and the staffs of the three counties that are part of district for their effort in getting the RTID to its current position. He also thanked Kjrystine Lund for all her work and Anne Noris for her work as clerk.

Mr. Bunney responded that he was tempted not to accept the Chair's recommendation to vacate the positions on the Board and thanked Chair Nelson his efforts. Ms. Patterson moved Mr. Bunney as chair. After three calls of the chair, there were no further nominations. The Board approved the nomination by acclamation. Mr. Gossett moved Ms. Patterson as vice-chair. After three calls of the chair, there were no further nominations. The Board approved the nomination by acclamation.

Mr. Bunney noted that Mr. Goings was not present because of the birth of his son, William Benjamin, on Tuesday. Mr. Bunney also noted that he had been having conversations with many over last few months and believes that the RTID must "drive a stake" in the heart of the proposition that it is dead. The RTID has done much over its life: polling, King County advisory vote, an increase in institutional knowledge. He believes that this Board is the right group to work together to get the region working together and that the Board needs to work with the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), Sound Transit (ST) and the Legislature to drive the work forward.

Bob Drewell, the executive director of the PSRC, welcomed the Board to the PSRC; congratulated Mr. Bunney on their elections and thanked Mr. Nelson for his work. He described the Prosperity Partnership gathering in early December and reiterated his hopes to get people to understand the nexus between transportation and land use and the importance of transportation funding. Ms. Patterson noted that the RTID and Transportation Policy Board of the PSRC are doing similar work and that there was possible legislative action to merge PSRC, the RTID and ST into one organization. She suggested that there be a joint meeting of these groups to begin collaborating and working together. Mr. Drewell agreed that this was a good idea. Mr. Bunney asked the staff to find a date in January and prepare a draft agenda for such a meeting; he also requested that staff contact John Ladenburg, Pierce County Executive and chair of ST about the proposed meeting. Mr. Nelson asked Mr. McKenna, as the incoming Attorney General, to look at the federal and state statutes relating to governance and prepare a chart or report.

### **3. Staff Report**

Kjristine Lund, Executive director, gave a summary of the status of the budget to date. She reported that \$1.8 million for a 2004 ballot measure had been reserved but has now been set aside because the RTID did not go to ballot. Also, because lids had been established for legal and communications services, no money remains for either of these professional services. Mr. Bunney asked for a detailed accounting from WSDOT of its costs. Ms. Patterson asked whether there is still money for an election; Ms. Lund stated that the money that had been set aside for a ballot measure is now considered unallotted. Amy Arnis, WSDOT, reported that if there were a ballot measure before July 1, the end of biennium, technical budgeting could be accomplished to reallocate the money; if the election took place after July 1, a new appropriation in 2005-07 biennium would be needed. Mr. Bunney asked for this issue of reallocating monies be reported on at next meeting.

Ms. Lund then presented a PowerPoint on the status of the RTID work to date, including technical reports on funding sources, polling, the relationship with Destination 2030, cost review, possible work schedules and the possible next steps for the RTID. Ron Posthuma, KCDOT, reported on the two advisory ballots held in King County at the November 2 election. John Reilly, Chris Picard, WSDOT, Mike Morrison, US Cost, and Cliff Mansfield reported on the cost review process.

Ms. Lambert asked what kind of communication has been done on the RTID work to date. She suggested that there should be a press release and other communications now to begin to educate the public to convince it of the positive results so far, so that people will be

positively disposed at the start of the campaign. Mr. Bunney asked staff to bring a draft press release to January meeting for the Board's review.

#### **4. 2005 Legislative Agenda**

Ms. Lund reported that the staff recommendations relate to technical changes to legislation, including proposed ballot title changes, if a legislative agenda is adopted at this meeting. Mr. Bunney suggested a need to look at the policy issues that will advance the RTID cause before adopting an agenda. Mr. Nelson also noted the need to refine any potential bills and recruit sponsors for the bills.

#### **5. Discussion**

Mr. Bunney proposed that the Board hold a workshop or retreat in February to work through the current RTID issues in a more detailed way. The workshop should include the RTID's natural partners and should also bring in outside facilitator. Mr. McKenna agreed and also suggested that the members of the Planning Committee be encouraged to attend. Mr. Irons noted that this would be an opportunity to educate the Planning Committee on the process to date. Ms. Patterson also supported the workshop and a recommendation to ask Jim Waldo to be the facilitator. Mr. Nelson suggested considering the WSAC legislative steering committee schedule when scheduling the workshop.

Ms. Patterson noted that the projects on the RTID list are also included in the Destination 2030 plan, which included \$1 billion in projects. Because the state enabling legislation for the RTID asked that all funding sources be considered and there was no expectation that the RTID would work alone, but in conjunction with other local, state and federal agencies. She indicated a need for a formal linkage and partnership between the RTID and the state, perhaps some consideration that regional funding be contingent on state funding and vice versa. She asked staff to investigate how a regional plan could be written to have such a formal linkage and how to accomplish that vision. Mr. Nelson indicated that the existing legislative package tried to assure that there was state participation, in areas such as tolling, bonding authority, and reduction of the matching authority on non-HSS highways and that both WACO and WSAC have been working on a gas tax increase, which may be the linkage that Ms. Patterson is seeking. Because there is not much money available, the only solution may be new revenue source. Mr. Irons pointed out that while potential matching and lobbying of legislators makes sense, there is a need to look at both mega-projects and smaller projects; a match may not make sense on smaller projects. Mr. Gossett noted that advantages include additional funding, so the size of a project could be reduced and that while there are practical problems with a local gas tax, a state gas tax may be different. Ms. Lambert suggested that the RTID link its vision with other funding sources, such as Homeland Security, and that there be a suggestion made to the legislature that for some period that the region receive more state funding.

Mr. McKenna agreed with Ms. Patterson and suggested that the RTID can best work by moving forward with a ballot in 2005. He also noted that governance is not a major interest of voters, who want to see value in solutions. He pointed out that the RTID was not intended to create a new bureaucracy and that the counties are regional governments. He suggested that making funding contingent on state and federal funding may not serve the RTID's purposes and

that moving forward can bring state and federal funding. Mr. Bunney asked that this issue be an agenda item at the workshop.

**6. Public Comment**

The following people provided comments:

Todd Woosley

**7. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair Shawn Bunney

Attest:

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Anne Noris, Clerk