



CITY OF KIRKLAND

Department of Public Works

123 Fifth Avenue, Kirkland, WA 98033 425.587.3800

www.kirklandwa.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

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

Date: October 24, 2013

Subject: Sound Transit 3 Resolution

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that City Council review and adopt the attached resolution and interest statement concerning Sound Transit 3.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

On May 21, 2013, Sound Transit presented its planning for the next phase of development, known as Sound Transit 3 (ST 3) to the City Council. At its June 4 meeting, Council directed staff to develop a resolution outlining Kirkland's interests in ST 3 and offered some points for inclusion in the resolution and accompanying interest statement. Following a presentation by Sound Transit staff at the October 15, 2013, Council meeting, the Council reviewed and revised the resolution and interest statement.

At the October 15 meeting, the Council also recommended a prioritization of the elements presented in the interest statement. The prioritization of these elements was addressed at the October 22, 2013, Public Works, Parks and Human Services Council Committee meeting. The attached interest statement reflects the Committee's recommendation as a result of that discussion.

RESOLUTION R-5014

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND CALLING UPON THE SOUND TRANSIT BOARD TO ACTIVELY INVOLVE LOCAL JURISDICTIONS IN THE PLANNING OF SOUND TRANSIT 3 AND TO INCLUDE CONNECTIONS TO THE TOTEM LAKE URBAN CENTER IN SOUND TRANSIT 3.

WHEREAS, the Sound Transit Board has begun planning the next set of capital and service investments known as Sound Transit 3, which includes planning for transit expansion throughout the region and specifically on the east side of Lake Washington; and

WHEREAS, the goals and policies of the City of Kirkland Comprehensive Plan call for high capacity transit service in Kirkland; and

WHEREAS, the City Council's goal for balanced transportation includes a reduction in reliance on single occupancy vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland is updating its Comprehensive Plan and developing a new Transportation Master Plan, with a planning horizon to 2035, which will call for increased employment and population in the Totem Lake Urban Center; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland recognizes the linkage between land use and transportation and the need to connect the Totem Lake Urban Center to the regional transit system; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland purchased and is planning for transit on the Cross Kirkland Corridor which connects both the Totem Lake Urban Center and the South Kirkland Park & Ride to LINK Light Rail in Bellevue and other destinations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Kirkland has supported previous phases of Sound Transit planning and development including Sound Move in 1996, the Transit and Roads package in 2007 and ST2 in 2008; and

WHEREAS, the City anticipates support of future Sound Transit phases should they contain components that adequately meet the needs of Kirkland's citizens and the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Kirkland as follows:

Section 1. The Kirkland City Council calls upon the Sound Transit Board to actively involve local jurisdictions in the planning of Sound Transit 3.

Section 2. The Kirkland City Council further calls upon the Sound Transit Board to include connections to the Totem Lake Urban Center in Sound Transit 3 and to address the other interests of the City of Kirkland included in the Interest Statement attached as Exhibit A and incorporated by this reference.

Passed by majority vote of the Kirkland City Council in open meeting this ____ day of _____, 2013.

Signed in authentication thereof this ____ day of _____, 2013.

MAYOR

Attest:

City Clerk

CITY OF KIRKLAND
SOUND TRANSIT 3 INTEREST STATEMENT
NOVEMBER 6, 2013

Both Sound Move and Sound Transit 2 were actively supported by the Kirkland City Council. Both of those previous measures met the interests of Kirkland and of the region. Kirkland looks forward to supporting Sound Transit 3 (ST3) and have developed a set of interests that, when met, would garner Kirkland's full support of any potential upcoming measure.

LINK light rail (or equivalent) to Totem Lake via the Cross Kirkland Corridor: ST3 must support connection of Urban Centers. The City's primary interest is connecting the Totem Lake regional urban center to the rest of the region with LINK light rail or an equivalent high capacity transit technology. Based on the increases in population and employment anticipated over the next 20 years, a high quality, frequent and permanent route such as that delivered by LINK light rail must be made. Investment in the CKC is a long standing Kirkland interest. Because East Link investments are currently being made on the Eastside Rail Corridor, the CKC is a logical starting point for an alignment.

Interim Transit Modes via the Cross Kirkland Corridor: LINK light rail to Totem Lake may take decades to plan, permit and implement. Until LINK light rail is in place, construction of a near term "transit throughway" that would allow Bus Rapid Transit, shuttles, street cars or similar transit modes on the CKC is a necessary first step toward providing service to Totem Lake.

Bus Rapid Transit on I-405: Sound Transit should implement Bus Rapid Transit on the existing I-405 Express Toll Lanes to serve Totem Lake as contemplated in the I-405 Master Plan. Bus Rapid Transit on I-405 can provide service similar to light rail while light rail is in design and construction.

Integrated Bicycle and Pedestrian Facilities: Kirkland residents need to be able to bike and walk safely and conveniently to transit facilities. Sound Transit should invest in pedestrian and bicycle friendly transit facilities, but should also invest in connections outside the narrow boundaries of their facilities. This will integrate transit options into the existing bicycle and pedestrian networks and fill in missing links.

Support for New Revenue Authority from the State: The City of Kirkland is prepared to advocate for additional funding authority from the Legislature in order to fund an ST3 plan that meets the interests of the City and the region. Kirkland believes that new ST3 revenue authority should include options to fund construction of a regional paved trail along the entire Eastside Rail Corridor to enhance multi-modal mobility for the region.