



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Public Works
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: David Godfrey, P.E., Transportation Engineering Manager
Pam Bissonnette, Interim Public Works Director

Date: May 23, 2013

Subject: Sound Transit 3 Discussion and Direction

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council discusses the recent presentation by Sound Transit and decides whether a resolution expressing Kirkland's interests in Sound Transit 3 should be considered at a future Council meeting.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

At the May 21, 2013, Council Study Session, Sound Transit Staff described the planning work that is underway for a potential new ballot measure known as Sound Transit III (ST3). The Sound Transit Board has selected the Fall of 2016 as the current target date for a vote on ST3. The City Council had intended to consider a resolution concerning ST3 planning at the study session but due to time constraints the discussion was postponed.

In the past, Council has expressed support for Sound Transit Ballot measures:

9/4/08	Supported ST2 ballot measure
10/2/07	Passed resolution supporting Sound Transit and RTID (Transit and Roads)
7/16/96	Passed resolution supporting Sound Move

However, these actions were taken after a Sound Transit ballot measure was developed and a vote scheduled.

Kirkland's Comprehensive Plan offers support for High Capacity Transit in several goals and policies:

- *Goal T-1 Establish a Transportation System that supports Kirkland's Land Use Plan*
- *Goal T-3 Work to establish and promote a transit and ridesharing system that provides viable alternatives to SOV*
- *Policy T-3.2 Support development of regional high capacity transit serving Kirkland.*
- *Policy T-3.3 Locate the routes and stations of the future regional HCT transit system to support Kirkland's transportation and land use plans.*

Assuming that the City Council wishes to adopt a future resolution identifying Kirkland's interests in ST3 planning, staff suggests the following concepts in keeping with the Plan goals and policies;

General

- Leverage previous transit investments in Kirkland
- Be consistent with adopted regional plans
- Be financially viable
- Invest in CKC
- Improve bicycle/pedestrian access to transit

High Capacity Transit

- Connect Kirkland, particularly Totem Lake, with regional system through options such as Light Rail, BRT, and Street Car

Express bus

- Coordinate with Metro and provide expanded, frequent service to Kirkland
- Make use of I-405 Express Toll Lanes; add a connection to downtown at NE 85th Street

In order to fund ST 3 Sound Transit must get additional funding authorization from the State legislature. Therefore, Council may also want to consider including language indicating Kirkland's support for Sound Transit's efforts in this regard in one of Kirkland's future legislative agendas.

Staff will highlight each of these issues during the Council meeting and seek Council direction on which elements to include and whether there are additional interests that should be added. Once direction is provided, staff will return to a future Council meeting in with a draft resolution for consideration.